

Student Trustee Senate Meeting

Education Centre, Board Room

Tuesday, November 14, 2017

Members Present

Student Trustees: Emily Hilborn

Stamford Collegiate Secondary School

Amal Qayum

Westlane Secondary School

Trustees: Sue Barnett

*School Representatives:

Anya Muraco
Sarah Elkayed
Tristan Smid
Evalyn Watson
Elizabeth Chernyak
Anastasia Vakulich
Grace-Anna Pielt
Isabella Daneyko
Sara van Ravenswaay
Tyren St. Cyr
Isabelle Newkirk
Robin Payne
Justin Moore

A. N. Myer
A. N. Myer
Beamsville
Beamsville
Eden
Eden
Greater Fort Erie
Greater Fort Erie
Grimsby
Governor Simcoe
Governor Simcoe
Laura Secord
Laura Secord

Brooke Bulitz
Caitlynn van Kralingen
Rayyan Ebrahim
Taylor Meechan
Holden Gauthier
Brooke Randall
Kyrarah Nicholls
Olivia Sargeson
Jocelyn Agyare
Vani Sharma
Shelby Laing
Lina Lashin
Daniel Krowchuk

Port Colborne
Port Colborne
Sir Winston Churchill
Sir Winston Churchill
St. Catharines Collegiate
St. Catharines Collegiate
Stamford
Stamford
Thorold
Welland Centennial
Welland Centennial
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
Ms. Karen Ferguson, Vice Principal, Stamford Collegiate Secondary School

Recording Secretary:

Mrs. Jennifer McGugan, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

Regrets: Diane Chase, Trustee, DSBN Academy, Eastdale and E.L. Crossley

MINUTES OF MEETING

Welcome and Introductions

Amal and Emily welcomed the students and reviewed the Student Trustee Senate meeting process.

Approval of the Agenda

Beamsville Secondary School motioned the agenda be approved. Laura Secord Secondary School seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes

It was noted that the October 17, 2017 minutes will be amended to include the omitted 'Around the Table' information from Eastdale Secondary School. Laura Secord School motioned that we approve the amended minutes, seconded by Governor Simcoe Secondary School. Motion carried.

Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

Report from Trustees

Trustee Barnett highlighted that GFESS high school is open. Trustee Barnett shared with the senate that there were over 500 parents in attendance at the Parent Information Conference at Eden High School. Also, she noted that the Minister of Education came to visit the DSBN Academy.

Report from Student Trustees

Emily and Amal attended the OSTA-AECO meeting from Nov 2-5, 2017. They participated in professional development at this meeting. Amal described that there are various committees. Emily spoke about the Ontario Student Voice Awards Committee and Amal spoke about the Minister Student Advisory Committee.

Amal highlighted that there is funding available for student initiatives through Speak Up Grants. Speak Up Grant applications are due December 7, 2017.

Education Foundation of Niagara(EFN)

Cindy Paskey Executive Director and Dave Robitaille, Chair of the Board of Directors for EFN thanked the senate for inviting them to speak. The Education Foundation of Niagara (EFN) focuses on helping students and programs within the DSBN. Their goal is to create equal opportunities for all DSBN students. Some of the programs that EFN runs are Glasses for Classes, Prom Project, student bursaries and awards, Swim to Survive, and Canada Learning Bonds. An upcoming opportunity for the senate to participate in is Make Change for Children. Make Change for Children supports the work that EFN does to allow DSBN students to access basic necessities that they might otherwise go without. Dave acknowledged the work that Tristan, Amal and Vani have already done by participating on the EFN board. EFN would like to provide more support for students and would like the student senate to help with raising funds. Students asked about what types of activities they could do at their schools to help raise funds for EFN and how they could get in contact with EFN. Cindy and Dave shared that applications to EFN for student help are submitted by educators.

School Focus Presentation – Westlane

Lina shared that Westlane held a Mental Wellness Fair where they involved several community partners. Westlane also had a star initiative for random acts of kindness day that involved encouraging one another within the school community.

Networking Break: 6:45 - 7:00 p.m.

Break Out Sessions

- a) Action Plan – Amal worked with a group of senate members to help them develop action plans for activities within their schools
- b) SMARTGOAL Setting – Emily worked with a group of senate member to develop SMART goals for all the initiatives they are planning

Summary of Learning

Senate members met to discuss their learning.

Around the Table

Each school wrote out and submitted details about the (1) mental health and well-being initiatives currently going on at their schools, (2) what the mental health and well-being plans were for the upcoming month and (3) the SMART goal their school is currently working on.

A.N. Myer

- 1. Last Friday of the month student council holds events in the cafeteria to promote mental well-being
- 2. Provide 'services for youth' cards for students
- 3. Preparing to submit a Speak Up grant

Beamsville

- 1. Posters and school resource information posted around the school
- 2. Safe Talk training

Eden

- 1. YET wall
- 2. Mental Health support system created by students, information sessions to share where to find help
- 3. Donations toward EFN

Governor Simcoe

- 1. Comfort kits and 'Who Can Help' posters
- 2. To be decided, fundraiser/bake sale/kindness

Greater Fort Erie

- 1. Positive Spaces Club meeting weekly

2. Distribute Kid's Help phone cards
3. Planning a guest mental health awareness presenter

Grimsby

1. "De-stress" boxes
2. Mental health posters in the bathrooms
3. Planning an event (rock painting or fundraising for EFN)

Laura Secord

1. Wellness quotes every Monday on the announcements and posters
2. Movie night, PJs and hot chocolate, and a survey for student body, and posters
3. Use SMART goals for planning the movie night

Port Colborne

1. Anonymous help box
2. Coffee house to raise money for mental health awareness

St. Catharines Collegiate

1. Ballots for a draw are handed out for kind acts by students
2. Plan a mental health week
3. Bring in EFN for an assembly

Sir Winston Churchill

1. In progress
2. Take what you need posters, and a mental health need fair

Stamford Collegiate

1. Bubble wrap in the gym and a big poster of help/resources in the school
2. Take what you need posters

Thorold

1. 'Who Can Help' posters
2. Fundraiser
3. Mental health assembly

Welland Centennial

1. Safe School Team is running activities at lunch
2. Stars on the Wall

Action Items for Next Meeting

- Post a photo on twitter of this past month's initiative using our hashtag #DSBNThrives
- Plan and execute a new initiative for the upcoming month
- Post a photo on twitter using the hashtag for the new initiative

Meeting Adjourned

Greater Fort Erie Secondary School motioned the meeting be adjourned at 8:00pm. Governor Simcoe Secondary School seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Next Meeting:

**Wednesday, December 6, 2017
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Education Centre – Board Room**