

Student Trustee Senate Meeting
Education Centre, Board Room
Tuesday, October 18, 2016

Members Present

***School Representatives:**

Erica George
Julianna Mihelic
Tristan Smid
Krithika Srikanth
Vani Sharma
Makenna Noyes
Zach Harrietha
Kiara Kalenuik
Evan Ren
Rebecca Koole
Tessa Piccolo
Abby Loewen
Kassy Sparks
Trina Voicey
Grace Dobbie
Liam Jewel
Will Reil
Sienna Lalonde

Student Trustees: Karling Luciani
Samir Alazzam
Trustees: Diane Chase

A. N. Myer
A. N. Myer
Beamsville
Beamsville
Welland Centennial
Welland Centennial
DSBN Academy
DSBN Academy
Eden
Eden
E.L. Crossley
E.L. Crossley
Eastdale
Eastdale
Fort Erie
Fort Erie
Grimsby
Grimsby

Hasna Khalil
Sendy Rivas
Kyle Martin
Nick Bussi
Morgan Davies
Bryce Bailey
Madelyn Beam
Ahmed Alagil
Malcolm Cavanagh
Eli Mokrzynski
Noah Desruisseaux
Holden Gauthier
Emily Hilborn
Alexis VanBallegooyen
Abdullah Khalid
Ash Raji
Mazen Hassan
Amal Qayum

Welland Centennial Secondary School
Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School

Governor Simcoe
Governor Simcoe
Laura Secord
Port Colborne
Port Colborne
RCBHS
RCBHS
Sir Winston Churchill
Sir Winston Churchill
South Lincoln
South Lincoln
St. Catharines Collegiate
Stamford
Stamford
Thorold
Thorold
Westlane
Westlane

**Based on students who "signed-in"*

Administrative Advisors:

Ms. Paula MacKinnon, Superintendent of Secondary Schools
Ms. Ann Harrison, Student Achievement Leader, Student Success
Ms. Susan Santesso, Consultant, Student Success

Recording Secretary:

Mrs. Jennifer McGugan, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

Regrets: Sue Barnett, Trustee, and Ms. Linda Oliverio, Vice Principal, St.Catharines Collegiate Secondary School

MINUTES OF MEETING

Welcome and Introductions:

Samir spoke to the senate about the importance of student voice. Samir stressed that the Student Trustee Senate member role is an important part of student voice at the DSBN and in the community.

Approval of the Agenda:

South Lincoln Secondary School motioned the agenda be approved. Welland Centennial Secondary School seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes:

St. Catharines Collegiate Secondary School motioned that we approve the minutes, seconded by Thorold Secondary School. Motion carried.

Report from Trustees

Trustee Chase passed on regrets from Trustee Barnett. Trustee Chase apologized for not being able to attend the Student Trustee Senate Retreat in September 2016. Both trustees are thrilled to be participating on the Student Trustee Senate Committee and are pleased with the work that the committee does for the community, as well as the contribution to the District School Board of Niagara (DSBN). Trustee Chase explained that trustees are elected by their communities to be the voice of the community at the board level. She expressed to the Student Trustee Senate that if they had any questions to please contact her.

The Policy Committee values the importance of having a student voice. Trustee Chase pointed out that the DSBN website has information about which policies are being reviewed and the Policy Committee welcomes the input of students.

Currently, there is an Accommodation Review happening for the West Niagara area. Trustee Chase is participating in the review committee, along with Trustee Keddy-Scott. Meetings will be held to hear from the voice of students and communities. Trustee Chase encouraged the Student Trustee Senate members to participate by providing feedback.

The DSBN Board Meetings have been changed to one board meeting a month instead of two meetings. Trustee Chase explained that this change allows for trustees to have greater opportunity to participate in other DSBN committees and become more involved in their communities.

Trustee Chase congratulated DSBN students on their OSSLT scores, noting that the DSBN is 2% above the provincial average.

Report from Student Trustees

Samir explained that through their involvement with OSTA-AECO they are implementing a student survey to help identify student needs and student ideas at the provincial level. Samir spoke about the importance of having an effective way to have DSBN secondary school students communicate to their Student Trustee Senate representatives.

Samir has started a Facebook group for the Student Trustee Senate. Karling and Samir asked the Student Trustee Senate members to connect with them if they are not currently connected to this Facebook group.

Karling presented three Student Trustee Senate T-shirt options. The Student Trustee Senate majority voted for T-shirt option 2 that was presented. T-shirts will be ordered through the DSBN communications department.

Karling presented the DSBN Student Trustee Mental Health and Well-Being Grant opportunities that are going to be presented to the secondary schools. Schools will have an opportunity to apply for up to \$500 toward a student led mental health and well-being initiative for their school.

Attendance Discussion and Support

Samir expressed the importance of attendance. The Student Trustee Senate values the input of all its members and students were encouraged to make a commitment to be present at all of the meetings. Students who have perfect attendance will be eligible for prizes during the perfect attendance draw in December 2016.

Karling talked about the importance of networking with other schools on the senate. She encouraged the senate members to communicate with one another and learn from what other schools are doing. She indicated the opportunity that the Student Trustee Senate members have to improve their school by gathering information from other senate members from other schools. Karling asked the Student Trustee Senate for volunteers to share at upcoming meetings about a successful initiative that is happening in their school.

Student Trustee Senate Initiative

Karling presented a summary of the brainstorming done at the September Student Trustee Retreat. The first idea presented was 'Equality' (Culture, Acceptance, LGBTQ, Language, and Ability). The second was 'I Matter' (Bringing all schools together, showing every student matters, and creating a positive environment). The senate was encouraged to discuss and reflect on the two concepts and then determine which initiative that they would like to work on this year. Individual senate members expressed their thoughts about the ideas presented. Karling asked the Student Trustee senate to vote on which initiative they would like to move forward with and the senate voted for "I Matter".

May 6th is being held as a date for any event that the senate would like to plan and hold. The Student Trustee Senate was asked to work together to come up with suggestions for events ideas to promote the 'I Matter' initiative. Ideas were written on chart paper and the senate members voted with stickers to indicate their top two event ideas.

Event ideas voted on were:

- Awareness walk
- Lip Dub Video
- School Olympics
- Music Festival
- Colour Run
- Host Other Schools
- Carnival

Welland Centennial Secondary School volunteered to do the Ice Breaker Activity for the November meeting.

Networking Break

Thorold Secondary School led the ice breaker during the break. The activity involved guessing the name of the person written on a post-it stuck on your forehead.

Senate Discussions

Ms. Harrison has not received notification of Speak Up grants from the Ministry. Ms. Harrison will send out communication when the Ministry releases the Speak Up grants. She encouraged the senate to consider submitting an application for their school.

Around the Table:

A.N. Myer Secondary School

- Terry Fox charity fundraiser
- Camp Myer – gr 9,11,12, spirit colours, 3 nights and 4 days, games, leadership activities
- Pep-rally (football games) – free BBQ, spirit week, bake sale, games, prizes
- Glow Dance “Tight ‘n’ Bright’/Neon October 20th - RYNX Productions, iPhone giveaway, glow lights

Beamsville District Secondary School

- Camp Buccaneer – grade nine initiation, team building, making connections, promoting school spirit
- Terry Fox Run – jars in each class and individual pledges
- Dress Your Grade Day – school spirit day
- Halloween Activities – dance and game night, trick-or-treat challenge

Welland Centennial Secondary School

- 22 for 22 – having teams sign up for \$5.00 and do 22 push-ups a day for 22 days to raise money for Wounded Warriors Canada
- Raising money for OSLC – playing an annoying song over the P.A. and collecting money to get the song turned off
- Halloween Dance – with costume contest, haunted house
- Safe School Team/ Chill Club – making our school a safe and positive environment, promoting kindness and “chill” places to study/relax at lunch

DSBN Academy

- Spirit Week – as a student voice our plan was to increase school spirit, great participation, battle of the grades, Oct/Nov events to earn points for your grade
- Halloween Dance – Halloween for hunger

Eastdale Secondary School

- Halloween Dance Oct. 27 – with a haunted house
- Terry Fox Walk on Oct. 3 – success, raised \$1300 which was more than our goal
- Spirit Week in the first week

Eden High School

- Pep Rally and Under the Lights Football Game – first football game held at Seymour-Hannah complex, food goes toward fundraiser, support both Junior and Senior team, lit time
- Dance – school dance, neon theme, first school dance ever at Eden, live music and DJ, food
- Humans of Eden – created a new Instagram page, launching initiative similar to “Humans of New York”, in an attempt to showcase the diversity, talents and stories of fellow students at school
- Spirit Assembly – show casing spirit at assembly, acknowledging success among individuals and sports teams
- Intramural Dodgeball
- Orange Shirt Day
- Halloween Bake Sale and Halloween Haunt

E. L. Crossley Secondary School

- Nutrition Program – group of students are arranging the first ever “breakfast club” at our school

- Rankin Run Oct. 7– over \$8000 raised, corporate sponsors, games, bake sale
- Glow Dance – school dance, all grades, black light
- Halloween (Game) Assembly – costumes to participate in games with chance to win a semi ticket

Fort Erie Secondary School

- Intramural Dodgeball – fun environment
- Halloween Spirit Week – orange and black day, guess that movie line, decorate a tombstone
- Coffee House Oct. 27

Governor Simcoe Secondary School

- Coffee House – students get to show off their talents one evening including: singing, playing an instrument, reading poems, etc.
- Haunted House – getting into the Halloween spirit by making a spooky haunted house, created by students
- Safe Talk Training – every member from SOS and Student Council will have the opportunity to be trained in Safe Talk
- Grade Nine Day – welcoming the grade nines by having fun activities and school spirit, and also bringing them out of their shells
- We Scare Hunger – canned food drive all collected for Oct. 31

Grimsby Secondary School

- Lemonade Stand Fundraiser – lemonade being sold in main row
- 5th School Dance – raise spirit
- Spirit Weeks for every holiday
- Camp Eagle – a bunch of students go up north, a way to welcome grade nines

Laura Secord Secondary School

- Cow Olympics – a fun orientation day for the grade nines, lots of different games that included glue and flour slip and slide, shaving cream battles, etc.
- Coffee House – a warm open mic night, great energy from everyone
- Zombie Dance – haunted hallway

Port Colborne High School

- Terry Fox Walk – pep rally/assembly, “I would walk 500 miles for...”, students all signed a poster and donated
- Outdoor Event in the Tent – fall food and drink, approximately 100 students
- Halloween Movie Night – next Thursday, successful in the past, students vote for the movie
- Semi-Formal – Italian hall, most popular school event
- School Retreat – entire school at Brock Monument, clothes pin game, BBQ

Ridgeway-Crystal Beach High School

- Fall Fest – bubble soccer, obstacle course, photo booth
- Spirit Week before Semi (Nov 25) – trying to improve school spirit
- Child Abuse Awareness (Purple Day) and Residential Schools Awareness (Orange Day)
- Hat Day Buy-Out

St. Catharines Collegiate Secondary School

- Purple Day Oct. 19 – raise awareness for Child Abuse
- Grade 9 Day at Walker Living Campus
- Start of the School Year Dance – free for all grade 9 students
- Pink Day Oct. 26 – awareness of Breast Cancer

South Lincoln High School

- Terry Fox – raised \$100 through ‘hat day’, students donated to wear their favourite hat, \$3000 raised and the highest homeroom got a donut party
- Spirit Week – raised school spirit, going to do this on the last week of every month
- Halloween Dance Oct. 27

Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School

- Terry Fox Walk/Run – recognize the legacy of Terry Fox, raise money and awareness for cancer research, still planning
- Grade 9 Representative Elections – all grade 9 students vote to elect two representatives for the Student Council
- Pep Rally Oct. 23 – promotes school spirit, generally invites new students into the Sir Winston environment, informs students of extra-curricular and promotes involvement
- Halloween Dance Oct. 27 – creates a social environment where students can have fun and meet other students

Stamford Collegiate Secondary School

- Cave Springs Camping Trip – link crew, leadership camp, senior leaders pick one grade 9 student to join the leadership camp

- FROSH Day – went to Queenston Heights and played games, bonding activities for grade nines
- Open Mic – every Friday to promote our arts department
- Halloween Dance and Haunted House Oct. 27 – first dance of the year

Thorold Secondary School

- Focus Week – an initiative that aims to educate students on various issues faced in the community and a global scale: climate change, mental health, bullying and more
- Queenston Heights Trip – school wide event, whole day of fun activities
- Pep Rally – annual Pep Rally before first home football game to promote teams and school spirit
- Night Game – under the lights

Westlane Secondary School

- Haunted Hall Oct. 31 - \$1/canned good as admission, proceeds go to Project Share
- Fear Fest Oct. 14 – annual trip to Canada’s Wonderland, most successful, 4 coach buses
- Bake Sale and Movie Buy Out – Halloween Day there will be a movie buy out period 4 and 5, bake sale selling treats at lunch, teachers can purchase treats for their class

Closing Remarks

Thorold Secondary School will present about activities in their school to the senate at the November Student Trustee Senate meeting.

South Lincoln High School motioned to adjourn the meeting and Grimsby Secondary School seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Next Meeting:

**Tuesday, November 15, 2016
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Education Centre – Board Room**