



**Minutes of St. Vincent's Catholic School Council (SVCSC) Meeting
February 5, 2018
School Library 7:00 p.m.**

In Attendance

Penny Uniacke (Principal), Heidi Blackburn, Tracey Martino, Wendy Glinski, Marilyn Barrett, Carolyn Holmes, Michelle Kent, Tracy Sonnemann, Marise Pimenta, Diane Caldarelli, Melissa Grech, Marilyn Duarte, Muriam De Angelis, Jasmin Von Horsten, Barb McCarter, Sonia Guglietti, Regina Dykman, Siobhan Kukolic, Evelyn Uvakov

OPENING

Melissa Grech read the opening prayer.

Council minutes from December 2017 were approved by Carolyn and seconded by Tracey.

Social Justice Presentation:

- Ms. Rodrigues and Grade 8 students Kate and Grace came to discuss ideas for Lenten initiatives.
- After brainstorming with Mr. Keenan, the Grade 8s have proposed working with the Good Shepherd Charity which would include a trip to their facility to help with several tasks. Council may be asked for money for the bus trip. It was also suggested that donations from Shrove Tuesday pancakes could also be used for buses.
- Ideas for Lenten initiatives for the rest of the school have not been decided yet. Some ideas include creating art work for Sick Kids and visiting a seniors centre. Minute to Win it will also happen again this year.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- Shrove Tuesday is February 13th
- Valentine's Day will be celebrated on Feb 13th as Ash Wednesday falls on the 14th this year
- Enrollment masses were held for both First Communion and Confirmation
- There is a parent meeting for First Communion on February 7th and a meeting for First Reconciliation on Feb 10th

- The Grade 7s will have a confirmation retreat on March 20th from 4:30-6:30
- All schools held a Holocaust prayer service on January 26th
- New technology that was ordered in December has arrived; 20 Chromebooks and 10ipads. We are just waiting for them to be set up.
- There is an interest in investing in Key Math which is a program that would help students who are struggling in math as identified by their teachers. Ms. Rodrigues has recommended the program and the cost would be \$2000. Council agreed to fund the program.
- After school tutoring for Grade 3&6 students for EQAO will soon begin and will be run by Mr. Keenan and Miss Lopresti.
- Report cards will go out February 22nd
- Speech competition will be held Feb 20th with grade representatives
- Home School Connection:
 - The school website has been updated
 - Twitter is being used on a daily basis to provide updates
 - Cover to Cover has started and will run for the month of February
- There is a lot going on around the school; basketball pre-season has started, there are numerous clubs happening at lunch including chess, coding and Battle of the Books. There was also a discussion about running Mad Science for the younger grades however there is a concern about available space to run the program.
- Staff will be participating in Equity and Inclusion sessions and workshops on the Feb 16th PA day
- Olympic updates will be happening every Friday on the morning announcements
- Other important dates:
 - Feb 1: Sweater Day
 - Feb 6: ECO Workshops
 - Feb 7: Walk to school day
- Numerous facilities updates are in the process of being completed including; new blinds, painting in the gym, new fire access signs and fixing the cafetorium doors

Council Chairs Report:

- Selection Criteria for Principal was completed by council this evening
- Further discussion took place about supporting the Key Math program (see above) as well as the agreement that parents want more help and resources to help their children with math
 - Mrs. Uniacke will post some sites on our website
 - Success Maker is another tool that can be used to help and is still available. This will be recommunicated to parents. Mrs. Uniacke will look into where there are pamphlets which can be provided.

Halton Catholic Children's Education Foundation (HCCEF):

- Tracey presented an overview of the HCCEF which provides immediate resources to families in need in Halton.
- The fund is currently empty but there is a continued need especially as year-end trips and graduation approach.
- Recommendation to use donations for monthly civies day and Shrove Tuesday to support this initiative
- Tracey will provide information for a flyer to be sent home to parents with information about HCCEF and about the donations.

- There is already a link on the school website

Committee Reports:

Staff:

- Pancakes for Shrove Tuesday has been organized with parentvolunteers.
- Mrs. Uniacke will be meeting with X Movement on Feb 20th to discuss plans to come back to the school in the spring.

Treasury:

- The new technology ordered has been paid
- Monies have also been spent on fixing instruments as well as additional math books and counters for the Primary Division
- There is leftover money from 2016/2017 that needs to be spent
- One suggestion was to support Scientists in the Classroom which would be for grades 4-6 and cost \$250 per session. More information is needed but Council supported that initial idea.
- Will review the current available budget in March when any remaining purchases have gone through. Mrs. Uniacke will reconfirm the teacher wish lists.

Parish:

- Pancakes will be served following masses on Sunday February 18th

Volunteer Co-ordination:

- The Xmas Shop profit was \$1986.33. It was recommended that \$1000 be kept back to purchase gifts for next year's shop as the items need to be bought in the spring. The remaining money will be given to Kerr Street Ministries.
- The Hot Cross Bun fundraiser will be happening again this year with Cobs Bread. Jasmin will be coordinating this initiative.
- Staff Appreciation will take place March 23rd
- Grade 8 graduation will be June 27th. Michelle, Cindy and Siobhan have offered to help. Carolyn will be looking for additional parents to help.
- Ladies Night Out will be May 31st

Communication: No updates

New Business:

- Uniforms
 - Question was asked regarding having the option for the students to purchase Spirit wear however Mrs. Uniacke said this was not possible due to the uniform policy.
 - A suggestion was made to review the uniform components. Melissa will provide the names of the uniform committee to Mrs. Uniacke to set up a meeting.

UPCOMING COUNCIL DATES – see dates

Date	Opening prayer	Closing prayer	Refreshments
May 7	Marilyn B	Barbara	Marilyn D
June 4			Carolyn

Minutes Taken by Tracy Sonnemann. Please report any discrepancies, deletions, additions or changes to same.