Canadian Martyrs Elementary School Council Agenda

February 26 2018

In Attendance : Jennifer Yust, Marisa Pellegrini, Laura Ingles, John Laliotis, Julie Tippett, Melinda Paletta, Lynda Minnes, Shelia DeSousa, Lori Vaanholt, Sandy Estrela, Louise Burden, Joanne Dalgarno, Mike Grobe

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| Items | Issue/Discussion | Action |
| 1. Welcome and Prayer Service |  |  |
| 2. Inclusion Activity | Plans for March Break |  |
| 3. Approval of minutes for January meeting |  | One correction – Joanne Dalgarno led Pancake Tuesday not Julie Tippett.  Minutes were approved. |
| 4. Uniform vote | Results:  61% no  39% yes | Students at Canadian Martyrs will not be required to wear a uniform in the 2018-2019 school year. |
| 5. Financial Update | The School Generated Funds Report was shared with Council. |  |
| 6. School Improvement Fund | Canadian Martyrs will continue to focus on “Critical Thinking” and “Asking Good Questions”. |  |
| 7. Black History Month | Speaker Michael Toby’s presentation about The Underground Railroad was well received by staff and students. |  |
| 8. Mission Club |  | The Mission Club’s Lent project will be collecting new and gently used baby items. |
| 9. Website/Facebook page | It was suggested that the Canadian Martyrs unofficial, parent-run Facebook page should be made open, with members being approved by an administrator. | Council decided to allow it to be open to public/new members.  It was decided that two parents would be administrators for the group. |
| 10. Screens on Classroom Windows | A parent inquired why there are outside screens on all classrooms windows and if the screens could be removed. | The window screen were installed because of incidents of vandalism/broken windows.  It was determined that the screens prevent vandalism and security and will not be removed. |
| 11. Spring Concert | Education Week April 30-May 4 - Instrumental Music program will be during the day from 11:00am – 12:00 pm on May 4 because it is difficult to get students to come for evening performance.  There will be an art display in the gym.  The Choir will sing new songs. |  |
| 12. Carnaval | Friday March 2nd 2018 | Students will not be able to use the field because of possible rain, so the staff parking lot will be closed to provide extra space for Carnaval activities. |
| 13. Council of Chairs meeting – Wednesday February 28 | Council requires volunteers to represent our council at the Council of Chairs Meeting on February 28. | -Shelia DeSousa volunteered to represent Canadian Martyrs council. |
| 14. Parish Rep Report | Confirmation Gifts  First Communion Gifts | Grade 7 students will choose a charity to donate funds (instead of a necklace/gift).  Council will ask grade 2 teacher what was given/done last year for First Communion gift. |
| 15. Pancake Tuesday Committee Report | Pancake Tuesday was successful and there were enough volunteers. |  |
| 16. Board’s decision to ban fundraising for charities that run counter to Catholic values. | Parents would like clarity and more communication about the decision/conversation regarding this issue.  Trustee voted 5-3 to ban fundraising for charities that do not support Catholic values (including Terry Fox Foundation, SickKids, Canadian Cancer Society…).  Parents would like to know how our school/community will be affected by this decision and if Council can take initiative to discuss issues and share information among the school community. | Council will write to Board for clarity about this concerning issue (Michael will write this letter).  School community would appreciate transparency regarding this issue. |
| 17. Bus 128 | Parents are concerned that morning bus is regularly late. |  |
| 18. Choir Dress Code | The current choir dress code for performances is black bottoms/white tops, but parents are concerned that the dress code not being implemented. | Will look into getting shirts for choir members |
| 19. Parents parking in Staff Lot | Parents regularly park/idle in staff parking lot. | The school will send an email/letter to remind parents not to idle and to park in appropriate lot/spots. |
| 20. Concerns of First Year Parent regarding school communication | Parent is concerned that not enough notice is given for Parent Council Meetings and that school website is not being updated and/or current. | The website is relatively new and will continue to be revised and updated.  It was suggested that parent/council volunteers should use board email address rather than personal email addresses. |

Next Meeting – April 9 2018