

STOUFFVILLE DISTRICT SECONDARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, April 19, 2021

In attendance:

Lisa Hume, Chair	Rose Walker, Principal
Robert Carter, Co-Chair	Preet Shah, Student Council
Jeff Foran, Vice Principal	Maya Trajecsck, Student Council
Alexandra Wright, Vice Principal	Laura Taccone, Teacher Representative
Stephanie Lanigan, Parent	

Regrets:

Suman Danef, Secretary	
------------------------	--

- **Lisa Hume – Welcome**
 - Lisa welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.
- **Maya Trajecsck - Student Council Report**
 - **Monthly Events:**
 - Photography contest: Students are to send in a photo of the prompt that has been posted (once a month) for a chance to win a gift card.
 - January: No events
 - February: Valentine's Day event: Students create a poster on what they love and miss about SDSS for a chance for their poster to be featured in the school newsletter and to win a gift card.
 - March: No events
 - April: Fundraiser event - Students Raise money for the Canadian Courage Project. The student who raised the most money wins a gift basket with items donated from the Ressor's Farm and the Canadian Courage Project
 - May: End of the year event - 2 game nights one jealousy and one among us. Students will sign up to join (limited people) and will have a chance to play these games. At the end, each student that has joined will be entered for a raffle to win a gift card.
 - June: Currently no events
- **Laura Taccone – Teacher's Report**
 - **Online Learning Reminders:**
 - Teachers want to welcome students back after the much-needed break.

- Encouraging students to not give up: reach out to teachers via email or the google classroom, check your teach assist and the classroom to make sure that you have handed in all the required work.
- If you have fallen behind, connect with your teachers, student success and/or special education to come up with a plan to get caught up. It's not too late to get back on track.

➤ **Summer School Registration**

- Registration begins on Tuesday, April 20th through mypathwayplanner.yrdsb.ca under the 'Continuing Education' tab
- Remote Learning - formerly Face to Face: synchronous learning using Google Classroom
- Online Learning - formerly eLearning: asynchronous learning using Brightspace by D2L (Desire to Learn)
- After registering, Guidance is required to approve all requests. If you have selected a course that is on your course selection for next year, Guidance will contact you to select a new course for the 2021/22 school year.
- Guidance will only be processing approvals for Summer School weekly on Fridays. Please check at the end Friday to ensure that your request has been approved.

➤ **Student Accountability and Parental Access**

- Did you know that parents of students under 18 years of age are entitled to have access to their children's academic accounts?
- With the ongoing changes this year in learning models, it has been a challenge for both teachers and students to stay motivated and engaged in learning.
- Parents are encouraged to check teach assist regularly to help encourage students to stay on track and to help hold them accountable for their learning.
- Ask your child for their login information so that we can all work together to help our students achieve success.
- Unable to login? Connect with your child's teacher, guidance or office staff and we can help you get connected!

• **Admin Team - Principal's Report**

- **School Data Review** - our school data is shared throughout the year with different staff leadership groups. School data is used to establish our school priorities and actions, and to inform our professional learning across the school year. Some key findings from our data includes the following.
 - 35 different first languages spoken by our students.
 - 51% of our students identify as white and 49% as non-white comprised by a number of racial identities (Black, Indigenous, East Asian, Latin American, Middle Eastern, South Asian, Southeast Asia)
 - Our black and indigenous students report feeling the least welcome and safe --this is consistent across YRDSB
 - attendance was poor during online learning in the Spring of last year but improved this year in comparison.

- student achievement was adversely impacted by online learning as seen in the higher number of unearned credits at semester 1 midterms and final reporting periods.
- YRDSB has launched a Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy to be included as a priority along with the other priorities in our Multi-Year Strategic Plan. Our staff continues to learn about anti-black racism and address issues of racism in our school to ensure that our students are affirmed, have equal access to learning and are able to see themselves reflected in the building and curriculum delivery.
- The added priority in the Multi-Year Strategic Plan focuses on Instruction and Assessment that is culturally responsive in its effort to support students' needs strengths and interests. It highlights the need for schools to ensure that the identities of our students are acknowledged and affirmed in our programming.
- Our school committees are designed around our board's Multi-year Strategic Plan priorities. The Equity and Inclusion committee support our staff learning around Bias and have shared strategies to support student inclusion. Our Indigenous Education Committee has delivered professional learning on how to decolonize our curriculum. Our Modern Learning Committee is examining our learning spaces to further support student learning in the classroom as well as providing focused learning about De-streamed math in preparation for September when all grade 9 math will be de-streamed, and our Wellbeing and Mental Health Committee continues to run activities to support staff and student wellbeing.
- Feedback Days – Thus far, we have had three days on which the afternoons were set aside as time for additional support and revisiting of concepts. Teachers invited those students receiving level 1 and below to meet one-on-one or in small groups. Many of our students took advantage of this time to receive additional support.
- **Operational**
 - Fire Drills, Hold and Secure and Lockdown Drills – Normally 6 fire drills are conducted yearly (3 each semester), however with Covid we have to conduct 12 drills so that each cohort gets to practice them. We have completed 8 fire drills so far and will conduct the others once we return to in-person learning. Lockdown drills are usually done twice a year but this year we have done 4 (2 each semester). All lockdown drills have been completed as has the Hold and Secure drill.
 - Covid-19 Protocols – there is signage up around the school reminding students to mask up, sanitize, stay socially distanced and which way to travel in the hallways and stairwells. Students and staff are greeted at the 3 main entrances where students have to show us their Covid screening and then sanitize their hands before heading to class. If a student was not able to access the Covid screen on-line, we have the questions posted and a staff member walks them through it.
 - Voluntary Testing – Public Health conducted asymptomatic testing at SDSS twice. The last time was done before the April break. We were not notified of anyone testing positive.
 - Superintendent Change
- **Events**
 - Student Trustee
 - Munira Chakira is one of two student trustees that were elected for the 2021-2022 school year. We are so proud of the work that she put into her campaign and look forward to seeing what she can accomplish next year.

- Virtual Graduation-Graduation will take place at the end of June. The grad committee and guidance are working on finalizing the awards and bursaries application and the valedictorian application.
- Grad Photos/Caps/Gowns-Grad photos have been booked for May 17-20. At the moment we are on a pause, but we are working closely with the vendor and will update families if the province changes its lockdown orders.
- Kindness Award – PS. Earlier this semester an anonymous staff member nominated Preet Shah for the Kindness Award. While the staff member never came forward, we were able to take a moment to honour Preet and his efforts to make SDSS a better place, and in turn gave him his kindness t-shirt.

➤ **Upcoming Events:**

- Report Card Distribution – April 27th

➤ **Other:**

- Yearbook - Currently available through school cash online for \$15.50. It is a soft covered yearbook.
- Any questions please contact john.tsourounis@yrdsb.ca

➤ **Next Meeting Date:**

- June 7, 2021

Meeting Adjourned – 7:25 PM

- Guest Speaker Jeff Martin followed the meeting with 16 people in attendance for the presentation.