

School Council Agenda – December 3, 2024

1. Welcome, Introductions
 - a. Present: Kelly H, Cassi C, Marc-Shane S, Aimi F, Jenn G, Sofia S
2. Student Report – Sofia Snow
 - a. Student events: Pep rally including band, sports. Band – planning trip to Chicago, performed at pep rally. Dance on Dec 12th. Viking Variety Venture being planned by Business Leadership class on Dec 13th. Donations being collected for food, clothing, toys by Leadership class. Turkey Lunch on Dec 18th.
3. Teacher Report
 - a. Pep rally – community building, cheers, games, school song, extracurricular clubs and sports
 - b. OSSLT – ran on November 28th with lots of staff support before and during
 - c. Science department – partnership with Western University to explore investigative activities with Grade 9 and 10 classes
 - d. Level-Up skilled trade fair – field trip took Grade 9, 10, and SHSM students
 - e. Robotics team – competed recently and earned silver medal
 - f. Grade 8 Open House – new format this year with not all open houses in the same week. In spite of nervousness about the new format, our open house went very well. Lots of people, lots of positive feedback.
 - g. Float for the Santa Claus parade – cross-curricular project and problem-solving, great opportunity for students and staff to take part in the community
 - h. Special Olympics basketball coming up
 - i. November PD Day had a partial focus on math, and on staff using math-positive language / explicitly showing students where math is involved in each subject area
4. Principal Report
 - a. This is Heather Jakobi's last meeting – Heather is moving to a new role as System Principal for Literacy, Arts, FSL, and Early Years starting on January 6th. Jim Copeland will be principal in January, and principal for second semester will be announced soon.
 - b. Safe and Inclusive School Plan
 - i. Work on addressing hateful / oppressive language used by students is ongoing – Leroy Hibbert coming to Grade 9 classes in December to talk about the power of words

- c. School Improvement and Equity Plan
 - i. Literacy
 - 1. OSSLT – Previously eligible wrote on November 28th
 - 2. ESI – Elementary Spelling Inventory – used with all Grade 9 students to see areas of strength and weakness and to inform instruction by English teachers
 - ii. Numeracy
 - 1. Grade 9 students – EQAO dates have been set for Sem 1 MTH1W
 - a. Practice test: January 8th
 - b. EQAO Assessment: January 15th and 16th
 - d. School Budget
 - i. \$75,000 grant has been awarded to Voaden for gym floor refinishing! From the TVDSB Capital Fund
5. Annual Report
- a. What to include for the 2024/2025 report? School Council actions / achievements:
 - i. Paid for refreshments for family / teacher interviews through Parent Involvement Fund
 - ii. Shared School Council email address with all families through monthly newsletter
 - iii. Handed out surveys to families at family / teacher interviews to find out about potential barriers to parent involvement in School Council (no responses)
 - iv. Grade 8 Open House – Kelly H attended and welcomed families, gave greetings as School Chair on behalf of School Council
6. Old Business
- a. School Council Chair email shared
 - b. Parent input
 - i. Survey had no responses
 - ii. QR code to the survey was handed out at parent-teacher interviews – By the cookies, and each teachers had the QR code as well
7. New Business
- a. Email from the board re PRO Grant – discussion about the possibility of organizing a STEM / Numeracy night for parents. School Council will consider this and discuss at next meeting. Mark-Shane will consider leading /

organizing this meeting. Discussion about inviting School Councils from other St Thomas schools as well.

Next Meeting: February 4, 2025 at 6:00 pm in the library