

Minutes from Parent Council Meeting held January 19, 2021

PART 1 – WELCOME, PRAYER AND APPROVAL

Call to Order: 6:48 p.m.

Attendance:

Parents: Tammy Bilodeau, Angela Morin, Jessica Koehli, Andrea Minarchi (Chair), Lori Taylor (Vice Chair), Shelley Leroux (Treasurer), Catherine Cake (To Be Treasurer), Laura Lee (Secretary)

Staff: Kristine Willis-Dengler – Vice Principal, Emilie Sarnecki-Grade 7 and 8 Teacher

Opening Prayer – Kristine Willis-Dengler

Approval of November 17, 2020 Minutes – approved by Shelley Leroux/2nd by Catherine Cake

January 19, 2021, Agenda – approved by Lori Taylor

PART 2 - SCHOOL UPDATES

Teacher Report – Emilie Sarnecki (Grade 7 & 8 teacher)

This is Emilie Sarnecki's first year at Holy Redeemer and she is enjoying it. She is teaching grade 7 and 8 students Language Arts, Social and Physical Education.

Kindergarten students are busy completing activities associated with the book "The Mitten" and learning the letter of the week.

First Grade students are having fun with the Penguin Unit, participating in the Linking Generations Program and began the new reading program Book Buzz which is a free program through the Strathcona County Library.

Second Grade students took a virtual trip to Iqaluit and learned about the people and traditions. They also began the Book Buzz Program.

Third Grade students are learning about traditions and cultures. They are practicing number sense to help with addition three-digit numbers.

Fourth Grade students are participating in the Linking Generations Program. Their senior who meets with them virtually is showing them how to make stories using Mad Libs. The senior is also in the process of writing a book and the students are assisting.

Fifth Grade students are playing lacrosse in Phys. Ed, writing short stories and learning a lot in Grandfather Teaching.

Six Grade students are playing lacrosse in Phys. Ed, just finished evidence and investigation chapter, focusing on decimals and fractions and learning about local government.

Seven Grade students just finished their math unit for fractions and decimals, novel study on "The Giver" and participating in web design.

Eight Grade students are doing a novel study on "The Outsiders", learning about persuasive writing. They are doing badminton in Phys. Ed and looking forward to a doubles tournament.

Family in Need Support Options

Andrea Minarchi has been in contact with the Family Wellness Worker, Sarah McCann but a decision has not been made on what kind of fundraiser to hold. Discussed it may need to be done virtually due to new COVID restrictions.

Administration Report – Kristine Willis-Dengler

- Christmas Concert via Youtube went well. It was nice for families to view the concert even if they could not attend in person.
- Great activities in December including RCMP virtual read-ins, the Grinch appearance and many outdoor winter activities planned by the grade k-6 teachers.
- Holy Redeemer raised approximately \$875.00 for Catholic Social Services
- Events in January include report cards going live January 28 and survey season when the accountability survey goes out to the parents
- Doreen Wabasca is meeting virtually with the students in grade k-4 through Linking Generations
- Grade 7 and 8 will attend a virtual conference, Friday, January 22 called, "Still I Rise" concerning mental health and student well being.

PART 3 - PAC Projects:

- a) CEPAC Update – Andrea Minarchi attended meeting last week

- EICS raised approximately \$7,000.00 for Valeda House through initiatives during Advent
- Valeda House closing and partnering with other shelters within Catholic Social Services
- Provided numbers of Covid cases within district. The numbers are very low indicating all efforts are working.
- ASCA (Alberta Student Council Association) a very resourceful association for PAC members is experiencing significant cut in funds which may result in a decline in support. Their virtual annual meeting is April 23-25. Andrea will attend and can pass any information to others who would like to attend
- Andrea indicated there is also a helpful Facebook group called EICS PAC

b) Fundraising Options:

- Possibility for grocery gift card fundraiser. Andrea Minarchi found a fundraiser that had numerous gift cards. Will look into that.
- Should we do another fundraiser? We need to show parents what we are doing. We should show parents that PAC partially funded subscriptions. Andrea Minarchi discussed taking a poll to get ideas on what to fund.
- Discussed being cautious going forward with setting precedents on what we spend because it is very difficult to fundraise at our small school.
- Lori Taylor suggested a read-a-thon as fundraiser. She will get further information. Council must make sure any virtual a thon does overlap (fundraiser for Stollery/Jump Rope for Heart and Stroke)

c) Yearbook:

- 2019-2020 – Angela Morin doing last minute editing. Kristine Willis-Dengler or someone else will have a look over by end of the month.
- 2020-2021 (current year). Linda Maitland and Diana Chrystian collecting photos. Need to find out if they need support.

d) Hot Lunch Program:

- Ed Kucy was going to look into whether Aimee Fontaine could be the distributor within the school. Kristine Willis-Dengler has not heard if she is able to help.
- Shrove Tuesday unable to proceed due to Covid restrictions

e) Funding School Projects:

- Shelley Leroux received receipts for two subscriptions (Mathletics and RAZ). Kristine Willis-Dengler/Ed Kucy will look into the Lexia.
 - Teachers' wish list. Kristine Willis-Dengler does not have access to forms. Council to follow up with Ed Kucy next meeting
 - Discussed the possibility of asking parents what other initiatives they would like to support
- f) Spring Dance – Kristine Willis-Dengler confirms it has not been discussed among teachers due to Covid restrictions. Council will have to monitor restrictions to see if we can possibly have an outdoor movie theatre or some other outdoor gathering once the weather is warmer.
- g) Grade 8 Farewell – Angela Morin has list of ideas. Her and Laura Lee will formally discuss plans. Kristine Willis-Dengler suggested we could begin at this point gathering photos (baby photos etc.) if we were to do a slideshow.
- h) How to get more parent involvement:
- Guest speakers at PAC meetings
 - Andrea Minarchi will send out detailed letter in email to parents discussing PAC
 - Council will establish a PAC corner in Raiders Weekly. Andrea Minarchi will submit first entry and other members to follow in coming weeks.
- i) Ideas & Additions:
- Andrea Minarchi received an email with the 2021-2022 In Principle EICS calendar. She will forward to other members
 - Angela Morin suggested a virtual guest speaker from Marmot Basin for the grade 7 and 8 students since they could not attend ski trip this year.
- j) Treasurer's Report (Shelley Leroux):
- As of December 31, 2020 balance \$48,435.74
 - Purdy's fundraiser an addition of \$1,662.54
 - Deduction for approximately \$1,400.00 for subscriptions
 - Only one outstanding cheque for hot lunch from last year
 - Wants to get books balanced and then tackle the possibility of us becoming Charitable Society

Adjournment:

Next meeting: February 16, 2021

End: 8:15 p.m.