**Simcoe Composite School**

**Parent Council Meeting (virtual)**

**Minutes – 23 February 2022, 1800 hours**

1. Welcome

* In attendance: Jennifer Ippolito (Principal), Matt Malcolm (Vice Principal), Jason Dale (Student Success Teacher), Arjan Lamers (Communications Teacher), Regan Karges (Chair), Melissa Mummery, Jamie Knowles, Sheila Porteous, Carson Kitchen (Student Council Prime Minister)
* Approval of November 30, 2021 Minutes: approved by Jennifer Ippolito, seconded by Melissa Mummery

1. Principal’s Report

* Semester 2 updates: 4 courses/day is preferred model by students/staff and everyone settling in; sports and extracurriculars are up and running, students eating in cafeteria, able to be in library and gym at lunch, general feeling of happiness and energy back in hallways
* Report Cards for Quad 2 and SCS newsletter mailed home last week
* Swipe cards: staff have ID badges and 3 more swipe access points around building for safety
* Pride of Place:
* Applied for new doors, hand and stair rails, plus other improvements to school – will find out about approval in April
* Bulletin boards updated
* Senior Lounge – going to mount grad composites and staff photos
* Student Services Office – shelving units with catalogues for pathways (work, post-secondary, apprenticeship), volunteer info, jobs etc.
* Dock on Lynn River - in disrepair, contacted Norfolk County, hoping to have it dismantled for safety reasons
* Crosswalk – Norfolk County has indicated the request will be submitted in late 2022 as part of the next Capital Budget, with hopes it becomes a 2023 project

1. Student Council Report Update – Carson Kitchen

* December – Nat’l Day of Remembrance for Violence Against Women, 125 boxes sent to soldiers oversees, decorated school for holidays, candy cane grams, festive week; recognized 5 other holidays on announcements
* January - $250 council donation + $375 student donation given to Women’s Services
* February – rose-grams, Sabrefolk wear (includes options for home delivery), Pink Shirt Day
* March – Spirit Days (week before March Break)
* Upcoming Projects / Activities:
* Installation of ten ‘Unlearn’ 4’ x 4’ murals – eg. racism, poverty, climate change, diversity
* Spring fun day for all students
* Mid-May/June – another Sabrefolk wear sale and promote to Grade 8’s (Mrs. Ippolito will contact admin of feeder schools)
* Spring activity for Grade 8’s / Future Grade 9’s or BBQ/icebreakers/tours during registration week

1. Mac Lab report- Mr. Lamers

* Goal: outfit room B29 with Mac computers at total cost of $60,000
* Initiatives: radio ads, poinsettia fundraiser (December), community donors – Port Dover foundation ($5,600), TTCA ($1000), offering advertising space outside lab to businesses
* Suggested:
* awareness campaign re: income tax receipt for donations to school board that are designated specifically to a project like Mac lab
* Computer Mac Lab Sub-Committee: currently Mr. Lamers, Regan Karges, Melissa Mummery. Melissa will set up meeting, anyone interested is welcome to join including staff, parents, students (who could be given volunteer hours)
* Fundraising ideas: Country Home candles, food (sausages, chicken, donuts, chocolate), calendar raffle, Cascades toilet paper
* SCS staff will lead Candle fundraiser around Mother’s Day including an SCS Sabres candle

1. Chair’s Report

* Fundraising - considerations
* 2 fundraisers / year realistic
* parent council would need treasurer if they were to take lead
* will begin with Mac lab fundraiser sub-committee
* Prom
* School board not making decision yet on whether Grand Erie schools can host a school-sanctioned prom
* Carson Kitchen will continue to bring issue to board level to get decision made
* Group of students working on putting something together for Grade 12’s if decision is they can’t have school-sanctioned event
* German Hall in Delhi tentatively booked for June 3, 2022. Simcoe venues were considered but students don’t feel there’s a suitable option

1. Other Business

* Extended French becoming Immersion – current student numbers don’t warrant change to immersion; would need to be parent led initiative at board level if there was interest
* Student credit recovery days – 2 days in May are taken from exam days at end of year with goal of trying to allow students who have credits at risk to work on assignments and catch up - not for top up or enrichment
* De-streaming of courses – Grade 9 math now; September - Science, English (will be taught at academic level), Geography (academic level) and French (academic level). Goal is to create “equitable pathways” for students
* Hepafilters in classrooms – school board officials decided where they are located. Currently office, guidance and most classrooms have them with exception of A & B floors (deemed to have adequate air flow). Self-contained classes are getting next shipment
* Website calendar – Parent’s Council section
* Send content to Mr. Lamers to upload
* Meeting minutes will be uploaded with note \*\*subject to approval as they will not be approved until next parent council meeting
* Chair’s contact information and write up about parent council
* Other suggestions: social media button linked to parent and school facebook, Instagram
* Awards – discussed updating as many on walls appear to not have been awarded. *Updated March 6, 2022- Mr. Pajor will add award recipients to plaques, there will be no awards for 2020/2021.*
* Staff/student volleyball game - capacity limits are concern right now, Mrs. Ippolito and Mr. Malcolm will consider options. *Updated March 6, 2022- Volleyball game being arranged depending on capacity limits following March Break.*

1. Next Meeting: Wednesday May 18, 2022 - 1800 hrs