



ST. JOHN CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

Monday, March 6, 2017 @ 6:45p.m.

MINUTES

Present: MB, SM, JN, FV, LP, BM, CDM MAW

Absent: NS

1. Opening Prayer
2. Approval of Agenda AB, LP
3. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting January 23, 2017 FV MB

The minutes are now available on the school website – they are easily accessible.

4. Administrator's Report

Catholicity – Parent meeting for grade 2 March 7th at St. Michael's Church, First Communion is May 13; School-wide Reconciliation was February 26th, Ash Wednesday Liturgy in the gym at 11 am with Seminarian John; Lenten calendars were distributed to students; Lenten outreach program has students (Gr. 7 & 8) taking the lead: students bring in shoeboxes and items - due Mar 24, packing on the 30th and 31st around 9 for packing – volunteers needed, grade 8's will be contributing their time. Rosary Apostolate and Parish Minister and Seminarian visiting classrooms regularly. Christian Meditation workshop attended by two staff members, classes meditating 2 times per week over announcements and daily in classroom – children are really taking to it and seeing the benefits.

Curriculum – Gr. 8 attended career centre Feb 28th, Holy Trinity visting coming soon; Report cards went home last Tuesday, Kindergarten has new reports and they are not scheduled this term. Kindergarten team was trained in the new reporting procedure. School Improvement Plan (SIP) – For talks on Self Regulation and Positive Attitudes: Hansel and Gretel presentations for K-5 and NED show for all sold over \$1000 in yoyo's. NED show message, "Never give up, Encourage others, Do your best." In-School Public Speaking competition held last Friday; Regionals on Mar. 29th here at our school. St. John's winner is Daniela Arabit in Gr. 8. Upcoming trips: Gr 4/5's & STC went to the Living Arts Centre, Director's Cut coming for the 6, 7, & 8's, Gr. 4 & 7 Swim to Survive Program, Gr. 7/8's to Toronto on May 31st. Eco Update – Mrs. VWB is working to a bronze certification, students are leading the charge. Education Week scheduled April 30th to May 5th.

Community - Kindergarten registration constant this year over last year, enrolment for other local schools dropped by 50%. Leading mentally healthy classrooms lead by social worker to support mental health in classrooms.

EQAO two week window, dates not finalized yet. May 23-June 5

School Board Updates – PAR meeting Tuesday

Home/School Communication – website is up and running, newsletter stories will become feature stories on the website. Everything is in one spot posted, no newsletter, Grade 8 grad photos next week.

Community Building - Active Chefs were at St. John for a second year, it was a successful night; Feudary Day with Halton Food For Thought was February 21st – there is a link to the story on the Board website. Wear purple to support epilepsy Friday March 24th – shown on website calendar.

Home/School Communication – School Update emails sent home once per week. Twitter is still active. All articles in Newsletter are now available on the website which is being updated regularly; Feature Stories in email communications are posted to the website. Only calendar will be sent home as a hard copy.

Safety/Seasonal Information – Gr. 8 Grad Photos March 22nd. Bomb Threat Drill coming soon after March Break, three fire drills in April, one more Lockdown Drill before the end of the school year. Parents and students are reminded that coats are required in winter on the playground. Cold Weather alerts (-15 to -20 outside for a maximum of 20 mins; below -20, inside).

Parent Involvement - Pancake Tuesday was a success – thank you to Janice for organizing and all the volunteers that came out. Math Night is being considered as an event during Catholic Education Week. BBQ in June – Re-evaluate the supplier of the food. Some parents are concerned that Hero Burgers is expensive. It was decided that the council will look at other options for food and for all the other details regarding this event.

School Generated Funds Update – Funds will be posted to the website. The school will be spending the funds, the actual numbers are on track with the estimates, funds to be rolled over to next year is approximately \$5000. We would be able to continue without the need for a major fundraiser. Council of Chairs Meeting – Boston Pizza Night is being considered for the second term as a social event.

5. Committees, Events, and Other Items

Chair, MB – Parents are invited to Parents Engaged in Education is a CPIC sponsored event. Guest Speaker David Bouchard, “Literacy, Truth and Reconciliation” –The message of the presentation was to take the time to recognize a hero for kids to look up to, and as parents, take the time to read and model that behaviour to children, make sure there are books available, help children to read, recognize the heroes in the stories, explore the talents of the children. CYO, Catholic Youth Organization is hosting a fundraising Golf Tournament on May 31st.

Together in Faith – a program to promote the recognition that the Separate School Board is an integral part of the education in Ontario. Initiative by OCTA to demonstrate that the Catholic Schools have a vibrant dynamic community. Look for it on Twitter.

Community Rep on Council - New requirement I-23 states that a Community Representative needs to be invited to the meetings to represent the voice of the community. For instance, a representative of

the YMCA after school program may be a part of the school council. Next year, a community representative will be present on our council.

Parent Engagement Update – Pro Grant for 2017-2018 school year is due May 25th. Council members are asked to come up with ideas for a new application. A good starting point is to look at projects that were approved in the past on the PRO Grant website. The proposal should be related to Board initiatives such as curriculum, parent engagement or healthy eating.

Hot Lunches Update – everything is functioning well: pizza is popular, pitaorders are not as lucrative.

Milk Program Update – functioning well.

Others: submitted Principal Criteria for submission to the Board

6. New Business – covered above
7. Wrap Up and Adjournment – AB, MB