

STOUFFVILLE DISTRICT SECONDARY SCHOOL  
SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING Minutes  
**Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> 2015**

**In Attendance:** Susan Maharaj, John Tsourounis, Laura Taccone, Josh Ogden, Lisa Hume, Karen Pilkington, Beverly Love, Dave Somasundaram, Yetunde Olowokere, Stephanie Lanigan, Diana Bohemier

1. **Request volunteer for taking Minutes** – = Diana Bohemier
2. **Introduction of John Tsourounis** to the School Council by VP Susan Maharaj:  
John is filling in for Principle Reid Wilshire for a few weeks while Reid recovers from a car accident.
3. **Approval of September 2015 minutes** made by Stephanie Lanigan and Diana Bohemier
4. **Student Report** by Josh Ogden, President of school council:

**September:** Jersey day – participation was fair for our first spirit day. The next spirit day is Halloween which usually has the most participation. The Terry Fox run, ran smoothly and it was good to see students support such a great cause.

**October:** Preparation for Halloween Costume Contest on the 30<sup>th</sup>. There is also a pumpkin carving contest. Loudest applause wins a bag of candy. The president's council starts on the 26<sup>th</sup> (collection of clubs throughout the school community). The Inside Ride meetings are on the 27<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>. This is a charity for children's cancer. The "See Different" conference starts the 21<sup>st</sup>. This is about being inclusive.

**November:** The Inside Ride is on the 30<sup>th</sup>

**December:** Holiday talent show is lots of fun  
Mental Health Awareness month will be next semester.

**5. Teacher Report:** Laura Taccone

The senior art show opens at Latcham Gallery On Wednesday Jan 6 2016! It will show case the student work from the graduating class 2016. All are welcome to attend- it is a free community event and the opening party is at 7-9pm

Semi-formal is being held on Wednesday. November 25 at the Crystal Fountain Banquet Hall in Markham. Tickets are on sale starting next Monday, October 26 through to Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup> for \$60 each. This includes dinner, dj/dancing, security and off-duty officers. Students from all grades are welcome to attend. If interested, please pick up a contract agreement outside of room 1005. It must be signed prior to a ticket being purchased. If anyone has questions, please see Ms. Vario, Ms. Cluff or Ms. Taccone in room 1005 or 1042B.

The History department has received approval for the Vimy Ridge 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary trip to Europe.

The community classes have taken over the Healthy snack program breakfast program. They are helping the school by purchasing and organizing the snacks for the main office.

The Free the Children chapter at SDSS is ready to take the challenge of organizing our "We Scare Hunger" campaign by collecting non-perishable food items in order to combat the growing concerns of hunger and food insecurity in our local and surrounding York Region communities. In 2012, our local food banks fed "52 879 people"

and the number continues to increase as we face a changing economy (York Region Food Network, 2013, pg.3). Students are encouraged to speak with and inform our community members about the need to support our local food banks. Students will leave an orange slip of paper that outlines the campaign and will return Halloween night to collect. As we prepare for Halloween, we ask you to support our students by having some non-perishables handy in order to give back to those in need. Last year we collected over 800 food items. Let's make this year, the year we break 1000! Early donations are welcomed (delivered to Rm 1023) and food items collected over the weekend are asked to be in by Monday November 2. Thanks to our proud Sponsor Houston Ford for delivering our collection last year. We look forward to working with them again.

Let's see that Spartan Spirit and make a change.

Awards Assembly - Please thank the chair for attending and all the parents that were able to attend as well. We had a bigger turn out of parents than we have ever had in the past. We had over 450 awards presented and we look forward to even more next year.

SDSS science club went to McMaster to participate in the McMaster Science and Engineering Olympics. All the participants did well in their events with a few students winning medals. Two students Bianca Giri and Charmaine Yung won \$1000 in scholarships and Rex Spencer won \$400 and Victoria Rodney and Paneet Pandhar won \$600. This is an incredible accomplishment as they were up against schools from all over Ontario.7

**6. Principal's Items:** John is very impressed with what he has seen in the school. The students have been very welcoming to him. The students are engaged and working well. He and Susan swept the floors for safety reasons while the janitors are on work to rule. All students need to co-operate and pick up garbage. Talks are still on-going. Grade 9 – take your kids to work day is still on for November 4<sup>th</sup>. Students must complete a form to participate in the open house for new grade 9's in the spring.

**7. Discuss role of School Council & goals:**

Parents should look at SDSS website under the School Council Tab > documents and information.

**8. Questions / New business:**

- Question asked regarding student total now = close to 1270
- Suggestions were made to put a list of clubs available on the website. President's council is putting together a fair to let students know of different clubs.
- Website is under VP Ranjit Gill responsibilities and VP Susan Maharaj is responsible for Spartan Speaks
- Some parents have called school regarding students having asthma problems due to dust. Caretakers are co-operating but following union orders. Caretakers still clean washrooms and stairwells.

**9. Motion to adjourn: 7:12**

**Next Meeting Dates:**

**Mon. December 14<sup>th</sup>, Tues. February 16<sup>th</sup>, Mon April 18<sup>th</sup>, Mon. June 6<sup>th</sup>**