

**St Luke Elementary School
School Council Meeting
November 12, 2019 7:00pm – 9:00pm**

Attending:

Mrs. E. Bakaic (Principal)
Mrs. P. Rumble (Teaching Representative)
Ms. Jill Pomirko (Teaching Representative)
Gerry Bergin (Chair)
Andrea Carvalho (Co-Chair)
Tina Forte (OAPCE Rep)
Ciara DeJong (Parish Rep)
Suzy Pires (Community Rep)
Boris Cindric (Parent Rep)
Alana The (Parent Rep)
Julie Romanow (Parent Rep) – left before uniform vote
Michelle Nimac (Parent Rep)
Laurie McDougald (Parent Rep)

Absent

Nicole Gervais (Secretary)

- 1) Welcome/Opening Prayer
- 2) Approval of Agenda: Boris Cindric motion to approve, Andrea Carvalho seconded
- 3) Approval of Minutes: Andrea Carvalho motion to approve, Tina Forte seconded
- 4) Adoption of Rules of Procedure
 - a. Ensure timely and orderly discussion
 - b. Empower chair to move along discussion as needed
 - c. Andrea Carvalho motion to adopt, Laurie McDougald seconded
- 5) Principals Report
 - a. Praise for Remembrance Day ceremony and involvement of Grade 8 class
 - b. Discussion on how to promote new clubs/teams to student body and parents
 - Model UN (gr 7/8, teacher sponsor, Ms. Pomirko)
 - Student self-identify, largely independent, event takes place in March at Assumption SS
 - Caribou Math (gr. 3-8, teacher sponsor Ms. Pomirko)
 - STEM (gr. 5-8, student led with teacher support)
 - Can we look for a way to promote this on the website? In the week-at-a-glance through a hyperlink? Emi to include.
 - c. Budget
 - i. Proposed spending items for 2019/2020 funds
 - Informed by students
 - Discussion on cost of technology and suggestion about exploring a community sponsor. At some point the stationary computer lab will need some upgrading but currently sufficient for Primary grades. Laptops are provided for Junior and Intermediate students.

- Question as to how to share this information with parent community. The draft of the budget is posted on the website to share with parents and three times a year a financial statement is posted to inform parents.
 - d. Andrea Carvalho motion to adopt, Boris Cindric seconded.
- 6) Committee Updates
- a. Fundraising
 - i. Dance-a-thon results fantastic (136/215 students participated)
 - ii. Bake Sale – sign up during parent/teacher night, baked goods due morning of December 11th for sale at the afternoon and evening concerts on Dec 12th
 - iii. Indigo – no in-store event, awaiting update on online/coupon code from Nicole Gervais
 - b. Community Rep – no update
 - c. Parish Rep
 - i. Children liturgy commenced, looking for parent or high school volunteers (Sundays, 9am. St. Andrews)
 - ii. Currently updating database, members to provide updated information
 - iii. 200 Year anniversary, opportunities for youth involvement
 - iv. Children’s choir opportunities – Thursday practices @ St. Andrews. Looking for more young people to sign up, especially older students.
 - d. OAPCE Rep – no update
- 7) Action Discussion items
- a. Grade 8 Trip – Tanya Pereira /Carl Huntsman
 - i. Disappointment by parents/students over the cancellation of Grade 8 trip to Ottawa and perceived late notification of the cancellation
 - ii. Disappointment by parents/student by perceived unilateral decision making and no input opportunity to find a win/win solution
 - iii. Post cancellation survey showed a 50/50 split between extended day trip and overnight trip
 - iv. BrightSpark to address parents on Nov 25th about itinerary options
 - v. Topic is divisive to students and is presenting in online discussions
 - vi. Reminded that protocol states that council will not discuss individual students or teachers
 - vii. Mrs. Bakaic acknowledged that for some the change in the trip was upsetting, however, for others it was appreciated.
 - viii. Mrs. Bakaic reiterated that decisions for any and all trips are based on the needs of the students, staff and financial considerations.
 - ix. Mrs. Bakaic emphasized that although some students would be able to attend an overnight Ottawa trip, not all students would have the option, which would make the trip exclusive. However, an extended day trip would be an option for all students thereby making it more inclusive.
 - x. Mrs. Bakaic noted that parents provide personal and confidential information regarding needs to her and school staff, which must be considered for the best interests of students.
 - xi. Council takes under advisement the recommendation that more proactive communication would be helpful if this presents itself again in future years
 - xii. No further action to be taken by Council.
 - b. School Uniform Dress Code

- i. Seven years since last school community vote on the implementation of school uniforms
 - ii. Policy No. II-41 (posted on HCDSB website) is very clear on the procedure.
 - iii. School would be responsible to subsidize families as required out of existing budget
 - iv. **Vote 6:3** (2 absent) in favour of initiating a school-wide vote for grades (JK-6) for school year 2020/2021
 - v. Parent/teacher night letter will inform parents that the topic will be voted on in new year.
 - vi. Information night with InSchool Wear to take place following JK Registration but prior to March 30th decision deadline (as outlined in Policy No. II-41)
- c. School Council Table at Parent/teacher night
 - i. Ciara DeJong will circulate schedule for Thursday evening, Friday table monitors
 - ii. First shift of each day to provide coffee
 - iii. Gerry to circulate update letter for review and update as needed
- d. Parking/driveway
 - i. Ongoing issues with handicap parking, illegal parking and speed
 - ii. Council member and parents can take picture of offending vehicles and send them to the office
 - iii. Investigate more asphalt painting and signage to indicate laneways and no-stopping areas

8) New Business – none

9) Next meetings – confirmed Jan.28th, 2020

10) Closing Prayer