# Minutes – St. Gregory Parent Council, Tuesday, January 16, 2018

Present: Nikki Crenna, Mary Collins-Rolston, Jason Sweet, Todd Lichti, Kevin Dorey, Rhonda McLean, Cath Collins, Victoria Smith, Jessica, Mary Mascarenhas

Regrets: Abby Watson, Jennifer Blakely

Call to order - 6:00 p.m.

Opening Prayer – Hail Mary (Kevin)

Approval of Agenda – Mary M. moved, Todd seconded – all approved.

Approval of November Minutes – Mary C-R moved, Jason seconded – all approved.

Business Arising from Minutes – Brief discussion about the success of paint night, basket raffle at Christmas and that the new dishwasher is working well.

Finance/Fundraising –Report sent from JM Blakely included that total funds raised to date are: $2,791.95 with Christmas Baskets fundraising bringing in $1,100. Other funds were from the Paint Night.

JM planning to have more “umbrellas” for more clarity and transparency, rather than the one “bucket” we have been using.

Still planning on doing Family Portraits around Easter and the Mother’s Day/Father’s Day sale in early May. Decision made not to do Little Caesar’s but still open to other ideas.

Social events – First family night scheduled for the 23rd! Play time in the gym. There will be a scavenger hunt for grown-ups. Mary R-C is bringing board games to have available for older students on the gym stage. Upcoming – movie night, building benches for yard, new-to-you sale.

School Volunteers Needed - Mary C-R brought up an ongoing need for volunteers for the hot lunch program. The pancake lunch is coming up on February 13th. Parents would be welcome for one day alone or regularly on Tuesdays. (CWL does one week/month.) Nikki to post an appeal for volunteers to the Facebook page as a reminder.

Principal’s Report

Kevin had samples of the new school uniforms – they looked great. Approximately 30 were ordered/paid for from within existing school funds. Question was asked if 30 was enough to cover soccer season – more might need to be ordered. A parent suggested that families be allowed to purchase jerseys (possibly personalized?) for their child(ren) to ensure there are enough to go around. Cost was to be confirmed if there was a second order for the personalization option.

School population about the same – a couple students left after the break, a couple more joined.

Cashless Schools Coming – training for Kevin and Rhonda McLean at the end of January. Hoping to go live the first week of February. For this year, school board will be paying the credit card processing fees for any payments but that will likely change for the next school year. Goal is to get as close to 100% enrollment as possible by next school year.

Family Literacy Day – January 26th. Families will be invited in to read with their children. Special guests will be invited in as in prior years.

January 31st, Intermediate students going to Belleville for the cardboard boat competition. They did trials earlier today at PEFAC.

Staffing – Afternoon EA has started. Also, Ms. Farrell is in for Ms. Taylor for a little while.

Kevin does let local schools/colleges/universities know that we are open for student co-op placements or volunteer work experience as it is enriching to the school community.

Lexia – School still hoping to get a Lexia license for the entire school and may request funds from Parent Council to do so. Lexia has proven to be effective for students struggling with reading. It does require a degree of commitment from the family to keep up with the work at home to ensure program is followed for maximum results.

New business –

Funding Request – Gail MacDougall, LRA, has requested $150 towards the craft supplies needed for the lunch hour club. The request was made to be granted in the form of a Dollarama gift card. The club serves students from Grades 1 -8, with heavier weighting to the primary grades. Discussion was that the $150 would be fine but possibly encourage local spending and provide the $150 with staff discretion on where to spend to get the best value. Mary M moved, Jason seconded – all approved.

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 20, 2018. (Family movie night will be in the gym.)