

Sir Edgar Bauer Catholic School Council Meeting minutes

November 24, 2016



Present: Kathryn Peace, Jason Gorrie, Julie Kalbfleisch, Tina Chonko, Cheryl Beaupre, Harris Boyiatzis, Natalie Ferrier, Nicola Goertz, Caroline Karlgard, Melissa Schuett, Eric Thuss, Charlie Van Alphen

Regrets: Ron Dennis, Darlene Francis, Linda Hayes, Teresa Iacuzzi, Sara Kaptein, Linda Kaweck, Melissa Lehmann, Cathy McDonald-Reis, Ian Sine, Doreen Weise

Charlie Van Alphen led the opening prayer.

The minutes for the meeting on October 16, 2016 were approved.

Parish Updates:

- New person on staff – chaplain from the university will have an office at St. Michaels.
- There was a confirmation meeting on November 23. On February 11 at 1pm there will be a lunch with Father Dave for the students doing their confirmation (about 80 students). Focus will be on social justice. Will talk about Marillac Place and ways to help in our community.
- Monday, Nov 28 is a meeting for reconciliation 9am-noon. Wednesday is the sacrament.
- Mass on Friday, Dec 2 at 1pm at St. Michaels.
- Grade 5 retreat Dec 8.
- Grade 3 retreat Dec 14.

Meet the Teacher night:

- Pizza again, 100 pizzas, 3 delivery times.
- Total expenses \$242.75
- 5:30 pizzas were slightly late
- Need more volunteers next year
- One option might be to sell slices of pizza instead of whole pizzas?

Spook-a-thon:

- Total raised was \$4369.25. Amount raised was less than previous year; with a larger student base.
- Would be interesting to find out how many people participate (return a donation form) and not just how much money we raise – then we can gauge participation year-over-year when we consider how effective any incentives are and our overall success.
- Discuss rewards again to see if we want to re-introduce. St. Paul's raised \$9000 and just did a spook-a-thon; would be nice to find out how they did it.

Stemmlers

- Overall, this fundraiser was quite successful, raising \$3282.42.
- Offered 4 items for sale. There was \$39 of missing product that was donated by Stemmlers.
- Council agreed that the product quality was very good. Jason was happy working with the company and said they were very kind and accommodating.
- Thanks to everyone who provided a cooler and volunteered with distribution.

Financial Report – Jason provided on behalf of Melissa Lehmann

- Slightly down on our forecast.
- Our available cash is \$6633.38 after taking into account the amount approved for bussing to retreats.
- Financial Budget Setting – council agreed to defer allocating funds for o/s expenditures.

Pancake Tuesday

- Jason and Darlene will run the sub-committee this year.
- 7:15am arrival.
- Volunteers to cook – Melissa, Julie, Caroline, Monique, Harris, Nicola, more?
- Need more warming trays. Discussed serving in the classrooms instead of in the gym – then we could use tin foil instead of warming trays.

Movie night

- Tina will run. Sub-committee volunteers include Nicola, Caroline, Eric, Darlene, Teresa? Ian?
- Check sound system ahead of time. Someone needs to shadow Caroline since this is her last year.
- Propose pajama party with pillows and sleeping bags?
- Collect movie suggestions in January and set up survey monkey poll for February newsletter?

Bingo Night

- Used some money from the PIC grant.
- Looking for someone to spearhead this initiative.
- Kevin Calhoun might be able to announce again even though he doesn't have any kids in the school? He did last year. 😊

School Improvement Plan

- Kathryn discussed the school improvement plan, which focuses on areas of concern identified through assessment (EQAO). Focus on numeracy since we have shown need in that area.
- Four different areas of the plan:
 - **Catholic, Community, Culture and Caring:** Corizon, Better Beginnings, Christian Meditation, Growth Mindset, Positive Mental Health initiatives.
 - **Numeracy:** Many of the staff meetings and PD days have focused on numeracy and learning in that area. Teachers look at new tools and have tried to bring in more skills around spatial reasoning. One strategy is to visualize, verbalize, then conceptualize. Encourage students to take more risks. Work on better literacy within math (make sure students understand the question).
 - **Literacy:** Guided reading, word study, technology improvements, empower and skills builder programs within the school. Ms. Delangis will offer skills builder in the winter.
 - **Pathways to Success:** Different programs for grade 7/8 about setting goals for the future; younger kids add artifacts to their e-portfolio, which is available on D2L.

Yearbook Discussion

- Melissa S. is looking into printing costs and what would be required to get this to happen.
- PDFs as the final delivery type is perfect for printers.
- Maybe we can get a volunteer for each classroom and each class can do a 2-page spread. To add some pages for clubs, teachers, etc would be about 50 pages. If we want to add more events, grade 8 grad photos, etc. might be 75 pages.
- Price would depend on the number sold and the number of pages, but would be less than \$20.
- Could have a cover design contest?
- Need to figure out consent – send letter asking for help and include that if there is no consent, please contact.
- Melissa to draft letter to send home with the kids.

Playground Update

- Committee met again, trying to set goals. Need to raise 45,000 minimum?
- Committee is changing/defining roles:
 - Linda Hayes is going to take on Project Management
 - Julie is communications
 - Vanessa Lopak is looking into grants
 - Ron is sponsorship
 - Melissa is helping with play-a-thon event.
- Trying to get RFQ in place so that we can get visuals of the playground – will make trying to raise money a little easier. However, the board has said not to get an RFQ yet, since that should be done 12-18 months in advance and we're further out.

- Melissa asked about changing or dropping the grade/day restriction – maybe if kids were using it more often, then they would be more inclined to raise money for it. Right now, 1 day/week, and only in spring/fall just doesn't seem like a lot. Something to think about, but there are guidelines around supervision that would have to be considered.

Action item: Kathryn will try to gauge usage to see if any days are not as well used and could possibly be redistributed.

Other business:

- OAPCC – They have a newsletter. Trying to get parents engaged. Jason will send emails.
- Tina created a draft survey last year to poll parents about the activities and events they would like to see at the school. She will check to see if the draft still exists in Survey Monkey and resurrect that initiative. We want to know:
 - What events parents think would be good.
 - Fundraising options – which ones have they liked/disliked.
 - Add comments about council driving the events, but needing input and volunteers to make all events an inclusive, successful community effort.

Possible newsletter items:

- Thank volunteers for various events
- Madame Collins' class won the ESQ visit.
- Nicola would like Julie to add a request for more coaches for the StrongStart program so that we can take more kids into the program.

Meeting ended: 8:26pm