



**Minutes of St. Vincent's Catholic School Council (SVCS) Meeting
November 6 2017
School Library 7:00 p.m.**

In Attendance

Christine Daly (Principal), Heidi Blackburn, Tracey Martino, Barbara McCarter, Angela Santos, Wendy Glinski, Marilyn Barrett, Carolyn Holmes, Siobhan Kukolic, Michelle Kent, Christiane Kyte, Ryan Northcott, Muriam De Angelis, Tracy Sonnemann, Marise Pimenta, Diane Caldarelli, Marilyn Duarte, x?, Jasmine Vonhorsten, Regina Dykeman,

OPENING

Heidi Blackburn thanked parents for their dedication to the school community. Heidi read the opening prayer.

Council minutes from the inaugural meeting on October , 2017 were approved by Carolyn and seconded by Tracey.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- Catholicity – opening school mass with Father Con was very well received by the school community. The students were captivated. They are presenting daily prayers during announcements this month. Remembrance Day liturgy will be on Friday November 10th. The Rosary Apostolate has already been in. Preparations for Christmas liturgical concert are underway. It will feature JK to Grade 5 students and will be held during the day on December 14th. Families are welcome to attend.
- Curriculum – The curriculum itinerant teacher and consultant are meeting with the teachers. The special education board team meetings; school wide focus for the School Improvement Plan is Mathematics. This aligns with the Board Improvement Plan. Our school's lead teacher for mathematics has been in-serviced. Parent-teacher meetings will occur on 23rd and 24th. Progress reports will go home on November 21st. Transition meetings to STA are upcoming. Students returned from Tanamakoon, safe and sound.
- Extra-Curricular - Girls and boys volleyball teams did extremely well at Provincials, with the boys team earning a Silver medal. St Vincent students also did very well in the cross country meet at

Kelso. STA leadership students are coming to the school to mentor students. Roots of Empathy program is up and running in grade 5 classroom. The book fair was very successful. Halloween candy collection was well supported. The St Vincent Christmas shop will on held on December 15th.

CHAIR'S REPORT

- Council of Chairs meeting was held in October. Tracey attended to represent our Council. Siobhan Kukolic was the guest speaker. She spoke about her book, *The Treasure you Seek*. Alice-Ann LeMay spoke about the HCDSB charitable program for student assistance.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Staff Update (no report)

Treasury Report

- Heidi reported on behalf of Melissa Grech and provided an estimate of revenue and expenses for the year.
- The Halloween dance-a-thon has raised very little money compared to historical averages. Council raised concerns about changes to the process of making a donation this year. The process was more complicated and less transparent than in years past because it was the generic board process for making a donation to any school. Council agreed to email the school community with a reminder that donations are still being accepted, and provide an idea for what may be purchased with the funds (e.g., what items have been purchased in the past).
- There is a significant carry-over of funds from last year (approximately \$14000). Mrs Cary purchased some technology (e.g., Chromebooks) and professional learning materials. Additional Chromebooks have been requested by the staff.
- Council suggested that some jerseys (e.g., cross-country/track and field) look old and could be replaced

Parish Update

- December 12/13, St Andrew's parish open house
- Communion dates have been circulated
- Marise also highlighted the HCDSB Student Guardian Program – a children's education fund. Council recommended that proceeds from "civvies days" could be directed to this charity. Civvies days will be the final Friday of each month.

Volunteer Coordinator Update

- A school-wide communication will be sent regarding the continuation of fundraising.
- Poinsettias and wreaths are being sold to raise money for Kerr Street Mission. Forms were sent home on Friday. Orders can be placed using Schoolscashonline. We need to raise \$1000 in poinsettia orders in order to have free shipping. Orders will be delivered November 28th.
- Christmas shop items will be delivered late November. Families will have an opportunity to indicate who they will buy for, so that the items for the shop are appropriate for the demographics. Families are encouraged to donate Christmas bags and decorations.
- Cobs bread is continuing to sponsor our school. When families mention that they are from St Vincent, a portion of the profit is donated to the school.

Communications (no report)

- Council asked if we can make better use of Twitter to announce school events and fundraisers etc. For instance, can the school rep who manages the Twitter account send messages out on behalf of council?
- At the direction of the board, there can be no directory this year due to privacy regulations. Council discussed that our school community has been very supportive of the directory for many years and is concerned that the community feeling is being compromised by these changes.

Business arising

PRO Grant

- Siobhan prepared the PRO grant for St Vincent this year. We have been given \$1000 to host an event. Muriam will organize the presenter again this year.

Lunch time

- The timetable is mandated by the board. Students are given 40 minutes outside and 20 minutes to eat. Many are not able to eat their lunch in 20 minutes. Council expressed concern that 20 minutes was not sufficient.

Additional item

- Council would like to send a “thinking of you” gesture to Mrs. Gurowka.

UPCOMING COUNCIL DATES

Date	Opening prayer	Closing prayer	Refreshments
Feb 5	Melissa	Regina	Angela Santos

March 5	Tracy S	Diane	Tracey M
May 7	Marilyn B	Barbara	Marilyn D
June 4			Carolyn

CLOSING

Closing prayer was read by Marise Pimenta.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Minutes Taken by Christiane Kyte Lanoue. Please report any discrepancies, deletions, additions or changes to same.