

School Council Meeting: Monday, November 13, 2023

Chair:

Principal: Teri Thompson

Vice Principal: Leslie Brophy

Structure of meetings - September, November, January, March, May

Student Council & Student Leadership Update

School Council:

- School Council meets every Tuesday at lunch (Largest group of grade 9 students on council this year)
- Spirit Week last week (communications home and Instagram)
- Simcoe Fest (Fri Sept 27th)
 - Pep Rally
 - Football Game
 - Ice cream truck, BBQ, face paint, snacks for sale and games
- Friday Oct 4 BBQ/SOS bake sale
- Halloween - haunted hallway and costume contest
- Holiday spirit week in December
- Semi formal February 26
- Looking to do something fun on the first Friday of each month (ice cream, hot chocolate, lemonade, games etc).

SOS (Simcoe Outreach Society):

- "Simcoe Scares Hunger" drive starting this month

Motivational Assembly by "Live Different" Company:

- Assembly December 5th (2 separate in the auditorium - grade 9's and 11's and then 10's and 12's)
- Will work with our Link Crew Leaders for a 90-minute training session to support student leadership through Peer Mentorship. Link Crew leaders will receive training to help deliver a curriculum-based initiative designed to develop leadership, build community, foster empathy, and cultivate kindness (probably with grade 9's this year)
- [Live Different](#) at your school

Link Crew Leaders:

- ~50 students
- Grade 9 Day (August 29th) - meet Link Crew Leaders, tours of school, timetables, games, etc.,)
- Grade 9 Trip to Balls Falls with Link Crew Leaders (outdoor activities/team-building/leadership, etc.,)

Social Media:

Instagram - [simcoe.redcoats](https://www.instagram.com/simcoe.redcoats)

Website - govsimcoe.dsbnschools.org

School updates:

National Day for Truth & Reconciliation:

Monday, September 30th is National Day for Truth and Reconciliation - The message behind this day is Every Child Matters and is an opportunity for First Nations, local governments, schools and communities to honour survivors, families and communities. At DSBN we want to encourage all to take the opportunity to talk, teach and learn about residential schools to ensure that the history and legacy remains a vital component of the reconciliation process.

During Simcoe Fest on Friday, Sept 27th, orange shirts were available to any student wanting one. Staff and students were encouraged to add an orange link to create a large paper chain, which is displayed in the main foyer today. This visual link is to demonstrate that everyone is involved in reconciliation, and that every child matters. Student's name and/or message can be added to the link. On September 30th, a playlist of Indigenous artists was playing over the PA before school starts. During lunch, students were invited to participate in placing the orange-painted rocks in Governor Simcoe's front garden to create a display to commemorate the legacy of residential schools. Rocks that were painted last year will be used, and new rocks were available for students to create if they wish to participate.

Progress Reports & Parent-Teacher Interviews:

- Sent home to student's DSBN emails on Thursday, Oct 10th, 2024
- Parent-teacher interviews will take place one week later on Thursday, October 17th from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm. We will again be utilizing an appointment scheduler for these interviews. More information to follow closer to this date (scheduler available starting Tuesday, Oct 8th and close Wednesday Oct 16th at 9:00 am)

Parent Information Sessions -

1. Post-Secondary Informational Session:

- Who? → Parents/Guardians of Grade 11 & 12 students
- When? → Wednesday, October 9th - GSS Library 6:00 pm

2. Guidance Information Session:

- Who? → Parents/guardians of Grade 9 & 10 students
- When? → November 18th after School Council meeting

Literacy (EQAO-OSSLT) - Fall Write:

- Grade 10 students and previously eligible students will write the test on November 19th - 21st and then again 26th - 28th. This gives us until Dec 5th when the fall window closes to support any student absences.
- Grade 10 English classes (first-time eligible) will write with their teachers during their English class period (with extended time if necessary) between the 19th-21st.
- Previously eligible to write in the library same 2-days
- Other grade 10's not in English this semester will write in small groups between 26th -28th in the library (grouped based on last name)
- Lunch-Time Literacy sessions begin next week which are held twice a week (Tuesday and Thursdays) and then three times a week before the test (all students welcome, specific students invited based on last years grade 9 achievement)
 - Sessions start with general overview, and then practice on isolated skills such as; reading comprehension, short answer, multiple choice, and ending with the opinion essay)
 - Sessions provide students with feedback on their practice work
- "OSSLT General Tips" and link to EQAO practice test material are linked on the GSS Website on the right side under the following logo:



Professional Development Day:

- Friday, October 11, 2024
- Literacy & Numeracy Initiatives - focus specifically on Assessment and Evaluation strategies
- **School Core Values** - continue to work on staff actions and behaviours and discuss how to roll out to students

In-School Student Success Team (ISSST):

- Comprised of Administration, Guidance, Social Worker, Student Success Teacher, Learning Resource
- Meet weekly (Tuesday mornings) to discuss students that are struggling and require academic or well-being support (through referrals from teachers or one of the team)

Questions

School Council:

- Ideas for involvement in the school? Fundraising? Event Planning, etc.,
- Feedback form to be sent out to members regarding the logistics and format of meetings

Next Meeting: November 18, 2024