Simcoe Composite School

**Parent Council Meeting**

**MEETING MINUTES - May 24, 2022**

1800 hours

1. **WELCOME, IN ATTENDANCE**

Jennifer Ippolito (Principal), Matt Malcolm (Vice Principal), Jason Dale (Teacher Representative), Regan Karges (Chair), Buffy Smith, Candace Mannen, Melissa Mummery, Sarah McIntee, Jessica Martin, Sheila Porteous

Students: Carson Kitchen (student council prime minister), Natalie Knocke, Sierra McIntee, Marissa McIntee

1. **MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 23**

Motion to approve – Melissa Mummery, seconded: Jessica Martin

1. **PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

**Academics**

* Mid-term and report cards sent home electronically
* Student learning support days: 3 more in June (27, 28, 29), unclear if they will be continuing next year and if exams will return
* Homework help available Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 3-4pm after school in the library with GEDSB Secondary School Teacher

Concerns / Discussion:

* Transportation issue - many students cannot stay after school as they take a bus; teacher is ‘generalist’ so concerns about help with specific subjects ie. math
* Funding is only for after school help; students/parents are encouraged to have initial discussion with class teacher to see if help can be set up - lunch math help may return next year, Ms. Ippolito will discuss with math department
* Promote to parents help available: specific subjects as well as study habits, social and emotional support – posted on parent community Facebook page
* Ideas for next year: specific subjects on specific days, set up peer support system with senior students

 **Sports**

* Track & Field – numerous personal bests and CWOSSA gold medals, 4 athletes going to OFSSA
* Baseball – won AABHN championship, proceeded to CWOSSA
* Soccer – boys and girls won AABHN championship, proceeded to CWOSSA
* Junior Football - June

**Social**

* Glow Dance: no issues, good sales, first high school dance for many students
* Rainbow ball: 24 students attended from SCS, 300 students altogether
* Prom: June 3 @ German Hall in Delhi, June 1st ‘prom expectations’ meeting with students

**Staffing/Timetable**

* Patricia Misner retiring, Marlene Van de Wiele will be new head of math
* Donations in memory of Michelle Freitag were made to the SCS Science Dept
* Discussion around timetabling so senior students can have more manageable course load. Hope is this will improve when we return to a full year of semesters. Teacher availability and student demand drives timetable, eg. Calculus always has to be 2nd semester as Functions is pre-requisite/has to be taken concurrently

**Other**

* SCS voted favourite Norfolk County high school, myFM came May 25th for photo op
* Motorama – SCS won the division with a 1960’s Land Rover. Planning for next year, set goal to win more than one division
* International assessment – PISA – 53 students randomly chosen (only school in board) anonymous assessment – science, math, reading skills and a personal questionnaire
* Mac Lab: $30,000 raised so far, have been able to order 16 more Mac’s and now have 26, working on purchasing 7 more. Donor wall outside lab with signs created in SCS tech classes
* Pride of Place: grants approved for building improvements (eg. handrails, doors)
* Crosswalk: still hopeful it will be installed in 2023 at Carolin Tower (Norfolk County planning Rainbow crosswalk at the stop lights at Union and Norfolk streets)
1. **STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT UPDATE**
* Lily Cathcart – incoming prime minister for 2022-23
* Events: spirit weeks – great student participation, ‘unlearn’ graphics (11) installed all over school to bring awareness to diversity, climate change, etc. Glow Dance first school wide event since COVID
1. **CHAIR’S REPORT**
* Computer iMac Lab Committee – not required at this point as Mr. Lamers has fundraised almost all the required money
* Fundraising ideas: donuts (Kaley’s Restaurant / The Apple Place), consider for fall – maybe something at pre-registration. Jen will ask teacher’s about wish lists to help identify what fundraising initiatives might be needed. In past student’s council has always had funds left over to offer to teacher’s at end of year for any required/desired items
* Dress Code: deferred, this policy is up for review next year and likelihood a School Board wide dress code will come into effect for 2023-24 school year. Both Parents and Students will be included in consultations
* Events for Graduates: Breakfast June 24th followed by year end assembly; Graduation Oct 7th in SCS gym
1. **OTHER BUSINESS**
* Funds to be spent: $200 in school council account and $500 parent engagement. Ideas: Safe Arrival App magnet for parents (decided would be better to send out in Grade 9 package), Speakers, ice cream or strawberry social. Ms. Ippolito will ask teacher’s about viability of Parent Social event week of June 13-17
* Marketing: Melissa attended the GEPIC meeting and discussion focused around “transitions” to high school to increase students choosing Grand Erie Secondary Schools. Administration said they are hearing same message at board level.

Some ideas: treating the school more like a business, mentoring opportunities and exposing students to the secondary school (building, staff and students) at younger age, reworking the messaging: “when you come here…” instead of “if you come here…”, student testimonials, videos and engaging Grade 7’s, host elementary events: sports, tournaments, fun days, academic contests. SCS does already host elementary school tournaments and graduations and will host a Grade 8 orientation day

* March Break trips resuming 2023 – starting with Italy (Mr Dale & Ms Demontfort chaperoning - $4300 for 10 days) and then France for 2024

Next Meeting: Fall 2022