

Minutes of the St. Andrew Catholic School Council

Date: January 23, 2017
Time: 6:30pm
Location: Library, St. Andrew Catholic School
In Attendance: Stephany Balogh, Lynne Bucik, Susan English, Elisabeth Michienzi, Kelly Williams, Emilia DeSimone, Julia Yoo, Christine Krueger, Marion Bastiampillai, Tracy Rego, Mary Soler, Kelly Stephens
Regrets: Kelly Williams (VP), Nancy Harrison, Catherine Frost

Welcome

The meeting commenced with greetings, Susan E. led the opening prayer.

Approval of Agenda:

A motion for approval of the agenda was put forth by Elisabeth M.; second by Kelly W.; motion carried unanimously

Approval of Minutes from November 16, 2016 Meeting:

The meeting minutes from Nov. 16 '16 were reviewed and accepted as presented. A motion for approval of the minutes from Nov. 16'16, was put forth by Susan E. second by Christine K.; motion carried unanimously.

Business Arising from Last Meeting

- a) Dress Code Committee: Stephany B. presented the minutes from the Dress Code Committee meeting held Jan. 11 '17:
- i. We do not have any major issues with our current dress code, including appropriate dressing.
 - ii. The meeting centered on the timing of the process:
 1. Currently there is much communication being currently distributed surrounding the PAR process, which could cause communication about a dress code vote to be lost in the shuffle,
 2. If St. Andrew proceeds with a vote during this school year, then we cannot go through the process again for another 3 years,
 3. The uniform provider is being changed for the next school year, perhaps timing is not ideal in terms of certainty with the cost and quality by using the new provider.
 - iii. A general and open discussion followed, but it was decided that the dress code review be placed on the parent council agenda next year.

Overall, the consensus was such that given the points noted, it is not an appropriate time to conduct a dress code vote amongst our school community.

A motion to defer the review again to the next school year was put forth by Susan E. second by Elisabeth M.; motion carried unanimously.

b) BBQ Update - June 8 '17

Stephany B. confirmed that Main Event has been booked, with the same events as LY. New events can be selected around end of Feb., beginning of March.

Elisabeth M. confirmed that BBQ Brothers were booked on Dec. 13 '16 and no prior deposit is required.

Kelly W. advised that we were not able to book Beavertails as they could not commit to peanut-free products due to potential cross contamination.

Susan E. advised that the BBQ formation typically takes place after March Break. It was suggested that the BBQ committee meets prior to our Parent council meeting on Mar. 22'17 @ 5:30 p.m.

Kelly W. volunteered as co-chair and outlined the committee needs, such as deciding on and procuring prizes, soliciting volunteers, assigning responsibilities etc.

Kelly W. (VP) will contact the fire hall to arrange for the fire truck and fighters to be part of our BBQ as in the past.

- c) Community Events/Parent Engagement: Below is an update of the confirmed events:
- i. Zumba-Jan. 26'17
 - ii. Active Chefs Feb. 9'17 (for which Parent council received the \$1,000 PRO Grant assistance)-filled to capacity, with a waiting list.
 - iii. Drumfit-Mar. 23'17

Selection Criteria for School Principal:

Sue. E reminded all parent members of council to submit the criteria ranking of priority list back to her, in order for the recommendations to be compiled and forwarded to the Board by Feb. 10. Sue will send out a list of choices to be prioritized and a reminder prior to Feb.10, as well as forward us the collective ranking compiled that will be submitted to the Board. This is an annual requirement.

Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) Update

Sue E. advised council about the 8 meetings of public consultation she has attended at the various affected schools. She outlined all of the various options that are up for consideration, which are based on some of the following parameters: parish proximity, space, parking entries. Schools affected by this process are: St. Michael's, St. John's. Holy Family, Our Lady Peace, St. Marguerite + St. Andrew. Programs for St. Andrew affected by this process include both the gifted and French Immersion. On Feb. 21 the Delegations will present their positions during the board meeting. A final decision will be made at the end of March. See HCSDB for more information.

Financial Update

Appendix A

Emilia D. reviewed the current budget and explained that there have been no major shifts in income. At this point of the school year, a majority of our council expenses are yet to come.

Principal's Report

Appendix B

Stephany B. presented, including an overview of our new St. Andrew website

Parish Rep Update

Christine K. provided an update that the additional Parish Retreat has not yet been scheduled, but that Youth Mass which takes place monthly at our parish is well attended. She suggested that we add "About our Parish" as a tab on our St. Andrew website in order to elevate awareness about the youth mass amongst our community.

New Business for Future Meetings

- S.I.P. (School Improvement Plan)
- BBQ
- Community Events
- Update on Council of Chairs
- ARC update

Closing Prayer

Led by Elisabeth M.

Adjournment

Since there was no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting Date: Wednesday Mar. 22nd, 2017 at 6:30pm

Location: Library, St. Andrew Catholic School

Appendix B - Principal's Report January 23, 2017

Believing: Catholicity

1. The Tree of Light - St. Vincent de Paul was appreciative of the gift cards collected by families in our school community in December for families in need.
2. Our Advent Family Mass took place at MMOG on Tuesday, December 6, and was well attended and our school choir was great. Families appreciated the hot chocolate social in the church foyer.
3. Confirmation took place on Saturday, January 14th at Mary Mother of God. Beautiful mass and very well attended by our staff.
4. We had our RAD Assembly and Principal awards on Friday, December 2 and our next one is Friday, February 10 @ 9:10 am.
5. Students in Gr. 1-6 continue to explore the *All About Me* online portfolios. There is now a Catholic component added for January 2017. Students have access to the new Catholic Edition of the program that includes a new "My Faith section"; inviting students to add daily prayers, reflect on the Sacraments, and explore the Catholic Graduation Expectations.
6. Planning for Shrove Tuesday/Pancake Tuesday, which will take place on Tuesday, February 28, 2017. We are going to continue to use Lunch Lady who will prepare and deliver over a thousand pancakes.
7. Holy Childhood collection will take place this year again. Any pancake donations will go to this worthy cause.
8. Ash Wednesday is March 1, 2017. The liturgy will take place in our school gym at 9 am and families are welcome to join us.
9. MMOG Rosary Apostolate continues to visit monthly. We are now doing Christian Meditation twice a week with the whole school community.

Achieving: Curriculum

1. We have been working on our SIP the last few months and will be submitted to the board the first week of February 6, 2017.
2. Reading Intervention continues to take place with Mrs. Chiarotto. We also have volunteers assisting with literacy skills in Kindergarten from community members including parents and the Knights of Columbus.
3. Big Brother/Big Sister homework continues after school on Wednesdays. They will break the next two weeks for Holy Trinity exams and resume until May 10.
4. After school program to begin mid-February with a focus on literacy/numeracy for grade 3 and 6 students.
5. Our French department is running Chef a l'école for our grade 8 students on Tuesday, January 24.
6. Friday February 3rd, is a PA Day for all students.
7. Report Cards are going home February 23 with all grade 1-8 students.
8. Public Speaking: in-school competition is upcoming on Thursday, March 2. Participants will be selected from grade 4-8 classes and names submitted to the Board by March, 8 2017. The English Regional Public Speaking date is March 29 and the French Regional Public Speaking date is Wednesday, April 5.
9. Our board celebrates International Holocaust Memorial Day on January 27- Grade 8 will conduct some class lessons, liturgy and share a special prayer for the school community.

Belonging: Culture and Community

1. St. Andrew Breakfast and Snack Program started again last week. Our school Healthy Snack was enjoyed by students on Friday, December 9 and again on Friday, January 19.
2. Our Spirit Club ran "Red and Green" spirit day on Thursday, December 22. They are planning for Valentine's Day next.
3. Treat Lunches - well organized by our fabulous coordinator and the core group of volunteers. Our next Pizza Treat Day is Friday, January 27. New! We are pleased to have new students participating with the non-dairy and non-gluten options.
4. BRAVO graduation took place in December 15, with Officer Scott. Officer Scott continues to be a valuable resource to our school presenting to a variety of grades about safety and Social Media.
5. In sports, the Knights of Columbus Hockey Blast with student representatives took place on December 2, 2016 at St. Thomas Aquinas.
6. Our Basketball teams (boys and girls) are in full swing.
7. The Knights of Columbus Basketball Free-throw competition for student representatives Gr. 4-8 will take place on Saturday, January 28.
8. Our Eco Club continues to meet regularly and run initiatives like Tupperware Tuesday, and our upcoming "Winter Walk Day" on Wednesday, February 1. Battery collection and recycling program to start with a new container.
9. Kindergarten registrations are under way on Tuesday, January 24 and Wednesday, January 25.
10. We have Bus Safety Presentations running on Friday, January 27 for students JK-Gr. 8.
11. We are planning our community events for 2017: Zumba with Lydia Lemus on Thursday, January 26, ActiveChefs on Thursday, February 9 (waiting list) and DRUMFIT on Thursday, March 23
12. We have some new wellness programs run by our CYC, Kim Dawson and our PHN, Gemma Simon. They are starting the new Dove Body Image program in this month for Grade 4 students (5 weeks), which will continue after March break for Grade 5. As well, they will run the Healthy Transitions Pilot program for Grade 8, at the end of January for 4 weeks.
13. New Website launched January 2017.