

MINUTES

St Francis Of Assisi

Monday April 9, 2018 @ 6:30 | Meeting called to order by Vicki Santaguida

In Attendance

Ronia Barakat, Cheryl Nieuwendyk, Marie Paterson, Cathy Reitzel, Vicki Santaguida, Karen Truyens, Mark Witter, Kim Zangrilli

Approval of Agenda

Karen Truyens and Marie Paterson

Approval of Minutes

Karen Truyens and Vicki Santaguida

Principal's Report – Mark Witter

February 7th – Staff reviewed school improvement plan

- The process is now a 3 year process instead of 1, allowing more time to implement procedures and effect change
- Goal is to prioritize math and the thinking process of the students
- Teachers are now trying to adapt to being co-learners in this case
- Building a better understanding of collaborative learning

Tell Me from Them Survey

- More and more students are reporting feelings of anxiety
- Seems there is a need to help students differentiate between anxiety and stress
- Kim Zangrilli suggested resources such as ROCK
 - Mr. Witter advised that our Child and Youth Councilor has and does access these organizations and other resources as necessary

Kindergarten Yard

- Construction is slated to begin April 30th
- Scheduled to end by May 11th (but not certain this is possible)
- Seems likely students will not have access to the space during construction

EQAO

- May 22-June 4

Catholic Education Week

- May 7-May 11
 - Highlights include a book fair, family math night, various classroom activities, living rosary and Grandparents tea on the Friday
 - Family Math Night – Thursday May 10th
 - Targeting K-Grade 4
 - Setting up stations around library to promote book fair
 - More of a Family Literacy & Math Night and will be promoted as such
 - Vicki suggested a Lego station
 - Mrs. Reitzel suggested board games
 - Mr. Witter suggested having Robotics team members do demonstrations
 - Mr. Witter asked council to help out running various stations – Marie Paterson not available
 - Vicki Santaguida available to volunteer
 - Math kits were a little over budget by approximately \$500.00 (money does not come from council but from school generated funds)

Monthly Liturgies

- Mrs. Carters students presented another one today and are doing an excellent job of connecting our faith with the Grandfather teachings of Indigenous people

Faith

- Family Lenten mass was held on February 27th
- Holy Week was a success and included The Stations of the Cross and Walk with Jesus

Upcoming

- April 10th & 16th – Guest presenter for Indigenous Education Workshops for grades 3-8
 - Presenter bringing his 9ft. tall teepee
 - Grades 7 & 8 will build teepees
 - Grades 3-6 will make soapstone carvings
- April 19th – Easter Mass
- April 28th - First Holy Communion for grade 2 students
- May 11th – Volunteer tea
- May 30th – Last day for salad cart
- June 13-15 – Grade 8 trip to Ottawa – students staying at Algonquin College. Cost to families is approximately \$400.00
- June 14th – School End of year Mass
- June 19th – Grade 8 Graduation Mass
- June 21st – Grade 8 Grad at CTK

Awards Program

- The board has been ordered, mock up presented to council
- Final cost is approximately \$1977
- Other schools have been in touch and are keen to learn about our new Awards program

Other

- Battle of the Books team did very well
- Robotics team was successful
- Tech Team has performed well
- Halton Skills Team – Intermediate team is moving on to the provincials
- Wellness Day – organized by our Child & Youth Councilor and is targeting our grade 7 students
- Play being put together by students and Ms. D’Souza has been hugely popular
 - We now have 2 full casts
 - Ms. D’Souza is volunteering
 - Going to have 2 show days, each with a daytime and evening performance
 - Tentative dates are June 11th and June 12th

Food & Nutrition

Salad Cart

- School has over 100 students enrolled in the salad cart program
- The program can NOT be sustained without parent volunteers
 - After much discussion, it was suggested that a reminder for parents to get the Background Checks done in order to volunteer should go in the June Newsletter
 - As well, parents should be made aware that the program is in jeopardy if we do not get help from the community
 - In addition, in the September package that goes home to families, it was decided that “volunteer” form be included – perhaps with the option for parents to mark off in what capacity they would be able to volunteer their time
 - Families should also be made aware that family members (outside of parents) such as grandparents can volunteer too
 - Vicki suggested smaller “shifts” for salad cart volunteers might make it an easier commitment for parents to make
 - Mr. Witter petitioning school board for funds to renovate room 112 into a Food & Nutrition room
 - We need to be considerate of the students in the structured teaching room and would benefit from us moving the pre area elsewhere
- Last day for salad cart this year is May 30th

Budget

N/A

Chairs Report - Vicki Santaguida

PA Day Survey

- Board asked council to complete a small survey and submit responses with regards to possibly moving the PA day scheduled for October 5th 2018 to a later October date to make allowances for the upcoming election
 - Council voted with a significant majority to keep the date the same

Pro Grant

- Council reviewed various programs other schools have used their funds for in the past
- Most popular amongst council included STEM related activities
- Vicki Santaguida advised there are two grants we can apply for – Regional and Provincial
 - Council agreed we're not ready to apply for a Provincial grant at this time
- Application is due early June
 - Have decided to defer decision on what we would possibly spend funds on until Parent Survey has been completed

School Community Events Survey

- Vicki Santaguida presented to council a draft of the survey we could send out to the parent community
- Council reviewed and made suggestions as to the types of questions we should be asking
- Karen Truyens suggested we may get a better attendance if we couple community events with Catholic Education Week
- Vicki Santaguida will revise and forward survey to Mr. Witter to be sent out to our parents (including parents of students starting in September)

Spirit Wear

Mr. Witter met with John at JV Clothing who has advised he can help us out in any capacity

- He is willing to provide samples for sizing (would need council members to coordinate/volunteer)
- Could have families go to him at the store too but this is not councils preferred option
- Council agreed to narrow down the options to students to include the following:
 - T-shirts (Green)/ Hoodies (Grey)/ Toques/ Ball Caps
 - Mr. Witter will reach out to a graphic artist to see what he can come up with for Spirit Wear

Marie Paterson sourced AC Soccer who have advised they have done school orders before and are able to provide samples, order forms and offer a 2 week turnaround for delivery

- Feeling amongst council members was that we would rather deal with a local vendor and "shop local"
- Next steps would be to decide on ordering dates
 - Take orders during Catholic Education Week with a possible order deadline of May 18th and delivery deadline of Mid-June
 - Take orders at the beginning of the new school year, possibly during curriculum night

Team Wear

- JV is able to provide team uniforms at approximately \$30-\$50 per set
- Kim Zangrilli has a contact she will reach out to
- Marie Paterson has received a quote from AC Soccer for \$30 per set incl. tax

Other Business

School Teams

- Kim Zangrilli expressed concern that our teams are not playing enough, practicing enough
 - Wondered if we could get students from CTK or parents to volunteer as coaches
 - Karen Truyens suggested putting out a request and/ or adding it to the survey to see if we can find any parent volunteers
- Mr. Witter advised these are not options due to board rules. A teacher must always be present
- Mr. Witter pointed out that we have a small staff from which to pull volunteers
- Additionally, school has offered other outlets such as the robotics team

Fundraising Controversy/ Humboldt

- We as a school are honouring Humboldt on Thursday April 12th with a jersey day
 - Students are encouraged to wear a team jersey and/ or green and gold
- We cannot as a school community contribute to the GoFundMe effort as it would be difficult to qualify with the board in light of their recent decision regarding fundraising
- ME to WE, in support of HCDSB students, has “pulled” it’s compliance with HCDSB in support of students objections to the boards controversial decision

Volunteers

- Kim Zangrilli suggested that we should thank the Salad Cart volunteers for making it happen
- Council agreed we have many volunteers
- Mr. Witter is planning to gift a book or similar to volunteers much like last year

Announcements

Mr. Witter will be with us again next year

Next Meeting

Monday June 4, 2018 6:30

Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30