

St. John's School Council Minutes

Monday October 19, 2015

6:30: Meeting Begins.

Present: Dolene Vanderlelie, Tami Browne, Tanya Medeiros, Christian Thibault, Jason Crawford, Dan Francis, Mel Keogh

Council Commissioning Service, Prayer and Declaration.

Distribution of Roles: Church Rep is Dolene; Secretary is Dan Francis; Chair is Jason Crawford; Teacher Rep is Tanya Medeiros; Non-Teacher Rep is not applicable at this time due to CUPE action; OAPCE is Mel Keogh.

2015/2016 Meeting Dates: November 30; January 4; February 1; April 4 and May 2.

6:50: Discussion Items.

-Council communications to be accomplished through email.

-School Effectiveness Framework: how to assist lower level learners. Diagnostic Assessment to be done by school staff, as directed by the Board.

-No EQAO results yet. The school will use a math problem. The same problem, scaled in difficulty by age/grade, will be used in order to measure results.

Principal's report - October 19, 2015

Catholicity

1. First Mass at St. John Church - grade 7 students did a wonderful job; students participated in music and responses. Father Bob celebrated the mass and was impressed with student's behaviour.
2. Upcoming Thanksgiving mass by our grade 6 - October 15th at 9:00 am.
3. Grade 7 parent confirmation meeting Wednesday October 14th at 7:00 pm.
Grade 7 confirmation retreat Thursday November 12th - 9:30am - 2:30 pm.
Mount Alverno Retreat Centre

4. Grade 7 Confirmation Tuesday November 25th, 7:00 pm

Curriculum

1. Grade 3 and 6 EQAO results will be shared with council once we receive them.
2. Response to Intervention (RTI) preparations have begun.
3. Empower Program
4. Pathways/transitions between elementary and secondary

Community / School Culture

1. First week of school – very smooth start up – thank you.
2. Code of conduct/divisional assemblies – Friday September 5th.
3. ECO initiatives up and running.
4. Cross country, volley ball, thank you to our staff.
5. Curriculum night and welcome back bbq–Thurs. Sept. 24th
6. WE Day attended October 2 by 15 students and Mrs. Verardo
7. Constable Mary Repta will begin the BRAVO program with grade 6. There are grade 7 and 8 components as well called BRAVO Encore. Replaces DARE program.
8. Pizza and sub days have begun.

–Council to think of ideas to harness Parent Engagement.

–Food for Thought Program is continuing.

–Confirmation Gowns are to be paid for by Counsel. Baked goods for the event are to be arranged through parent volunteers.

–Uniform Exchange received good reviews. It occurred at the Curriculum Night BBQ. One idea was that departing grade 8 students could donate their St. John's school uniforms in exchange for 2 weeks of wearing civilian clothes at the end of the school year.

–Parish Information: the Church requested that the mobile sign for the Grade 8's be moved from the Church lawn to the school lawn so that the Church can advertise for their upcoming Christmas Bazaar.

–Theology on Tap – no update.

-The staff and students sent Father Bob get-well cards. He is in our prayers for a speedy recovery.

-Special Event Form – proposed to go out prior to special events. The form lists allergies/ingredients/who is putting event on. The only event in which the form may be needed is for Pancake Tuesday.

-Annual School Generated Funds (SGF)

-the spreadsheet of projected funds/budget must be posted by end of October.

-Money Generators: Halloween Dance-A-Thon; Pasta Night; Milk Program; Pizza Days; HST Rebate.

-Mrs. Browne to survey teachers for equipment requests.

-Would like to see a Smart Board in every classroom. The grade 7,8's already have them, which were paid for by the Board.

-Requests include: 'Nerf' style balls; badminton equipment; listening centre speakers; HP stream

-These items to be priced out and brought to Council.

-Safe School Assessment needs to be done.

-Catholic Council of Chairs Meeting to be held October 21 at St. Catherine of Alexandria in Georgetown. Mrs. Browne will present 5 survey questions at next Council Meeting.

Additional

-Jason thanked the Council and the school for the Mass card.

-Mel asked about making the parking lot clearer. As well requested clarification on school policy for calling parents when children are absent. Specifically when parents have forgotten to report an absence, why the delay in the school following up. It was explained that the attendance has to be taken, and then matched up to the telephone messages reporting an absence. The school then calls home when there is a discrepancy. Mrs. Browne to bring up at

staff meeting that if teachers are aware in advance of a pending absence (a note in the agenda from the day prior, for example), to let the office know.

-It was agreed by all that the parking lot is much better.

-St. John's is a pilot school for new LED lights. They look amazing.