

**Centennial Secondary School Council**  
**Monday February 27, 2012 7pm**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**In Attendance:** Deb Braun, Susan Davies, Sherill Roberts, Shelly Cutts, Cathy Alakas, Paula Martin, Dan Weber, John McDowell, Terry Gilbert, Elizabeth Maltais, Ann Lalonde, Dan Saint- Laurent, Larry Lemelin (Community Rep/Secretary) Paula MacKinnon (principal), Jane Kopp (vice-principal), Nyle Collins (student council), Sophie Helpard ( student council)

**Regrets:** Jennifer Tanouye

**Meeting Start:** 7:15pm

**Welcome:** Deb Braun

**Approval of the Minutes**

**Student Council Report:**

Nyle and Sophie spoke of how successful the Semi was. Kudos were given to the 2 Grade 12 rep's for their contribution to the Semi. The overall cost of the Semi was reduced by changing the menu selection. A Centennial mom, was instrumental in decorating the hall to create the “ Rain forest” theme. “ Birds of Paradise” were the center pieces at each table. Coat check went well, as did the security check, which led to one of the most successful Semi in years. There was no issues or after parties, a good time had by all. Approximately 400 students and 12 teachers attended the successful event.

It was wonderful to see many Grade 9 and 10 students in attendance. If anything could be improved on, it would be to continue to reduce the ticket cost, by making more changes to the menu.

This years Prom will be held at Club Roma, Vansickle Road, St. Catharines. Spirit Week and Spirit Assembly will all be part of “ Fun Week.”

**Chair's Report:**

Deb mentioned that I an education related survey which she received was completed and returned.

Administration Report:

Paula explained how the upstairs level of the school would be sealed off when crews came in to remove ceiling tiles and make repairs to lighting during March Break. This procedure will be repeated during the school's summer shutdown in efforts to complete the renovations.

Paula shared with the committee how, DSBN Superintendent John Stainsby was touring DSBN High Schools and was visiting Grades 9 and 10 Applied Classrooms. The purpose of his visits, was to learn first hand from students in those classrooms, what their thoughts and opinions would be to a Pilot Project which would exempt students from writing their final exam. During Mr. Stainsby's visits, he expressed the strong desire to find ways to help students be more successful in school and was hoping the Pilot Project would offer students a new way for them to succeed. The pilot project is in place for

this semester at Centennial. All students can still enjoy the option to write their final exam if they so choose to.

### **Professional Development :**

Co-op Teacher, Mr. Rob Motola provided a detailed overview of the opportunities available to Centennial students through the Co-op program. He clearly explained all the attributes for students participating in the Co-op Program during their time at Centennial. During Mr. Motola's presentation, members of the committee learned about how credits are offered from time spent in the Co-op Program, he also explained how Co-op's offer students an inside look to the work world and career choices, which could alter a student's choice of post secondary education leading to their final career goals.

Mr. Motola spoke of how fellow Co-op Teacher Mr. Dave Colonico and himself work very closely with work places to ensure each students' safety and well-being is protected when entering into workplaces. He went on to explain how some employers actually sometime hire on students full time once they have completed their secondary education. Mr. Motola by way of the " Smart Board" displayed several informations about Co-op which helped members of the committee have clear understanding of the benefits of the Co-op Program. At the closing of his presentation, Mr. Motola was kind to answer any and all questions brought forth by members of the committee. The presentation was very informative and well received. Kudo's to Mr. Motola for offering so much constructive information in a short presentation! Several parents once out of the meeting, gathered to continue conversations amongst themselves in regards to how well the Co-op program operates and how efficient of a tool it becomes for families when planning their futures.

### **Round Table :**

Some brief conversations took place during this part of the meeting, which then led to adjournment of the meeting.

**Next meeting April 16, 2012.....earlier start time of 6:30, then off to hear Eva... Holocaust Guest Speaker....**