

STOUFFVILLE DISTRICT SECONDARY SCHOOL
SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING - AGENDA
Monday, September 23, 2024 @ 7:00 pm
Virtual Link: <https://meet.google.com/xkn-anke-hsn>

- **Welcome and Introductions – Dawn Laliberte, Principal**
 - School Council is low key in highschool - no fundraising
 - Parents should dictate the agenda - what do you want to learn about? - we take the lead from you
 - Meet 4 times a year - dates TBA
 - Last year had guest speaker on Safe Social Media
 - Also you are here to give us feedback
 - Student Council reports
 - Staff through Laura T presents
 - Admin add our perspective
 - Usually no more than an hour
 - Want informal, open conversation - no formal rules to follow - more a dialogue about what is happening at the school
 - specific questions about your child tabled until after the meeting
- **Student Council Report – Sam and Aleena - absent - presented by Jen**
 - share the club hub document
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1CImweE46nyyj5wR6FArCQFGFp09leEWML5WKDWf4Xt4/edit>
 - From Aleena VP
 - We have started weekly Student Council meetings since the start of the year, we have currently held 3 meetings Meetings are on Fridays @ lunch in the library Regular attendance is mandatory for members of council
 - You can keep up with the Spartan Senate via our Instagram **@thespartansenate**

Club Fair coming up this Thursday where all clubs set up a display and info booth so everyone can see what our school has to offer

○ Thursday September 26th @ lunch in the atrium

-students may join as many clubs as they like / can - sports are limited due to time committment

Halloween Costume

Contest on Halloween Day where the crowd votes for their favourite costumes per category

○ Prizes to be determined between SPC card or gift basket

-Ramona offering to donate prizes for costumes

Semi-Formal at Angus Glenn on November 21st (buffet dinner, dance, photobooth, venue, 400 guest capacity)

- Theme to be determined - Planning to sell tickets at ~\$70

Guests will be permitted with guest form

Open to all grade

- **Elections – Dawn Laliberte**

Officers

- Each council must have a chair/co-chairs. - chair calls for agenda items for each meeting

- Can also have a treasurer or secretary

Dawn outlined the position and opened the floor to nominations

- Candidates for the position of chair/co-chair must be parent/guardian/family members and not employed by the Board.
- Council members elect the executive positions.
 - Elected executive positions must be outlined in the school council constitution and/or by-laws and may consist of any number of the following: treasurer, minute taker, fundraising committee chair, Active School Travel committee chair, as examples.

Open to the floor - who would like to chair or co-chair?

Romana and Cindy

Secretary? - none

Finance? - none

[School Council Handbook](#)

- **Teacher Report – L. Taccone**

- Grade 9 day (Green Acres) was a success--great student leadership team who were really helpful in organising and running the day
- feedback from grade 9s was predominantly positive saying “repeat the day”
 - parents with grade 9s reported that kids enjoyed the day
- Many staff are sharing that clubs are up and running again. Check last week’s bulletin for a current list of clubs and when/where they run.
- Bio club had over 60 students join. Wow! Great showing.
- Support Systems at SDSS: - reach out to any or all of teachers to find someone who makes your student feel safe - lots of support through the services below and also Child and Youth Workers
 - -especially at lunch - Laura Taccone and admin team goes around at lunch to help students sitting alone find people and/or places to go at lunch - reach out if you feel that your child needs help making connections
- Student Services

- IEPs are out by Oct 16. 2 copies to be sent home. Please add any feedback or questions. Sign one copy with the feedback, return to school. Updates will be made. They are working documents and can be changed as needed (within bounds of the psych report) and for high school setting
 - SERTs have made contact with all students. There are different models of support, in class, in person (LC) and on an as needs basis
- Guidance:
 - Grade 12 Post-Secondary Planning 101 September 24-30th
 - University Applications due Jan 17, College Applications due Feb 1
 - Grade 9 Intro to Guidance visits first week of October
 - Need information? See the Guidance website and follow the instagram account
- Student Success
 - team of 4 who work to support student success, track and monitor attendance and achievement, support academic and overall well being
 - Goal of month one: spaces, places, faces
- **Admin Report – Dawn Laliberte / Jennifer Thom / Neil Press**
- Staffing Report
 - 7 staff were hired in August/September, 16 new staff were hired in May/June
 - Timetable changes are complete - any Sem 1 concerns need to be brought to our attention immediately - Sem 2 changes is starting early November
 - We must ensure that we have courses for all pathways including College, Apprenticeship and University programs as a priority.
 - Safe Schools assemblies have been held with all grades. Discussions include anti-bullying and other safety issues. - same messaging for all students in YRDSB
 - Fire drill and Hold and Secure drill will be completed this week, lockdown is being held next week
 - Interim Report Cards will be going out Oct 15/16 - electronically
 - Interims are levels, no marks yet
 - We use Teachassist in high school - parents are able to access this at anytime, so track marks and reach out if there are concerns
 - October 16 IEPs are required to be shared with parents by this date
 - October 24th – Parent/Teacher interviews can be scheduled through Teach- Assist. A notification will be issued in the newsletter. These interviews will be held in person. If you are unfamiliar with Teach Assist please use this [link](#) to help book your interview times. It will also be posted in the Parent Bulletin. Please schedule on a timely basis as times are limited and it gets filled up quickly. If there are concerns however, please reach out and don't wait.

- November 6th will be Take Your Kids to Work Day for grade 9 students. A great opportunity for job shadowing and we encourage all students to participate.
 - No Gr. 9 Instruction that day
- November 7 - Post Secondary Fair at the school - break out rooms where schools talk about their school and programs that are available - colleges, universities and trades including Canadian Arms Forces, Fire Department - after the breakouts there will be a fair in the gym where students can talk to specific institutions
 - All grades are welcome to attend
 - Food will be sold in the Grind
- November 11 - school assemblies facilitated by the History Department
- October 17 - Awards Assembly in the evening to celebrate success from previous years - invitations will be coming shortly

6. School Council

Share the School Council Policy changes video at your first or second School Council meeting of the year. The video is 8:26 minutes in length. It highlights the roles and responsibilities for the principal and the School Council.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PctgZCDesnE> - watch the first 6 minutes

- identifying needs and providing solutions to those needs
- foster learning to the councils about programs and opportunities at the school
- possible topics
 - last year had a person talk about social media and youth
 - other school topics include: pathways

7. School Council Forum

Wednesday October 30, 5:30 - 8:30

Newmarket HS

- if interested in attending, let Dawn know now or by email:
- two members indicated they would like to attend

Questions from floor:

1. How is the vaping in the washrooms?
 - a. Better than previous years - many staff checking the washrooms
 - b. Education about vaping is getting better
 - c. We are being frank about the germs in the washrooms
 - d. There is talk about vape detectors coming to York Region
2. Some grade 9's are afraid of going to the washroom - are some closed?

- a. The washrooms are cleaned throughout the day so some are closed for a few minutes
 - b. All students are welcome to use the single washrooms where they are alone
 - c. Some washrooms (like near the office on first floor) are quieter than others
- 3. I've heard the Teachassist app is not accurate?
 - a. True - it is not supported by the creator
 - b. Only use the web page
- 4. Notes about Parent / Teacher night
 - a. Good opportunity to get volunteer hours
 - b. Can bring your child or not as you wish
 - c. Sign up early through Teachassist - instructions coming in Parent Bulletin
- 5. Many students (not just Gr. 9) do not know how to open their lockers - what can be done?
 - a. They can come to the office and someone will show them
 - b. We will also put out QR codes with video instructions
 - c. There are single number locks - we can give those to some who need it
 - d. We did not have enough locks at the start of the school year - they are starting to come into the school and being distributed as they arrive
- 6. Last year had a guest speaker on online safety - was very informative - who would you like this year? What topics do you want to know more about? Remember these are for parents, not students. Email other ideas as they come to you
 - a. Vaping and cannabis use - different drugs circulating

Future School Council Meeting Dates:

November 18, 2024

February 24, 2025

May 26, 2025

Meeting adjourned