

# **St. John's School Council Meeting**

**February 6, 2017**

**Present:** Tom Mancini, Chris Worobec, Mel Keogh, Maria Lourenco, Jason Crawford, Dolene Vanderlelie, Tami Browne, Susan Petruccelli, Katerina Frame, Christian Thibeault, Dan Francis

## **1. Call to Order**

6:30 - School Council Prayer, group recital.

Approval of Meeting Agenda. Motion by Chris, seconded by Christian.

## **2. Approval of Minutes**

No approval of January Minutes due to lack of quorum at that meeting (and therefore not an official meeting).

Amendment to November 2016 Minutes: Tami would like to include in the minutes that the intent of the discussion was to not go out to the community for a vote on whether to decide whether a vote is required to the community. Amendment made by Tami. Amendment approved.

The minutes of the November 7, 2016 meeting were approved as amended.

## **3. Business Arising from Previous Meetings**

No coaches are needed at this point. Referees are being provided for Basketball games. Next week, there is a Monday/Wednesday home game, the first game is on Monday.

'Hoody' style sweatshirts are being added to new uniform supplier's list. Cost is \$30.

Father Bob has given permission for parking lot arrows to be added. To be painted in Spring.

## **4. Action/Discussion Items**

### **4.1 Pasta Night**

Mel - There are some new faces at the Pasta Night meetings. Most of the roles have been filled.

There is a Logo Design Contest for students this year. To be done at school. Student submissions will be displayed on Pasta Night. Artists will remain anonymous, to be identified by teacher name, with assigned student numbers.

This year is the 30th Anniversary of Pasta Night. It may be the last one. Costs go up every year (ie. Polish Hall rental, price of food etc.), with decreasing numbers of volunteers. May look at a new event for next year. Still need help with set up on April 19 (evening before), as well as on day of (April 20). Tom mentioned that he had reached out to the Parish Men's Group for help on these dates and would follow up with Mel.

There was some discussion as to the future of Pasta Night as no volunteers have stepped forward to take on coordination roles for next year and therefore shadow the roles this year. Mel mentioned that there was an upcoming committee meeting with an opportunity to fill outstanding volunteer roles, including the coordinator roles. There was also discussion around further communications to the community regarding the event and seeking volunteers. Mel requested, and Tami agreed to provide information regarding purchases made on behalf of the students with proceeds from previous years' Pasta Nights.

There was also discussions on various alternatives to the future format for Pasta Night as well as alternative events. Council members were asked to give some thought as to alternatives for further discussion at a future Council meeting.

### **4.2 Volunteer Update**

Maria - Changes to Volunteer Form made in November. Change name from 'committee' to 'team'. Police checks are required for in school events, not for Pasta Night (off site). A Volunteer sign up table was set up on Interview Night, 7 new volunteers signed up for 'standby' mode. 46 total volunteers, roughly 20% of families represented. 8 volunteers for Food For Thought. Volunteer Coordinator Jackie says all is good.

### **4.3 Response to Policy IV-01 Fencing at School Sites**

### **4.4 Response to Policy IV-06 Delegation to the Board**

### **4.5 Response to Selection Criteria for School Principal**

Maria - Council can review these policies and email Maria with any comments. No comments for Fencing, Delegation today. Rankings for School Principal to be reviewed and forwarded to Maria. Due by February 10.

## **4.6 Assumption High School (AHS) Update**

Maria - On January 18<sup>th</sup>, AHS Council invited Feeder School Council chairs to their meeting about the future of the school. It is the oldest High School in the Board. Council has been lobbying the Board for money. AHS was not included in the recent Accommodation Review. There are some declining enrolment issues, some students choosing Corpus Christi. There is a rumour that Nelson is getting a new school. Unfounded rumour. There is no money for a new school. Ministry funds are available for schools meeting certain criteria such as low enrolment or high renovation costs. Schools that receiving funding are at 50-60% capacity. AHS is at approximately 85%. Another factor is renovation costs as a percentage of new school cost. AHS is at 28%; provincial average is 30%; schools receiving funding are generally at 100% or higher.

AHS has pretty good retention of feeder school students. AHS offers a variety of 'programming' options as a way to bring in students as well as funding. Maria's son is in the 'AP' program and thinks it's great. AHS has an Apple Programming class, the only one in Canada. It also offers Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) programs, including Fitness Leadership. It loses some students due to lack of 'trades' classes. There is no threat to losing school in the near future.

Council members were asked for, and provided feedback on perceptions of AHS as well as additional programming options they would like to see. Council members were asked to follow up with Maria with any further feedback including programming options that AHS might consider in the future.

## **4.7 PRO Grant**

Maria. Committee hasn't met yet. Need to pick a date. Might look at Math Games as an evening.

## **4.8 Council By-Laws**

Tami. Maria asked for them. They are from November 2006. Perhaps we should review them. They are 11 years old.

It was agreed that Council should have copies of the By-Laws and they should be reviewed. Maria asked Council to review the By-laws for discussion at a future meeting.

## **4.9 Community Consultation**

Tami. According to ByLaws, Council should consult with parents regarding some issues. It is a guide. Council represents the community. Our council should decide which items to take to the community, and how (email etc). Not everything, just what Council decides should go out, in consultation with the Principal.

Maria added that the Board was currently revising its School Council Policy; recommended changes include the requirement of Councils to consult with their communities.

Maria indicated she would provide information regarding Ministry and Board expectations regarding community consultation, and that Council would have an opportunity to discuss a framework at a future meeting.

#### **4.10 Uniform Policy Clarification**

Tami. In November we looked at 'should it go out to the community?' Maria contacted Superintendent Cipriano to seek clarification regarding the Uniform Policy: "if school chooses a uniform previously, does it require a re-vote?" Answer: No, if community wishes a change, there can be a re-vote. Policy requires it to be a discussion item annually, and to recommend to the Principal to vote or not. It is up to the Principal to decide. Most Principals follow Council recommendations. The vote from Council was that they did not wish the vote to go out to the community.

### **5. Information/Discussion Items**

#### **5.1 Principal's Report**

Tami presented the Principal's Report which is attached as Appendix "A".

#### **5.2 Parish Report**

Tom Mancini. There are 38 names for the Parish Talent Show. They'll organize auditions March 6-9. March 23 they are hosting a Speaker on 'What's New in Religious Education in our Catholic Schools?' On Shrove Tuesday the Parish is hosting a free Pancake Supper (Feb 28), from 4pm-7pm. They are also hosting a Games Night, with a Pizza Supper, in the Church basement, on March 4, starting at 6pm.

#### **5.3 Financial Report**

Maria. Sub Day (Mel). School pays Subway \$3.25/sub. Charge students \$4.00. Looking at other ideas. Sub Day only made \$90 last year, few students participate.

Mel agreed to further investigate low returns of Sub Days. Council discussed whether or not to continue with Sub Days and what alternatives were available. Maybe Pizza every week?

### **6. Round Table/Open Discussion**

Perhaps host a 'Civvies' day more often. Perhaps once a month. Students love Pajama Day. Maybe have a Jersey Day etc.

Tami distributed the Annual Report for the 2015-2016 school year to Council members.

Next Council Meeting is April 3 2017. Council of Chairs Meeting is Feb 22 2017 at Queen of Heaven, Milton.

7:50 - Group recital of Hail Mary. Meeting Adjourned.