**Holy Name Catholic School Council Minutes**

**Wednesday February 27th, 2019 at 6:30pm**

**Holy Name Library/Learning Commons**

**In Attendance:** Lisa McDonald, Nikki Irwin, Brad Duffy, Lindsay Bourque, Lesley Petras, Amanda Graham, Alana Todd, Malissa Sheridan, Francine Oostermann and Jennifer Skinner-Riddle

***Regrets*:** Alisha Willing, Jamie Cordeiro, Kaitlin Greenlees, Angela Warren, Tina Murphy, Rosemary Prior, Nick Todd

**President:** Nikki Irwin

**Secretary:** Lindsay Bourque

**Treasurer:** Nikki Irwin

**Teaching Representative:** Mrs. A. Graham (Grade 1)

**Fundraising Representative(s):** Jen Riddle, Lindsay Bourque

**Parent Representative(s):** Alisha Willing, Nikki Irwin, Jennifer Riddle, Malissa Sheridan, Alana Todd, Lesley Petras , Jamie Cordeiro, Brad Duffy, Kaitlin Greenlees, Tina Murphy

**CUPE Representative:** Angela Warren

**Parish Representative:** Open

**Community Representative:** Francine Oosterman

**OPENING**

Nikki Irwin reviewed the importance of referring to the Council as the ‘Catholic School Council’, as opposed to the ‘PTA’. Our Catholic Schools need to be strengthened through open communication and confident faith. There was a review of proper operating procedure and the importance of keeping both the Council Chair and Principal in the loop with all communications.

**CUPE**

Angela Warren has asked that all Council members take a look at the ***CUPE*** website to review the importance of issues that are at hand with our current Provincial government with regards to proposed budget cuts and limiting class sizes. Please access the following links:

[www.cupe.on.ca/keepclasscaps](http://www.cupe.on.ca/keepclasscaps)

<https://cupe.on.ca/fr/garderlimitesclasse/>

**OLD/ONGOING BUSINESS**

**YEARBOOK**

Nikki and Kelsey Ross will be starting the 2018-2019 yearbook after March break. This year they will trial a ‘committee’ incorporating students artwork, thoughts and ideas. More to follow.

**IN MEMORIUM**

Council has agreed to provide a greeting card to Council members and family members of Holy Name Catholic School teachers and staff in the event there is a tragic circumstance. Cards will be purchased and held on file for this purpose.

**COOKBOOK**

Council has decided to move ahead with producing a Cookbook for Holy Name. It has been on ongoing initiative that Nikki has been eagerly waiting to begin. We may be looking at a Mother’s Day Fundraiser with an Interactive Twist that Alana will explore. More information to follow.

**FUNDRAISING REPORT:**

**CHILIFEST**

$668.23 was raised at the Chilifest, exceeding our goal of $500.00. It was a big hit with great participation from the Holy Name Catholic School teachers, staff and families. This event may be held again next year.

**Pittsburgh Community Benefit Fund**

An application and proposal for the Phase 1 Playground Improvement Project and technology upgrade was submitted and received by PCBF. Lesley Petras did a presentation on Monday February 25th, 2019. The Early Development Index (EDI) is an integral piece of information that shows that the students whom matriculate to Holy Name are of a vulnerable population, more so than the majority of Ontario children, and was discussed in this presentation. Council is dedicated to improving the accessibility to resources through Holy Name Catholic School for our students. We are waiting to hear from PCBF. A grant committee was formed to be prepared to apply for more grants. The next grant we will likely be applying for is the Canada Post grant. Malissa Sheridan will let us know when the application information is available. At this time, it appears the grant must be applied for by March 2019.

**Grant Committee**:

Lindsay Bourque

Lesley Petras

Alana Todd

Malissa Sheridan

**TEACHER’S REPORT**

**Mrs. Graham**

Chalice is a Catholic organization that supports children in 15 different countries and will be the focus of Holy Name Catholic School’s Lenten project. Money fundraised will be donated to Chalice and the students and teachers will decide what to specifically sponsor. Options include buying seeds, animals, education, art supplies, books, sports equipment etc.

The first fundraising event will be a family pancake breakfast on ***Shrove Tuesday*** March 5th 2019. The school will need volunteers to flip pancakes starting at 8:00am. We hope that families can come, however children that must arrive on buses can get pancakes when they arrive at school. Council thanks Lesley Petras whom has offered to donate maple syrup again this year for this initiative.

**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

**Mrs. Lisa McDonald**

Once again, I have organized my report around our 3 School Improvement Pillars:

1. **DISCIPLSHIP - Faith in Action – Making A Positive Difference**

**Lenten Project –** School will be choosing how to make a positive difference. Charity VS Social Justice – focus of lessons in classes. Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser – Shrove Tues. (Mrs. Graham to explain)

**Winter Carnival –** Madame and students working collaborative on this event! Great fun last Friday!

**(Pink Shirt Day)** Wed. Feb. 27th - Supporting the Boys and Girls Club, which focuses on inclusivity and opportunity to all youth.

**Yard** – Safety; areas – constantly monitoring; daily weather conditions may require area closures.

1. **SCHOLARSHIP:**

**Ontario** **Prov. Report Cards** – went home on Tues. for K – Gr.8 students. Interviews/Conferences are by request (parent or teacher)

**FreshGrade –** all parents are encouraged to use as a discussion starter of their child’s learning.

**Ministry of Educ Funding for Homework Club (Gr. 3 and 6 students)** – purpose to provide extra support prior to EQAO Assessments in May.

**Basketball:** Ends tomorrow (Thurs. eve) with the Sr. Boys playing in the B Championships at Regi.

**Kindergarten Registrations** are being accepted. NEW – online preregistration option available.

1. **STEWARDSHIP:**

**Sweater Day and Battery Blitz –** ECO Knights continue to keep our school community ECO-friendly!

**OTHER: New Director of Education – Mr. David DeSantis.** As CSC, it is important that you are aware of his vision for our Board. Protecting our Catholic education system and equality are two of his top priorities. Handout shared.

**Sensory Path –** After further consultation with various OTs, a school order for Sensory Path decals has been made.The Occupational therapist has recommended putting some sensory pathways on yoga mats so that they can be brought into the classroom.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ONLINE SAFETY**

This is a growing concern and Council Chair Nikki Irwin has proposed that Council consider organizing an ‘Internet Safety’ night for parents and children to attend. Mrs. McDonald detailed a past event she has attended in which a community police officer reviewed device and internet safety. Council is considering organizing this event.

In the meantime, please checkout the following websites that offer many resources for both home and school environments:

Cybertip.ca

ProtectKidsOnline.ca

Canadian Centre for Child Protection

Canadian Safety Council

Your Local/Canada-wide Policing websites

**TICKS**

**Alana Todd**

Approximately, 120 ticks per week were collected off of kids in the Spring and Fall at the school last year. Ecotech Solutions is an option we are going to look at: Safe to pets, kids, etc. Estimate cost is $1200/treatment every 3-4 weeks from April to October. There is also a spray available that could be purchased by interested families. More information to follow.

**EARLY ON**

**Francine Oosterman**

Ontario Early On is open Tuesday morning 9:30-12:30pm during March Break at the school. This information will be put in the school newsletter.

***Upcoming Meetings:***

24 April 2019 at 6:30

22 May 2019 at 6:30

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:18 pm.** Thank you to all in attendance.

**Next Meeting**

**Wednesday April 24th at 6:30pm in the**

**Holy Name Catholic School Library/Learning Commons.**