

## St. Benedict School Council

### November, 2020 –Virtual Meeting Minutes

#### **IN ATTENDANCE (Via Video Conference):**

Josey Guerin, Tanya Le Conte, Marnie Ivanich, Kristi Mifsud, Kathryn Beauchamp, Bryan De Sousa, Maria Dimaculang, Christina Mackay, Laura Breau, Kylie Dillon-Alcasid, Elle Bernardo, Candice Singh, Stephanie Wilson, Rekha Dhayakaran, Artur Migdal, Michelle Culverwell

**REGRETS:** - TBC - Christiana Enebeli, Noel Martel,

#### **Meeting:**

- Opening prayer - Mr. Guerin
- Approval of Oct 2 Council Minutes - Mrs. Beau- approved, Mr. Migdal - second
- Principal's Report - Achieving, Believing, Belonging
  - Purchases include:
    - Tech materials purchased
    - Purchased intermediate e-texts
    - Raz Kids for Jr levels
    - Purchased and distributed more technology for class use including 20 Chrome books
  - Progress reports go out Nov 24th
    - Nov. 26/27 - virtual parent/teachers interviews
  - Grade 4 gifted screening coming up
  - Staff participating in "Equity & Inclusion" training with plan in development
  - Virtual Curriculum Night
    - Positive feedback from school community
  - Wellness Committee among staff
    - Feedback from jr classes: wellness and caring for each other
    - Mr. Guerin acknowledged staff as "Frontline Workers" and how they continue to support and guide children
    - Daily meditation as a school
    - Remembrance Day Liturgy to be led by grade 3 students
  - Indigenous Awareness month
  - Halloween Dance-a-thon a huge success! Met \$10,000 goal
    - Mr. Guerin distributed prizing today
  - Disney Trivia Night a success
  - Thanksgiving Food Drive (October) successful - approx. 6 truck loads donated
  - Grade 8 Graduation - teachers already planning ahead
    - Discussing poinsettia drive to raise funds
    - Sweater options for grads to be discussed

- Health & Safety Update
  - Safe school protocols continue
  - St. Benedict continues to work to maintain a 0 level of cases
  - Steps to maintain safety protocols:
    - Daily announcements
    - Cohorting Zones & reminders
    - Strict PPE protocols for staff
    - Staff to discuss what gym/DPA will look like with winter weather coming
- Financial Update
  - Financial summary shared by Mr. Guerin
  - Close of September: \$17,217.50
  - October financials: \$16,526.21 (purchased reading program for Spec Ed)
  - Funds raised by Halloween dance-a-thon - determining needs for divisional leaders to support with updates as needed
  - Other expenses include gym equipment & tribute to student, Damien
  - Food drive items purchased for community families in need
- Parish Update
  - Opening of parish - November 29th
  - Those who wish to participate in opening ceremony - names will be placed in a draw (only 400 spots allotted due to COVID)
  - Service will continue at OLF following opening until mid-December (awaiting pews)
- Action Items
  - Advent Update
    - Father Jim to lead Liturgy
    - Class Liturgy
    - Christmas celebration with each class
  - Community Building Committee Update
    - Virtual Gingerbread Night - Chirstina Mackay to lead
      - Confirmed: Wednesday, Dec. 9th with virtual session to start at 7pm
      - PICK-UP to happen Tuesday, Dec. 8th
      - Offer various pricing options for those with more children
      - Students/family submit image of completed house for a chance to win
      - How can we make it festive for families to pick-up kits?
      - Looking at ways to connect families virtually (presentation w/ class contributions, music, etc.)

- Holiday care packages for community families - Kylie Dillon to lead
  - Students select an 'angel' from the tree in the main lobby to pick a specific item noted
- Additional community building opportunities to be addressed at next council mtg and determine who will lead each initiative
- CSC PLAYBOOK - council input was discussed touching on the following:
  - Why do we exist?
  - How do we behave?
  - What do we do?
  - How will we succeed?
  - What is most important, right now?
  - Who does what?

#### **Open Q&A and Discussion**

- School Photos - potentially on hold until Spring when weather improves
- Winter wear (boots, etc.) - to be discussed further with school staff

**Meeting Adjourned – 7:55 pm**

*NEXT MEETING: Monday, December 7th*

