SCS School Council Minutes

June 14, 2023 | *6pm*

# In Attendance

Parents: Regan Karges (Chair), Jessica Martin, Melissa Mummery, Sheila Porteous

SCS Staff/Students: Jen Ippolito (Principal), Matt Malcolm (Vice Principal), Jason Dale (Teacher rep), Ron Smith (Teacher), Lily Cathcart (student); Maggie Baker (student)

# Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the April meeting were approved (Motion: Melissa, 2nd: Jessica)

# Student’s Council Report

Lily Cathcart & Maggie Baker, Outgoing/Incoming Student Council Prime Ministers, provided an update:

* Students council has added more positions / representatives to include diverse groups, increased grade representation and include all students who expressed an interest in being part of student council
* Focus for 2023-24: prom planning, social media, gathering more student voices and encouraging equality, better access to hygiene products, fundraising, community involvement, safe spaces
* Planned events for 2023-2024:
  + Welcome to Grade 9: August 30 (morning of registration in SCS library, includes staff/student introductions, games, school tour and pizza lunch)
  + Grade 9 day: September 20
  + Back to School Dance: September 21

# Principal’s Report

Jen Ippolito, Principal, provided the following updates:

* June 21: Ms. Ippolito will be paddling the SCS stand-up paddleboard (made by students with $1000 grant) down the Lynn River
* June 23: last day of classes:
  + Grad Breakfast
  + End of year assembly: student and staff performances, recognizing student academic/sports achievements and staff retirements, announcement of valedictorian
  + Student Council providing BBQ Lunch
  + Soccer game: senior vs junior team
* June 26-28: Exam days for seniors, June 29: PA day

# Other Business

Prom:

* Students to take the lead next year and encourage feedback, participation from senior class
* Feedback from 2023 prom:
  + Music/dance: DJ didn’t play songs students wanted to hear or requested, dance floor felt too big
  + Food: no vegetarian option, some people had finished meal before others were through line
  + Venue: having it at SCS didn’t make it feel as ‘special’; suggestions: Riversyde 83, Norfolk Golf & Country Club

Fundraising / Sponsorships:

* Corporate sponsorships (ex. sports jerseys, music instruments): Mr. Smith provided letter template for corporate sponsorship, Grand Erie District School Board procedure; list of clubs, activities and needs
* ‘Bus Pass’: Megan Allen, office coordinator, has created fundraiser and started soliciting local businesses to cover bussing for activities (sports, music, field trips, etc.); 3 levels and business receives a ‘bus pass’ to display as well as recognition within the school. Levels: $200 = local, $500=rural, $1000 = city
* Lighting & Sound fundraiser: live on school cashonline and letter has been drafted to send to businesses; currently have $25,000 including grant through CPIP (community partnership incentive program)
* Suggestions:
  + ‘Fundraising Task Force’ – members of SCS staff, school council, students to coordinate fundraising efforts and identify priority areas for the year. Melissa volunteered to be member and Megan, office coordinator, will be asked to join
  + Event – licenced so can ‘keep the bar’ with bands (SCS and local community talent)
  + Raffle – at Back to School BBQ in September, possibly SCS paddleboard

Back to School BBQ:

* Thursday September 14
* Hot dogs: Regan will contact Tony at the Arbor to order
* Ice cream: Jen will check with Megan on contact at Unilever
* Suggestions: raffle, video / slide show in Cafetorium, teacher bio in classroom

Volunteer Opportunities:

* Discussion around educating students / parents on volunteer opportunities available and the importance of community involvement not just to meet the 40 hour requirement but also for post-secondary applications
* Suggestions: partnerships with agencies like Riversyde 83 offering various programs, volunteer fair

Food Availability in the school:

* Maggie Baker (school board trustee): working to negotiating lower prices and increased nutrition
* School breakfast program: offered daily and includes granola bars, fruit and at least once a week includes something made by SCS classes, examples: muffins/bagels with cheese

Graduation:

* Several 2023 grads will be unable to come home to attend fall commencement (Friday October 6)
* Spring commencement is not an option as determined by the school board
* Staff will provide opportunity during exams for students to put on gown and parents to come in and take photos

# Next Meeting

* Wednesday September 27, 2023 @ 6pm