

St. Christopher Catholic Elementary

School Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday November 5th 2018, 6:30 pm

ACTION ITEMS:

- **Next Meeting – Tuesday December 4th at Turtle Jacks (with ornament exchange).**
- **Gord to bring in uniform examples to Dec 4th meeting to discuss informally.**
- **Josh to set up uniform committee to help make final decisions on school hoodie**
- **Community Building Event Committee – to discuss ideas further**
- **Council to bring suggestions for Spring fundraiser to next meetings**
- **Council members to also possibly look into idea further about Sports skills workshops (i.e., financially viable, board needs to approve, other schools doing this?)**

CHAIR REPORT

- **Election:** Trustees elected will take office in December
- **Fortheparents.ca** provides a list of ways parents can consult on what should or should not be taught (e.g., online survey, email your views, or call in on townhall meetings) and participation is encouraged this fall
- **Sanctity of Life:** Current status is that no restrictions are being placed on which organizations schools can fundraise for and decisions can be made, as per usual, by school principal/council.

FUNDRAISING AND SUBCOMMITTEES

- As a reminder, the following is list of key fundraising and community activities/committees:
 - Danceathon on October 31st (*Fundraising for school*)
 - School lunches (*Fundraising for school – school staff to run*)
 - Poinsettias (*Fundraising for school*)
 - Bingo and Movie Night (*Community Event*)
 - Family Fun Day (*Community Event*)
 - Tiger Trek (*Charities*)
 - Spirit Days/Civvies Days (*Charities*)
 - November 28th Indigo school fundraiser
- Danceathon:
 - This was a great success with ~\$12,500 raised
 - It was suggested that kids should have some extra time to place their tickets (extra day)
 - An important idea put forward was to create gift baskets that were geared towards older kids (e.g., gift cards, \$100 bill). It was suggested that we use some of the extra funds made from the danceathon towards next year's gift. Some important notes and suggestions:

- There are likely limitations with using fundraising money to purchase gift cards given Board restrictions (taxable benefits).
 - Parent council may be able to have more input into themes suggestions.
 - A list of prize ideas can be provided so we will not have overlap (e.g., too many markers). 5\$ gift cards could also be a useful suggestion that can add up for basket.
 - Plan ahead to get some donations from places like Escape Room
 - Consider planning for May 2019 council meeting timepoint
- **Poinsettias Fundraiser** – Forms have been sent out and a reminder will also go out end of week; Forms due November 14th
- **Community Events:**
 - Movie night and Bingo night were briefly discussed.
 - Janelle and Celine will run the Pancake day again this year.
 - If need gym, we have the school gym Thursday night but need advanced notice
 - Active Chef program (well-received, healthy eating teaching (one-time thing)
- **Spring Fundraiser:**
 - Do we want to do one? It was discussed last year briefly but was not formalized.
 - Bring list of suggestions to next meetings
 - Most schools do one major fundraiser and a couple of smaller ones

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT & OTHER

- **Danceathon:** This was a great success with ~\$12,500 raised. A big thanks to school council - specifically Celine and Janelle for their extra time (and Sabrina for sharing her expertise)!
- **Big Crunch:** Completed, where every student in the building bit into an apple at 11:30 – food for thought initiative – raising awareness for healthy eating.
- **Priests have begun class visits:** Father Ed and Father Philippe have begun class visits
- **Grade 8 Camp Brebeuf Trip:** Feedback positive and planning for other trip for Grade 8 in Spring
- **Class Field Trips:** where grades of classes are going on a field trip, we are trying to include all students – even if they are in a split class
- **Drills:** Have completed our 3 fire drills for the term – still need to complete a lockdown drill (tomorrow), and bomb threat drill
- **Social media presentation today** – Sarah Westbrook – kids seemed to really enjoy (i.e., pro-grant from government would have covered this but has been paused therefore the speaker (\$1000) was paid for by danceathon)
- **Athletics** – Cross Country, Spec Ed Cross Country and Volleyball; Mrs. Iossifidis had to step back from coaching due to concussion
- **Christmas concert** – no fee this year given no actual costs for it; teachers are beginning to plan their class performance
- **Good Shepherd** - came to pick up items (almost 1,000 items); possibly again for Christmas
- **Poinsetta fundraiser ongoing now** – Sabrina leading; up and running
- **Civvies Days** - \$10 School Cash Online – Email will be sent out this week; Includes Autism and we-day; others open to council to discuss where to donate the money

- **November 28th** – Indigo fundraiser (20% of all purchases go back to the school); Includes anything from Indigo except gift-cards
- **Senior Gifts (Christmas)** – We are not doing the shoeboxes this year (instead supporting our own local people); rather going back to the senior bags this year (2 bags per class, one for female one for male); student council will help; seniors very thankful; Mrs. Butt is running; information coming out later this month from student council
- **Parent representative:** Teachers believe enough communication with Remind, Synermail, weekly updates, google docs, class jojo, etc
- **Financial Report**
 - School Budget Approx. \$32, 000
 - SGF Projected Funds \$35, 000 (includes about a \$10,000 HST rebate)

UNIFORMS

- **Sweatshirts/Hoodie:** Some examples of hooded sweatshirts for uniform ideas shown; ISW gave some examples (grey/orange example) was 42\$; Gord suggestion is one color of hoodie and just go with one (try to get away from blue)
 - Hoodie will be a uniform item, not spirit-wear
 - Need to consider process timing (need a few months to get after choose)
 - Uniform policy (3 colors)
 - Logos: STC, or St. Christopher's
 - Color options: Royal blue, orange, grey (lighter?)
 - Cotton material will lower price
 - Action: To send thoughts to Gord about color schemes
 - STC idea from logo of old spirit wear was presented (Kathleen)
 - **Bring samples to the Dec 4th meeting off-site**
 - **Possibly try to align with ISW "no tax event"**
- **Cross-Country Shirts:** Will buy a set of cross-country shirts with funds this year
- **Supplier** – Issue with RFP with ISW, contract goes until next year; question is whether to have single supplier or like Hamilton (just need certain colors, no logo)
- **Action** - Strike a committee for uniform

OTHER DISCUSSIONS

- **Recess Injury Policy:**
 - This will need to be revisited as it was alerted that door monitors have been giving out Band-Aids. Kids should not be handing these out
 - It was clarified that if there is an injury, students should always go down to the health room to be assessed.
 - Teachers on duty outside could have Band-Aids in their pockets for minor scrapes, etc.
- **Sports Skills Workshop:** An idea for a "Sports Skill Workshop" was raised where a group could come in and help enhance various skill-sets for students. Any outside group needs to be approved by the Board. More discussion needed to see if financially feasible and worthwhile (see if other schools are doing something similar).