

Parent Council Meeting Minutes – Monday February 4th

Meeting began at approximately 7:10pm

In attendance:

Ms. Penny Uniacke

Mrs. Siobhan Kukolic

Mrs. Wendy Gliniski

Mrs. Muriam De Angelis

Mrs. Gabriella Van Hooydonk

Mrs. Tracy Sonnemann

Mrs. Tracey Martino

Mrs. Regina Dykman

Mrs. Michelle Kent

Ms. Jasmin von Horsten

Regrets: Sonia Guglietti , Diane, Carolyn Holmes

Opening Prayer – Siobhan read a prayer from our Focus on Faith prayer booklet.

Approval of Minutes recommended by: Tracey S . Motion Passed.

Principal's Report:

- New Year Liturgy was held on January 30th led by grade 4 & 5
- Confirmation enrolment mass held
- Communion enrolment masses held
- Confirmation rehearsal dinner happening this month
- The February 15th PA day teacher session will focus on equity and inclusion.
- Speeches are underway now - February 20th is the day selected speakers will present in the gym
- 20 new Chromebooks have been delivered to the classrooms.
- Literacy committee – Something new and exciting this year! We will have author Skype sessions on Fridays. Free of charge - held over lunch hour. The author will Skype in and answer students' questions. 4 dates to be held in the next 3 months. Ties in well with Cover to Cover which has recently begun..
- Family mass will be held this Sunday February 10th at 9am. St Vincent kids will participate in the mass and all families are encouraged to attend if they are able.
- February 20th report cards go home.
- Grad photos were taken today - all graduating students were present today and had their photos taken.
- Chess club has begun – Fridays
- Paws for Reading – Doggie friend Shilo “reads” with our younger students to help them build their reading confidence. It is a very popular & effective program.
- Financial – Dance – a –thon proceeds have been put to use as outlined in our last meeting. The only item still outstanding is the altar. Father Con is working on getting a design for this. Our Buddy Bench has funds earmarked for it, and will be put in this spring. The new furniture in the library looks amazing and has been a hit with students and staff.
- Safety & Facility – field is shut down because it is so wet. Kids are encouraged to bring board games, cards etc. to play during indoor recess.

- New quotes painted in the washrooms are inspiring and have been very well received by students.

Council Chairs report – Regina

- Christmas Concert. Mixed feedback. Council discussed possibly opening it up again to the entire school community – rather than just the younger grades. Also revisited the possibility of having 2 performances- one in the evening for parents who can't attend? A decision was made to revisit this in September, once the new year's classes are finalized and we are speak to the teachers about volunteering to help with this.
- Wacky Wednesday – spirit days to be held in February:
 - February 6th - crazy hat, socks & tie day
 - February 16th – Crazy hair
 - February 20th – backwards day
 - February 27th – dress like a friend day/twin day

Speaker “Tech” - Miriam

- There is some question as to whether or not we have received a PRO grant. Mrs Uniacke to confirm. We do have \$500 from the Ministry for Parent Engagement which we can put toward this initiative.
- Looking at bringing in speaker Chris Vollum to talk about technology and kids mental health.
- Look at inviting parents within the community for the evening “adult only” session.
- Possibly to be held on April 1st just after an earlier Parent Council meeting.
- Miriam asked about possibly bringing in “Money Sense” & “Stronger Together Diversity in Action “ course for the students. These are typically run through Junior Achievement. Michelle to investigate.

Staff Report – Mrs Glinski

- March 5th is Shrove Tuesday
- Wendy will reach out to Sunset Grill to see if they will once again generously donate the batter & other supplies. Volunteers will be coordinated by Carolyn.

Volunteer Coordination (Tracey M for Carolyn)

- Staff Appreciation – no date chosen yet. Plans will be made once we have a date. Mrs Uniacke to let Carolyn know.
- Christmas Shop - Another successful event to benefit Kerr Street Ministries. Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped make this event a success. Net proceeds are approximately \$1200. Purchases for next year's shop will begin this spring.

Meeting concluded at approximately 8:15 pm with a prayer ready by Siobhan