

School Council Minutes

March 20, 2025

ITEM	NOTES	ASSIGNED TO
Welcome & Attendance	<p>In Attendance: Jennifer Ippolito (Principal), Megan Allen (office administrator) Melissa Mummery (Chair), Sheila Porteous (Secretary), Jillian Houghton</p> <p>Regrets: Jason Dale (Teacher representative), Eric Stigter (Vice Principal), Starr Kennedy</p>	Jennifer Ippolito, Principal
Review & Approval of Minutes	<p>January meeting minutes approved Motion 1st: Sheila 2nd: Jillian</p>	All attendees
Student Council Update	<p>Activities to date: Valentine's & pink shirt day to spread kindness & positivity, spirit week, rock your socks (Down Syndrome Awareness)</p> <p>Upcoming: Glow Dance in May</p> <p>Purchasing ipad with stand instead of photo booth to use at various school events – students scan QR code to get pictures sent directly to student phone, this saves money on photo booth rentals</p> <p>Funds distributed to: photography program for camera repairs, fishing team, Greece trip, Smoothie Shack (healthy food initiative)</p>	Jennifer Ippolito, Principal shared email from Kiana Littlemore, SCS prime minister & Avaia Bergan, SCS deputy prime minister
Principal's Report	<p>March Break Europe trip: email shared from Mr. Dale indicating trip was a "smashing success" including superb behaviour praised by the Tour Leader. Next year's trip to France-Belgium-Netherlands is the first-ever all-Norfolk-schools venture with Delhi, Waterford, and Valley Heights, taking in a variety of tourist hotspots, museums, historically significant WWI and WWII sites, art galleries, and more.</p> <p>Parent-Teacher Night: looking at scheduling app for parents to book appointments for Fall 2025; will be discussing with department heads at next meeting.</p> <p>Reach Ahead Hospitality Program: running 3 classes of Grade 7 and 8 students in the evening, considered a tech credit. Program is selling Easter baking - available through school cashonline.</p> <p>OSSLT (Grade 10 literacy test): Friday April 4th – 1/2 day. 3 Grade 10 classes plus previously eligible students to write; there will be practice sessions offered for students leading up to test.</p> <p>Cell phone boxes created by administrative staff and offered to teachers to have in their classroom to use for student cell phones. For example, some teachers using to have the student put their phone in the box when they leave the class to use the washroom.</p> <p>Kitchen stations: 4 stations being renovated, timeline is summer 2026. All equipment utensils would be colour-coded for each station, discussed this as an idea for school council fundraiser. Still waiting for confirmation process for quotes; SCS staff and school council would prefer to use local contractors. Suggestion a letter be written from school council indicating the preference for local vendors and outlining benefits including reduced costs</p> <p>Upcoming events: April: French rapper Missy D presentation, New York Trip</p>	Jennifer Ippolito, Principal

	May: Spring Show & Sale put on by Tech Dept	
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Long Term Goals	<p>Fundraising project discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – outfitting 4 kitchen stations with colour-coded equipment such as mixers, utensils, dishes, etc. – outdoor facility improvements (track and football field): suggested that school get input from community partners/experts ex. Coaches, local runners and athletes 	All attendees
Parent Concerns	<p>Washrooms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – continue to be issues with girls sitting in and eating in washroom – noticed by public using washroom during election – suggestions included offering other spaces such as a designated classroom on each floor to direct students to as alternative 	All attendees
	<p>Cafeteria: concerns with cost and quality of food</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – no answers to questions about Chartwell contract – ideal would be local vendors and could be different vendors daily 	All attendees
GEDSB Parent Council Support	SCS Website update: working with board to create a workable site for SCS which should be going live in the next few weeks and will include a school council page	Megan Allen, Office Administrator
	<p>PRO Grant \$1000</p> <p>Guest speaker: ADHD Youth Mentor – Aaron Bailey, CYW / Motivational Speaker - Wed May 14, 2025 from 6-8pm in Learning Commons, no cost</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – currently 45+ registered through school cashonline – marketing sent to Grand Erie schools + community partners – School Council will cover cost of refreshments 	Megan Allen, Office Administrator
Business from the floor	<p>Helene High Music Graduation Award:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – \$100 from family + \$100 from school council <p>Guest Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Large assemblies make it difficult to retain student's attention – Suggestions for smaller assemblies targeted to certain grades, examples: Grade 9/10: vaping, Grade 11/12: MADD – Officer Andrew Gamble – Media Relations and Community Safety Officer is offering to speak to students regarding substance abuse / peer pressure <p>August pre-registration day:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Very busy and chaotic, particularly for Grade 9 students and parents 	All attendees

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Suggestions for improvement: student ambassadors to help with flow and answering questions – Forms will eventually all be signed online and therefore in-person registration will not be required 	
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Action Items	<p>New cafeteria vendor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – when does contract end? Can school do their own Request for Proposals to try and have local, quality food and better prices? – Update (Mar 31): contract continues through 2025/26 school year 	Eric Stigter, Vice Principal
	<p>Fundraising project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – answer from board as to whether local quotes / contractors for kitchen are allowed or if board approved vendors have to be used – ideas for outdoor projects from Mr. Pajor – update (Mar 31): facilities has provided drawing of kitchen renovations – waiting on approved, hope is work to be completed Summer 2026 	Jennifer Ippolito, Principal
	<p>Parent Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Create a survey to be distributed to parents to gauge interest in getting involved in school council activities 	Megan Allen, Office Administrator Melissa Mummery, Chair
	<p>Guest Speaker, Aaron Bailey May 14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ask Reach Ahead Hospitality program to provide baked treats – Water, tea, coffee – Marketing on newspaper & radio community calendars 	Jennifer Ippolito, Principal Megan Allen, Office Administrator
	<p>Invite parents of incoming Grade 9's to last school council meeting of 2024-2025 school year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – invite sent through parent council chairs at feeder schools – include: welcome to school community, tour of school, introduce kitchen and other school improvement projects, refreshments 	Melissa Mummery, Chair
Next Meeting	Wednesday May 28, 2025 ~ 6pm, SCS Learning Commons	