

Centennial Secondary School Council  
Monday May 28, 2012  
Meeting Minutes

In Attendance;

Meeting Start: 7:07pm.

Welcome: Chair, Deb Braun offered a sincere welcome to everyone and then asked Sophie Helpard to introduce Tara Lundy, Student Council's New Prime Minister for Centennial's up-coming school year of 2012-2013. Everyone applauded for Tara in becoming Prime Minister and welcomed her to her first Parent Council meeting.

Approval of the Minutes : minutes were approved

Student Council Report:

Sophie Helpard shared the results of the election that took place for Student Council, mentioning that there will be 6 new executive members and a rep for each and every grade. She also spoke of how several other areas in the school will also have rep's representing areas such as sports, tech, etc, etc. This new council will ensure that a student spokesperson will be in place to ensure all areas of school life has someone to offer input and help students from various grades and involvements.

Sophie mentioned that “ Cougar Fest” was fast approaching, May 30<sup>th</sup>. Exams would follow and the Easter Egg Hunt hosted by Student Council was very successful. All things considered, everyone was able to realize, that Student Council activities throughout the school year were successful and well attended...life is GREAT in “Cougar Country!” Many thanks to Student Council for all the work in organizing all the events during the 2011-2012 school year!

Chairs' Report: no report was given, all is well...

Administrators Report:

Principal Paula MacKinnon spoke of the GREAT successes enjoyed by everyone involved with The Music Man musical. Kudo's were also offered to the wonderful performances at the Spring Concert. Mention was made of Sophie Helpard being selected as the “ Excellence in Education Award” recipient at Centennial for 2012. Congratulations to Sophie on this huge well-earned accomplishment and award.

Mr. Laughton and the culinary students hosted a lovely breakfast.

The Relay for Life event held at Centennial on May 25<sup>th</sup>, raised a record \$ 40,000-...congrats to everyone who made that goal possible.

June 20<sup>th</sup> exams start and go through to June 21, 22 and 25<sup>th</sup>

Administrator's report contd:

EQAO assessment will be held June 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>

Prom is June 26<sup>th</sup> at Club Roma Vansickle Road in St. Catharines

Graduation is June 28<sup>th</sup>

Vice Principal Jane Kopp spoke of the staff timetabling to be put in place for the 2013 school year and how Mr. Motola assisted with the process.

Mr. Motola explained the contribution he made to the time tabling and also the work involved in setting up sections for the up-coming semesters. He indicated that the “ Time Table Team” are ahead of schedule and are preparing a final draft of the schedule.

Vice Principal Kopp indicated that draft copies will be available in June and final copies will go out with report cards in July or can be picked up upon registration in August.

Question asked by parent Pam Swick Janjac was about the schedule being offered teacher Ms. Wilde for dance class? It was explained how Centennial is sharing Ms. Wilde with Laura Secord in St. Catharines. It was also mentioned that more parent involvement would be a good thing when it comes to dance class and their activities. It was wishful that more students will enroll in this course.

Several minutes of good discussion took place around the table by several parent members with regards to dance and other special courses and activities at school. It was a very engaging and positive discussion in which most members of the council shared a viewpoint at one point or another.

Because of the ongoing renovations, summer school will not be held at Centennial this summer. The renovations will continue going into the new school year and some classes will be re-located to allow for paint and other improvements. The administrators expressed their appreciation for everyone's co-operation during the renovations. The back parking lot is going to be repaved and air-conditioning will be flowing in the computer labs. Security cameras installation has been put on hold till most of the renovations are complete.

Kudo's were offered to Centennial staff for all the hard work, which brought great successes in the students performances at the Cappies. The leadership offered by staff to students is greatly appreciated.

A copy of the school calender was offered to everyone and a list of draft dates for events going into the 2012-2013 school calender year.

A large folder entitled “Building Parent Engagement” was offered to each member of Parent Council.

This resource included a “ Parent Tool Kit” ( Teen Edition) along with several other documents and informations to help parents understand and engage in their child's school life. Members of Parent Council were divided into small group of 2 or 3 and each group was assigned a chapter to read, understand and report back to the committee on. Each presentation was well delivered, however the discussion that followed offered several members the opportunity to express themselves which led to excellent discussion. So much positive information came out of this exercise and many parents seem to have many commonalities with one and another. There were 6 areas discussed and each brought good opportunities with them.

Round Table:

Information was shared by a parent about a wonderful 4 day business school day which was hosted by Wilfred Laurier University. The council was offered a detailed explanation of all the events that were offered and all the positive insight that came from the 4 day experience and it was recommended for other families to go on line and research this opportunity for themselves. The cost was a mere \$ 185- and was seen as an excellent value.

Mention was made of the abundance of talent that came together in performances during the Spring Concert. Kudo's to all performers!

Thanks was offered to everyone whom organized and participated in the Relay for Life event.

Mention was made of how excellent the performances were in The Music Man musical!

Kudo's also to students and staff for the successes and Gold Metal in the OBA recently held at Niagara College.

Sophie Helpard mentioned that a Prom fund raiser and Grad auction are coming up in the closing weeks of school.

Congrats to Jessica Smith in placing 5<sup>th</sup> in the Philadelphia Regatta

Larry Lemelin explained the opportunity offered to all Welland high schools including Centennial, to have the opportunity to give an 1812 drama performance in 2014. He also offered a brief explanation of all the work Mr. Motola does as "Teacher in Charge". Kudo's to Mr. Motola. Lastly, Larry shared a sample of the framed picture that was given to each member of the Centennial Championship Basketball Team which was completely co-ordinated Student Success Teacher Mr. Barattini.

Principal Paula MacKinnon offered her sincere thanks to everyone on Parent Council for the contribution and participation in this years' school council meetings.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:35pm..... with all members being invited to Welland's' Boston Pizza for a Parent Council social.