

Catholic School Council

Tuesday, January 29th, 2019

Present: Lisa Romano, Patricia Sukha, Madonna Howell, Lori McCaw, Cathy Pye, Nickie Harrison, Arlene Amos

Regrets – Charlene Landry-Kyte, Michelle Aho, Brooke Sargent

Opening Prayer – Madonna Howell

Approval of November minutes – Moved by Cathy Pye, seconded by Nickie Harrison

Treasurers Report – Madonna on behalf of Michelle

Current Balance: \$4200

- A few deposits from the sales of some used uniforms from the stockpile
- Upcoming items to be aware of:
 - A \$100 request for a Food For Learning auction item
 - In the past, a \$500 donation for the grade 7/8 year-end trip has been made (something to consider for spring)
 - In the past, a \$250 donation for graduation has been made
 - School is updating/adding to the security cameras that are currently in place – there are currently none in the grade 7/8 wing. Four additional cameras and the needed parts/labour are running about \$10,000. Catholic School Council may want to consider a donation toward this.
 - There are no international trips (March Break, Dominican Republic) planned for this year, so no donations for these will be requested, as they have in the past.

Cathy Pye - Motion to donate \$2000 for security cameras, seconded by Arlene Amos

Nickie Harrison – Motion to donate \$250 for graduation, seconded by Cathy Pye

Arlene Amos – Motion to purchase and donate a \$100 item for the “Food for Learning” auction, seconded by Cathy Pye

Student Council Report –no report this month, as Brooke is studying for exams.

Principal’s Report

- Exams and inclement weather
 - Students required a day with their teachers – Friday was for this
 - Exams started Monday (Period 1 class and Period 2 class; typically only one per day, but this was required in order to meet Ministry guidelines)
 - Grade 9 EQAO was also written
- Gr 7 & 9 Orientations
 - Mrs. Romano shared an audio clip that will air on local radio, advertising the information night
 - The date for student orientations has been moved from January 30th to January 31st, because of the inclement weather and to accommodate the new exam schedule
 - Parent information night will be February 5th. Madonna will say a few words on behalf of Catholic School Council
- Congratulations to New trustee – Chris Wright

- School Climate survey
 - o The Middle Development Index tool will be introduced for gr 7 and then another is being organized for secondary, and will be used in the spring
 - o Some grade 7 classes began their survey today, others will start next week
- Elementary sports finals in evening at secondary school
 - o Basketball will be held on Mar 26 @ NCC (girls @ 5:00 and boys @ 7:00)
- Director's Annual Report shared
 - o Our Director of Education is retiring; this will be his final report
 - o St. Paul's is highlighted on many pages!
- CSCA – Feb 27 via teleconference
 - o Pat and Madonna will be participating and will report back to Council afterwards
- Yearbook
 - o Yearbook sales are down significantly. In order to break even, the number of pages will need to be decreased. With social media, the thinking is that kids might not *need* a yearbook anymore
 - o As a whole, Council is still interested in having yearbooks available to students
- Parents Reaching Out Grant
 - o Recently approved for \$1000 by the Ministry of Education
 - o The speaker that was going to come to Belleville, supported by five schools has increased his price significantly.
 - o A new idea would be to book Dr. Julie Gowthorpe and Sean Kelly, together with St. Peter, to speak about resiliency. Tentatively the evening of April 4 (spaghetti dinner, followed by the talk)
- Cannabis Information Night
 - o February 27th coming to speak to the parent community; time TBD

Other Business

Secondary Reports go home February 11th

Elementary Reports go home February 20th

Nickie Harrison – other school business

- St. Paul's has started a "Safe & Caring Schools Committee" comprised of the youth worker, chaplain, teachers, educational assistants and students. This committee meets once per month.
 - o Looking for some ideas about things that this committee could get involved in
 - Currently doing a little "welcome wagon" type of thing for students who join the St. Paul community, in efforts to help them integrate quickly (a bit of "swag,")

- Course selection is beginning for students going into grades 11 and 12
 - Teachers have been trained, and students are beginning to use the “My Blueprint” software to do course selections, track their credits, etc.
 - For grade 8 students, moving into grade 9 – educators will make recommendations about the course level that they feel is appropriate for each student. Parents can go with this recommendation, or make their own decision. **Consultations with your child’s teacher are encouraged.**
 - Grade 8 students will be given both a paper copy of course selection *and* they will use “My Blueprint” as well, with support from their teachers

- Some grade 8 students have requested an end-of-the-year dance in June. They will be invited to attend a school dance in June. Information will be sent home closer to the date. Mrs. Romano has spoken about keeping it *semi-formal*, and will reiterate this after March break

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 21th at 5:30pm