# Minutes of the St. Andrew Catholic School Council

**Date:** January 17, 2018

**Time:** 6:30pm

**Location:** Library, St. Andrew Catholic School

**In Attendance:** Lorraine Boulos, Kelly Williams (VP) , Emilia DeSimone, Elisabeth Michienzi, Christine Krueger, Susan English, Kelly Williams, Marguerite Murad Fuoco, Kendra Paiement, Louisa Oliveira, Patricia Nadal-Droog, Mary Soler

**Regrets:** Nancy Harrison, Marion Bastiampillai, Simone Jez

**Greetings and Opening Prayer**

Susan E. opened the meeting, by welcoming all. Kelly W (VP) led us in the opening Prayer for the New Year

**Approval of Agenda:**

Motion put forth by Louisa O., second by Kelly W.; motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes from November 8th, 2017 Meeting:**

The meeting minutes from Oct. 4th, 2017 had been previously approved via email, and have been posted to the St. Andrew school website.

**Business Arising from our last Meeting:**

1. Additional Lunch Options: Kelly W. reported back on the exploratory meeting she, Kelly W. (VP) and Lorraine B. had with “Lunch Box Orders’. It was determined that this option cannot replace the fundraising profit generated by pizza lunch. After much discussion, it was decided to move forward with a 3 month trial in Feb., Mar., April, every Monday, and Swiss Chalet was selected as the lunch option. At our April council meeting council will assess the viability and whether we move forward, as Lunch Box Orders only requires 2 weeks notice to cancel the program. Families are able to pay on line and deals with all customer service matters. Also discussed, that a few council members should be present at the school during the 1st few times to ensure the delivery to the children flows smoothly. Kelly W. will also inquire and advise if utensils and condiments are included with each order.
2. Community Events/Parent Engagement: Lorraine B. reported that together, both students and teachers have formulated the questions to be used for Trivia night. Benefits of this evening are that there is no cost, lots of fun and easy to execute. After much council discussion, it was decided amongst council to move the last Parent Engagement evening from March to April (date to be confirmed), given the extra parent commitment required for the Dress Code information night in Feb., as well as March Break reducing the availability during March. It was also decided that the 1st choice would be to host a Numeracy Night as it could accommodate a greater number of families. With support of our teaching staff, families could receive a prize bag at the end of the evening including perhaps dice, a math book and a deck of cards. Our 2nd choice would be Active Chefs, which has historically been very popular and well received.
	* 1. Jan. 25’18: Family St. Andrew Trivia
		2. Feb. 22’18: Tribal Vision-supported with funds received from our PRO Grant
		3. APRIL ’18: TBD
3. BBQ Review: May 31, 2018
	* 1. Kelly W. confirmed that she has booked BBQ Bros and will work towards negotiating a better cost. Main Even has also been booked for this date. Kelly W. reviewed the list of events booked in the past as well as options to add an obstacle course due to past demand. It was decided to book an extra generator due to past electricity supply issues, at a cost of $125
		2. The BBQ Committee meeting was set for Tues. Mar. 20th at 6:30 pm, to which anyone wishing to volunteer, as well as student council will be invited.
		3. Also it was decided for Kelly W. to book all of the events we would want to secure for sure and the balance of the events could be decided after the BBQ committee meeting and next council meeting, both of which take place prior to the Apr. 6 Main Event deadline.

**Update from School Dress Code Committee**

Lorraine B. provided an update regarding the outcome of the newly formed Dress Code Committee meeting held on Dec. 11, 2017. Attached is the action plan and below is a list of important dates of note:

* Parent Information Night –Mon. Feb. 12th (reminder to be sent out to families Feb. 9th), will be held with our superintendent Toni Pinelli, as well as the Board approved provider ISW.
* Numbered ballots will be sent home on Feb. 13th to youngest and only, 1 ballot per family will be permitted between Feb. 19th and Mar. 1st. Results will be announced on Mar. 5th via email. 50 + 1 of votes received will determine the majority. JK Registrants up to grade 6 families will be eligible to vote.

**Administrators’ Report/ Lorraine B. /Kelly W. (VP)-see Appendix A**

Kelly W. reported on Catholicity Culture & Community, while Lorraine B. reported on Curriculum

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| **Item**  | **Information** |
| **Catholicity** | * **Tree of Love** - St. Vincent de Paul Society was extremely appreciative of all of the Gift Cards that were donated by our St. Andrew families in December for families in need.
* **Joy Day** was a big success, students and staff participated in many different activities including a door decorating contest and making Christmas crafts. Our Kindergarten classes invited parents to join in on the fun.
* Our **Twilight Advent Mass** took place at MMOG Parish on December 5th. This year our Grade 2 teachers were not available to run the choir, so we provided the refreshments.
* Our **Grade 7 Confirmations** will take place this Saturday, at MMOG, at 10:00 AM.
* It is time to organize **Pancake Tuesday**, the plan is to use the Lunch Lady as in previous years.
* Our **Ash Wednesday Liturgy** will be taking place in our school gymnasium on Wednesday, February 14th. Families are welcome to join us.
* Valentine’s Day will be celebrated on February 13th.
* Our **Rosary Apostolate** continue to visit us monthly, their most recent visit being today.
* Our **OCGE Award** that we are currently working on is being an Effective Communicator
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| **Curriculum**  | **School Improvement Planning** * We continue to work on our School Improvement Plan, with our major focus on Self-Regulation. We are using the work of both Shanker and Zimmerman. Shanker’s work is about teaching children to pay attention to their emotions and learning strategies to ensure that they are calm, alert and learning. Zimmerman’s work is connected to the Learning Skills, Self-Regulation, and pertains to ensuring that we set realistic goals and plans to achieve them. It involves self-assessment and taking responsibility for our own learning. With the support of Mr. Mulé, we have launched our St. Andrew Zones of Self-Regulation.
* A revised summary of our School Improvement Plan can now be accessed on our School Website under the “About” tab.
* We continue to build our skills in Technology-Enabled Learning. Two after-school workshops for parents were very well-attended. Ten Chromebooks were ordered as a trial. They have worked out very well, and we will be purchasing approximately 40 more of them.
* Mrs. Chiarotto continues to run a Reading Intervention program for children who are struggling to read. She began with our Grade 3 students and is now working with our Grade 2 students.
* Mr. Mulé is conducting the Empower Reading Program from Toronto Sick Kids with those students who continue to struggle specifically with phonemic awareness
* We have purchased 20 3-year Lexia licenses for students not reading at benchmark in all grades. This program is highly successful and provides significant data for teachers with regard to where students are successful and where they are struggling. It allows teachers to particularly target areas of learning need.
* Our L2L program ended last week, this was a peer-mentorship program where older students mentored younger students in math.
* Our BBBS Homework Club continues weekly after school
* Our French Department has organized Les Chefs à L’école once again. Last year it was only for our grade 8 students, this year other grades will be involved as well.
* We will be running after school Learning Support Programs after school once we get approval from the Board for grades 3 and 6 students in Literacy and Numeracy
* Friday, February 2nd is a PA Day, there will be no school for students, it is our Report Card Writing Day. February 16 is also a PA Day and February 19th is Family Day
* Report Cards go home on February 22, 2018
* Regional English Public Speaking will take place on March 21st and the French Concours Oratoires will take place on March 22nd.
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| **Culture and Community** | **Family Engagement Events*** Our first ever St. Andrew Trivia Night will be taking place next Thursday
* Tribal Vision has been booked for February, 22nd, 2018
* We have not yet organized an event for the March date because we also have the Uniform Information Night occurring on Monday, February 12, 2018

**Student Voice** * Our Student Council has applied for a Speak-Up Grant
* Our SSAT has taken an Oath of Service and have written a pledge for all students in the school

**Student Safety, Health and Well-being*** Bomb Drill took place on Tuesday
* Bus Safety Presentations took place on December 14th for all students.
* Our Grade 7 students participated in Yoga and meditation lessons and they were highly successful
* Our FOS Social Worker is working with our CYC to develop a program specifically tailored to support students in Grade 7 in our Gifted Program to deal with stress and anxiety

**Conduct Assemblies*** Took place today as a reminder about expectations for behavior at St. Andrew school. All students have taken the new pledge written by our SSAT.

**Breakfast and Snack Club*** Our program started up again this week, it remains very popular with our students

**Treat Lunches*** It continues to run very smoothly thanks to the amazing coordinators and the many volunteers. Our next Pizza Day is on January 26th. The parents also hold aside some left-over pizza for us that we keep frozen for students who are missing lunches.

**Kindergarten Registrations*** Early registration takes place next week. Notification went out to parents, appears on board and school websites, is in Church bulletin, and is on our Twitter feed.

**School Teams*** Our gymnasium was painted over the holidays
* Our scoreboard is receiving a refurbish, a new switch was added to the gymnasium so lightbulbs won’t continue to burn out
* New team uniforms will arrive at the end of January or beginning of February. They were selected by our student body via an online vote
* Our Boys’ and Girls’ Basketball teams have been selected and have begun their season

**Staff Changes*** Mrs. Young has returned to her Grade 6 class from her leave
* Mrs. Morassutti is on a leave, Ms. Rebecca Barnes is replacing her
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**Financial Report**

Emilia D. reviewed as there were not many changes from last meeting. Many of the planned expenditures have been spent but not posted.

**Selection Criteria for School Principal**

Susan E. reminded council members to submit their ranking criteria as outlined by the board, by the deadline of Feb. 12th, directly to her, so that she may compile a submission reflective of our entire parent council.

**New Business for Future Meetings:**

* BBQ review
* Dress Code Vote results
* Community Events/Parent Engagement review
* PRO Grant Application
* Lunch Box Orders updates
* Student Council Updates
* Council of Chairs Update
* HCCEF Charity Golf Classic donation

**Closing Prayer**

The closing prayer was led by Lorraine B.

**Adjournment**

Since there was no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

**Next meeting Date: Wednesday, March 7th, 2018**

**Location: Library, St. Andrew Catholic School**