

Markville Secondary School Council

Participants: **Admin team:** Stephen Bewcyk (Principal), Krista Pummell (Vice-Principal), Rose Li (Vice-Principal)
Student Council VP: - Tiara Dailleboust & Emily Snowball
Parents: Arjan Samtani ('08/09 Treasurer), Lee Carwana ('08/09 Secretary), Janet Wellsman Thomson ('08/09 Vice-Chair), Kin Chan, Angie Karas, Sandra Linton, Vivian Magi-Thomson, Angela Cheung, Robert Chan, Annie Chan, Sheri Dixon, Janice Chan, Viki Metaxas, Lisa Henshall, Kingsley Alasaratnam, Jane Brown, Tess Georgakopoulos, Noelle Hunt, Vonda Melanson, Matthew Poon, Earlene Worrall, Ayesha Rehman, Claudia Caccavella

Minutes

Wednesday September 09, 2009

7:15 p.m. – 8:54 p.m. Library

Welcome & Introductions by Lee Carwana

A welcome was made to everyone and to the two new Vice Principals Krista Pummell & Rose Li

Student Council by Tiara Dailleboust (President of Student Council), Emily Snowball and Rachel Mathieu

Hi Janet,

Student Activity Council (SAC) is the student organization that provides opportunities to foster spirit and school pride. This group of students from grade 9-12 co-ordinate the spirit activities with the best interest of the majority of the school population in mind, we also sponsor and promote various school activities.

Savoula who is the External Affairs Representative will typically be the one attending the meetings, however Emily Snowball (VP) and I will try to attend as often as we can.

We meet at 3:05 every Tuesday in room 216 and anyone in the school is allowed to attend.

We have a store, just inside the front doors of the school in which we sell candy and allows the students to get to know the members of SAC better. SAC members act as a liaison between the council and the student body providing them with information regarding events.

Every month we will have a rep your grade event in which students are encouraged to either dress up or compete in competitions such as food drives. At the end of the year the grade that wins will get a BBQ for all their hard work. During time periods where there aren't many events being held we will hold Spirit Days like last week's Fashion Disaster Day on Wednesday to encourage enthusiasm.

Clubs and committees within the school attend SAC meetings if they request funding for their club. We provide them with \$5 per member up to a maximum of \$200. They also have to come to us if they want to hold an event and we will sign off on if they are allowed to do so or not. This method ensures there aren't any conflicts between clubs and funding. This year we have decided to donate to a charity for the whole entire year. Our goal is to raise \$8500.00 to build a school in Sierra Leone through the Brick-by-Brick program in Free the Children. Hopefully this will create more school unity and allow the student body to collectively work together to achieve this worthwhile cause.

A few dates have been changed that I will make you aware of, Semi Formal has now been moved to Thursday, November 19th at Crystal Fountain. The school dance that was originally November has now been moved to Thursday, March 4th 2010 in Markville's Cafe.

A brief overview of September:

SAC Attack was held on September 11th, and was a great success for club sign up!

The Grade 9 Elections took place on September 18th and we now have our three new grade 9 reps attending our meeting.

September 23rd was our Fashion Disaster Day

Coming up from October 5th-7th is our next rep your grade event in which all the grades are going to bring in non-perishable food items for our Thanksgiving food drive that we will donate to the Markham Food Bank.

Department of Physical Education Presentation

Sheila Coleman (Department Head):

- #1 possibility of course selection from this department might be.... Sports Teams managed by Jessie.

The Physical Education Department tries to offer a large variety so that they can try to encompass everyone

Getting out to the community by visiting Markville Fitness, Good Life, Bowling Alley and more.

Physical Education Classes are for everyone. Participation and sportsmanship are everything. In the past there was a lot more focus on diet, games and outdoor activities but now students are trying to achieve their credits and it is not always easy to fit in room for active course's.

- #2 Fitness Weight Club-- Fitness Area managed by Andrew Boss.

Specialist is available + there is a \$10.00 Fee.

There was a hope for expansion but instead, a new area was found and it is 3 times the previous size. Fundraising will occur to help achieve this department's goal for equipment, etc...

- #3 Varsity Teams usually designed for the Jocks. Currently Volleyball + Soccer for the boys and Field Hockey + Basketball for the girls. Also in 1st Semester there is Golf, Tennis and Cross Country Running available and some differences in 2nd Semester. One of the Fitness Courses offered this year includes an 8-day Unit of Rock-Climbing which is NEW.

Friday is SAC Attack day where the student is presented with all the different groups that are available outside of course options. There is usually a very small fee for joining these Groups/Clubs (I.e. Anti-bullying Committee, Brick by Brick, Athletic Council, Music Council, etc...) Ice Cream truck will be on school property for that time period.

Parent Council Report

Treasurer's Report by Arjan

- \$0.00 dollars are on Account.
- The York Region School Board gives the Treasurer \$500.00 to work with for the 2009/10 school year.

Parent council Speaker (last year's co-chair) Janet

- My Goal mainly this year is to hopefully bring in additional members to support Parent Council's future.
- I want everyone to feel no pressure for anything other than feeling that you are part of this Parental group.
- Please speak up on what you would like to experience from going to Parent Council? (I.e. What Department Head would you like to hear from, etc...)
- Try and tell your friends (other parents) about us or just let us know their e-mail.
- Bring your thoughts and ideas to the meetings.
- We do what to stay within a certain amount of time because we know it is precious for all of us.
- Lee & I are gone after this year. Next year parent council is going to need a few people to step up if it survives.
- I love about Parent Council is that I feel it keeps me informed on what is going on in the school and it does give me a voice. My favourite thing is when the Department Heads speak on the courses offered in their area. Arjan spoke and feels the same way about why he attends the meetings.
- E-mail's will go out every month with minutes and notes to keep everyone informed.

Administration Report (Admin team)

Krista Pummell and Rose Li decided that they would introduce themselves with some background information. They both have an open door policy and are always there even if you would like to come in to say hello. Each felt very welcome at Markville Secondary School by both the parents and students. Rose Li can speak some Mandarin in cases where a translator might be needed. It was said, "Administration is a great challenge and they look forward to the year ahead."

Information Update: Enrolment is currently at 1412 with 85/87 teachers and at the moment appealing for more staff.

Class Maximums – the maximum differs based on the course destination (i.e. academic is 30, applied is 22). The collective agreement does not allow for class maximums to be exceeded. The exception this year is that schools may increase the maximum in no more than 3 classes per year. In our case, the maximum has been increased in 2 classes.

Currently looking to add 2 ESL's. They are monitoring which students are currently not showing up for class and substituting them for students waiting to attend. There have been some issues with timetables. Guidance has been working very hard to work through them with the clean up done by Friday, Sept. 11th. Grade 9 Day – approximately 70-80 parents in total attended the day. The Grade 9 Boys Club has now added a Grade 9 Girls Club. The kick off will be Camp Robin Hood, which really helps with team building.

Usually the Guidance Department runs with the alphabet system but at the moment it is not in place. It will be in the future but if you really prefer to see a certain person, they can do so. This method is also put in place when needing to contact the Vice-Principals but again, if you prefer to speak to a particular VP, please feel free to request your preferred choice.

Closing Comments by Janet

A thank you was said to everyone for such a great turn out. Also apology mentioned for being 5 minutes late which will not happen again especially if this many people show every meeting. Also a promise to read the constitution. The response to the pre-meeting e-mail was incredible. Thank you, thank you, and thank you....

Action items for next meeting

Minutes approved of the last 2 meetings being June & September's.	Student Council Treasurer Report
To vote/not to vote, that will be a question of discussion.	Grant Application for \$1000.00 discussed.

Next Meeting: Wednesday October 7th, 2009 7:15 p.m. – 8:45 p.m. School Library

LINKS:

School's Website: <http://www.markville.ss.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/>

York Region District School Board, School Councils Home Page:
<http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/page.cfm?id=SSC000001>

Markville Secondary School Board Trustee: Elizabeth Richardson
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