

THE JOHN DEWEY STUDENT ORGANIZATION PRESENTS

* THE SO NEWSLETTER *

Year One

February 2, 1976

Issue One

WHO'S WHO IN THE SO

Coordinator of Student Affairs:

Mr. Thomas Heinegg

SO Faculty Advisor:

Mr. Robert DeSena

3 Member Council:

Jane Aquila

José Hernandez

Tom Riley

Consultative Council:

John Cacace

David Chiavetta

Leon Kindu Smith

Madelyn Snyder

Treasurer:

John Tobias

Secretary:

Pat Manning

Committee Chairpeople

Curriculum-Gary Johnson

Dewey Day-Miriam Nieves

Ecology-Mike Prago

Foster Child-Lynn German

Fund Raising-Lydia Hill

Publicity-Ken Camacho

Record Coop-Tammy Kian

SO Newsletter-Don De Lorenz

Social Life-Vacant

T-Shirt-Art Contest

Louise Verdemarc, Abbie Loeb

Valentine- Sharon Marcano

SO NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

The SO Newsletter is the official publication of John Dewey's Student Government. Its primary purpose is to inform all sectors of the student government, student body, faculty, and administration of activities occurring within the Student Organization.

It is not a division of any particular part of the SO, it is meant to represent the SO reps, the Executive Board, the 3 Member Council, the Consultative Council, and the Council For Unity.

Its first aim is to inform, not to editorialize. Secondly, it is meant to keep the SO together, so that the government can work together in unity, not separately. Thirdly, it is meant to keep a check on various parts of the SO to make sure they work well and contribute to the whole.

It is distributed to all SO reps, Exec Board members, Council for Unity members, and interested students and faculty.

MR. DE SENA'S GOALS

"My goal is to make the Student Organization work for the students rather than for the students to work for the Student Organization. This will be accomplished by:

1. Making it possible for all students to enter the SO through the Council For Unity,
2. Giving the SO reps more power and authority,
3. Revising the Constitution,
4. Working on agenda sharing with SO reps, and
5. Planning the dance, as a means of bringing the school together, thus promoting a family atmosphere".

EDITOR IN CHIEF- Don De Lorenz MANAGING EDITOR- Larry O'Toole
FACULTY ADVISORS- Mr. Tom Heinegg, Mr. Bob De Sena
PRINCIPAL- Mr. Sol Levine

THE DANCE

The opinion of the majority of SO members that Dewey does not have an adequate social life for its students was supported when 56% of the student body agreed with that premise in the Dance Survey. 75% favored after school activities and 63% of those felt that they should occur at night. Students felt that these activities would promote a family atmosphere and favored admitting administration and faculty by a 3:1 margin. 80% of the students thought that their opinions of the SO would change toward the better if a successful dance were arranged.

These results were quickly acted upon by the John Dewey Student Government. The John Dewey dance is an SO sponsored activity, being organized and planned by the Council For Unity and the Executive Board. Committees established to deal with the dance are the Security, Cleanup, Coatcheck, Publicity, Decoration, Ticket Sales, and Entertainment Groups. Two bands have already agreed to play and a third is being sought. Two DJ's have also been chosen.

The dance will be held during the evening session, 8-12:30. Tickets will not be available at the door but may be bought for \$2.00 in advance of the scheduled date. Refreshments will be available. The exact date of the dance has not been set yet, but will be soon forthcoming.

Further information can be obtained through Mark Rejevich of the Council For Unity in Room 327.

BROOKLYN BOAO REP ELECTION

Two Dewey students will be chosen through a general student election to represent their school in borough-wide meetings. Topics to be discussed at these conferences include budget cuts, announcements of general importance and current topics of interest. Time and date of election has not yet been chosen. More info to come...

CLOSE UP FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

A free all-expenses paid week long trip to Washington, DC will be awarded to a Dewey student shortly. The selected student will meet with Congressmen in workshops designed to familiarize high school students with the inner workings of their government. For info, contact Mr. Tom Heinegg in Rm. 327.

EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Flavia Meyer is being hosted by Mrs. Strang for 5 months. She is an exchange student from Brazil. All of Dewey extends a hearty welcome to her. Anyone interested in housing other foreign students for two week periods should contact Mr. Heinegg in Room 327.

CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL

The Consultative Council has been very active lately. Its latest activity was the planning of the hearing tests. It has sent petitions and letters to Governor Carey on the Stavinisky Bill for Education. It is working on the traffic light problem and is also coordinating a committee on the grading system. It is also seeking to allaviate problems regarding disk distribution.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

DEWEY DAY - CHAIRPERSON - MIRIAM NIEVES (quoted from report)

"We, some of the Executive Board, Council For Unity, and Dewey Day Committee, held our meeting with Mr. Levine and after more than an hour conference we got a Dewey Day for Cycle 2. We decided that we would delay the Day until Jan. 9, 1976.

Mr. Simms came to me two days later with a deadline that I had to meet with in order to put together a Dewey Day 2. After thinking it over, I called a meeting with the committee and the teachers' Dewey Day committee. It was unanimously voted upon that we would not have a Dewey Day 2 because we did not have enough time to put a good one together.

We then concluded that we would start working for Cycle 3 and 4 and forget about 2. We all agreed that it would have been extremely difficult to put together a Dewey Day in 7 days which was the amount of time we had".

FINANCE - CHAIRMAN - JOHN TOBIAS (TREASURER)

The finance committee has completed one of its main functions of the year, distribution of Student Activity Funds. Should a club be in desperate necessity of money, a written request should be submitted to the committee or to a member of the Executive Board. The finance committee also deals with SO funds, which presently total approximately \$3,000.

FUND RAISING - CHAIRPERSON - LYDIA HILL (quoted from report)

"A meeting was called on Thursday, January 8, 1976, but none of the members attended. I took over the committee midway of cycle 2 and as of yet have not assigned any projects to anyone. In the future, though, I hope for such fund raising activities as the "T" shirt sale".

PUBLICITY - CHAIRMAN - LEN CANACHO

The publicity committee prepares posters for special events sponsored by the Student Organization. These include Dewey Day, SO rep meetings, contests, the Valentine Shop, and the Dance. As of now, it has a working staff of 10 members and meets twice a week. It also prints fliers publicizing these events.

VALENTINE SHOP - CHAIRPERSON - SHARON MARCANO

The Valenting Shop will be selling candy, jewelry and other items to the student body beginning Tuesday, February 3. Ordering by students will take place on a consignment basis, and the articles will be distributed beginning February 10. On February 13, spot sales will take place on all extra available items. The exact location has not yet been determined.

T SHIRT AND ART CONTEST - CHAIRPEOPLE - LOUISE VERDEMARF, ABBIE LOEL

The T shirt and art contest committee has been in charge of making posters and running their contest. The 10 best designs will be chosen by the SO, and then a general student vote on the best one will be taken with the winning student receiving a \$25 cash prize. The deadline for entries was Friday, January 30.

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE - CHAIRMAN - GARY JOHNSON (as quoted)

"The Curriculum committee has been very busy writing a survey which will be distributed to all students in early February. The survey deals with the literature presently in eight of the literature courses and possible revisions. We hope to use the survey to get student viewpoints and ideas.

All students and faculty who are interested in joining the Curriculum committee, whose goal is to revise the English curriculum, should please come to Room 327 to sign up".

ECOLOGY - CHAIRMAN - MIKE DRAGO

The ecology committee is working on plans to alleviate the current paper shortage through recycling and through other methods.

SOCIAL LIFE - CHAIRMANSHIP IS VACANT

Anyone interested in working on the Social Life Committee should contact an Executive Board member.

RECORD CO-OP - CHAIRPERSON - TAMMY KIAN

The Record Co-op was vandalized prior to the Christmas Vacation and repairs are now underway. An opening day sale will be held within one week.

FOSTER CHILD - CHAIRPERSON - LYNN BERMAN

Congratulations to all official classes. \$192 was raised to support our Foster Child, Cynthia Villarama of Indonesia, for another year. Special praise to Mr. Morgano's 2525 CC which donated over \$35.

3 MEMBER COUNCIL

JANE AQUILA:

Represents Dewey in Albany at the New York State Secondary School Student Organization.
Attended meeting with Congressman Solarz on topic of the traffic light.
Met with deputy director of American Economic Policy, William Gorog, in Washington, DC.
Attended two rallies in Washington against budget cuts.
Works on dance, chairs Constitution Revision Comm.

JOSE HERNANDEZ:

Jose could not be reached by the deadline but he has been very active in the SO. He has chaired SO rep meetings, worked with committee chairmen, and has been active with the SO on actions against cutbacks.

TCM RILEY:

Spoke at a rally in Washington against Budget Cuts.
Attended meeting with Cong. Solarz on Traffic Light.
Member of Action Committee- group of parents, teachers, and students fighting budget cuts.
Instrumental in Driver's Ed program.

JOHN DEWEY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ORGANIZATION
CONSTITUTION

Article I

1. This organization will be called the Student Organization, S.O., of John Dewey High School.
2. All students attending John Dewey are members of the Student Organization.
3. The Student Organization shall exist to:
 - a. represent all the students of John Dewey High School
 - b. see to it that students' rights are protected
 - c. organize extra-curricular activities
 - d. control collection and disbursement of S.O. funds

Article II

The Executive Branch

The executive board consists of:

1. 5 member council
2. Consultative council
- 3.oklyn. borough student council representatives
4. S.O. Treasurer
5. Secretary
6. Committee Chairmen

Section I

3 Member Council

- A. The 3 member council shall be elected yearly by all the students presently attending John Dewey High School.
- B. The 3 member council will serve to:
 - a. represent the whole student body
 - b. lead action regarding student body
 - c. coordinate and oversee all committees
- C. Propose legislation to be ratified by General Assembly
- D. The 3 member council will hold a seat on the Consultative Council
- E. General Assembly meetings will be chaired by a member of the 3 member council.
- F. All decisions and action taken by the 3 member council must be agreed on collectively
 - a. will handle outside correspondence

Section II

Consultative Council

The Consultative council will consist of four elected members and one 3 member council member who will act as policy consultants to the principal.

Section III

S.O. Treasurer

- A. The treasurer, under the supervision of the S.O., will be in charge of all monies
- B. The S.O. Finance Committee shall meet with the treasurer to discuss the allocation of all funds
- C. Treasury- The purpose of the treasury is to finance school clubs, newspapers and extracurricular activities. Decisions on the allotment of money to clubs will be decided upon by the treasurer along with the advice of the finance committee and the consent of the 3 member council. Allocation of funds greater than \$200 must have majority approval of General Assembly.

Section IV Brooklyn Borough Student Council Representatives

These representatives will be elected by the 3 member council along with the approval of majority vote of the Assembly.

Section V Secretary

- A. Handles S.O. correspondences with class representatives and students.
- B. Types and collates meeting agenda and other SO items.
- C. Takes minutes at all SO meetings
- D. Handles outside correspondence related to the SO
- E. Takes attendance of SO reps at all meetings

Section VI Executive Board

1. The Executive Board which consists of the aforementioned members, shall meet at least once a week prior to S.O. and Consultative council meetings.
2. The purpose of the Executive Board is to discuss contemporary issues and to discuss agendas for Consultative council and SO meetings.
3. School-wide actions should be coordinated through the Executive Board.

Article II Legislature

1. The legislative body will consist of a general assembly made up of class representatives
 - a. Each class shall elect 1 representative and an alternate annually.
 - b. If a representative is excessively absent at General Assembly meetings
 1. Homeroom class will be notified
 2. Class will be recommended to elect a new rep.
2. The General Assembly can conduct legislative business with 3/5 of the homeroom classes represented
3. Legislative business will proceed according to prepared agenda unless 2/3 of the representatives present agree to discuss a more pressing issue not on the Agenda.
4. A bill will be passed by a majority of 5% vote in the General Assembly
5. Students may attend General assembly meetings if seating space is available
 - a. a student can participate in debate but must state that he is not a representative

Article III Committees

1. Committees shall serve the purpose of either
 - a. advising the SO on school matters
 - b. coordinating committee activities
2. All committees are open to all students wishing to join
3. Students wishing to form a committee can with the approval of the 3 member council
4. The 3 member council can initiate new committees at will
5. Committee chairmen will be elected by the individual committee members
6. A committee can be abolished by either:
 - a. a majority vote of the committee members to abolish the committee
 - b. with a majority vote of the General Assembly
7. After meeting, a report must be issued to the 3 member council

Election Regulations

Any student attending John Dewey High School can run for school office.

Election regulations for class representatives:

1. Elections for class representatives will be held annually.
2. Each class shall elect 1 representative and one alternate.

Election regulations for 3 member council, treasurer, and consultative council executive board:

1. More than 10 people running for the office of 3 member council or consultative council will constitute a primary election for that office.
2. More than 5 candidates running for the office of secretary or treasurer will constitute a primary for that office.
3. Specific rules and regulations for each primary and election will be handled by the election committee.

Amendments

Amendments to this constitution will take effect by a 2/3 vote of the general assembly.

The John Dewey High School Student Organization Constitution.

Amendments:

1. Passed February 21, 1974

"No more than two weeks may elapse between the vacation of an office and the designation of candidates to fill that office, if and when the constitution so requires."

2. Proposed May 24, 1974

Election Regulations

"Elections for 3 member council, consultative council, secretary, treasurer and other officers directly elected by the student body shall take place within ten weeks of the start of the school year. In the event that a primary is necessitated, as determined by this constitution, final elections shall take place within eleven weeks of the start of the school year.

1. Eligibility to run for a major office

Any S.O. member who submits 2 written teacher recommendations to the elections committee may run for office.

2. Regulations for Primary Elections

Before Primary Elections, an orientation meeting shall be arranged between the candidates and the class representatives. After ample time has been provided for consultation with official classes, each rep shall return a ballot signifying which candidates they would prefer to eliminate, in order that the number of candidates be reduced to the level at which final elections may be held. Scores shall be tallied, and the final candidates determined by the elections committee.

3. Campaign Procedures

Advertisement- Advertisements may include posters, hand bills, buttons, etc. In no way may advertisements constitute fire hazards, littering, nuisances, invasions of privacy, libel or slander. The election committee shall determine rules to enforce this, BEFORE the start of campaigning.

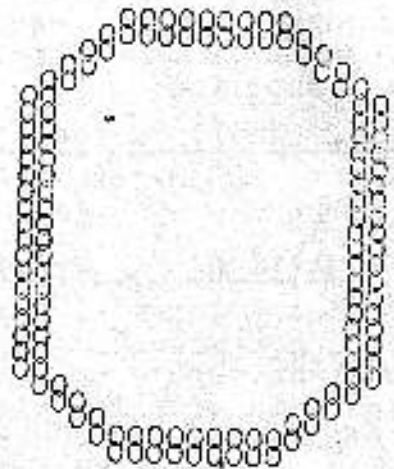
Press Conferences- The Election Committee shall arrange meetings between the candidates for major office and the members of the SO in suitable number so that every SO member may easily attend. At these press conferences, over which an impartial moderator, chosen by the election committee will preside, each candidate shall be given equal time to present his/her platform briefly. THE major part of the press conference shall consist of open questions form the floor to be coordinated by the moderator.

Violations of campaign rules and regulations, when in excess, as determined by the election committee, shall result in immediate disqualification.

Voting Procedures- All SO members may vote, provided that they are present in AM official class the day of the elections. Elections should not be held on a day when a significant number of students are expected to be absent, and may be cancelled at any time prior to the actual voting, on account of this. Voting shall take place by secret ballot, with specific procedures to be determined by the election committee. Winners shall be determined by simple majority, and announced within one day. They will take office on the third day after elections.



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