

# **Minutes from Parent Council Meeting held February 16, 2021**

## **PART 1 – WELCOME, PRAYER AND APPROVAL**

Call to Order: 6:33 p.m.

### **Attendance:**

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

**Staff:** Ed Kucy – Principal, Kristine Willis-Dengler – Vice Principal, Jenna Twohey-Grade 3 Teacher

Opening Prayer – Kristine Willis-Dengler

Approval of January 19, 2021 Minutes – approved by Andrea Minarchi/2<sup>nd</sup> by Shelley Leroux

February 16, 2021, Agenda – approved by Catherine Cake

## **PART 2 - SCHOOL UPDATES**

### **Teacher Report – Jenna Twohey (Grade 3 teacher)**

Kindergarten students are learning their letters and sounds using jolly phonics. During the month of February, they will be focusing on feelings and emotions.

First Grade students finished their Penguin Unit, played Bingo in their virtual meeting through Linking Generations Program and had a virtual meeting with Father Jim. They are also having enjoying activities for 100 day.

Second Grade students had fun building boats in their science unit, Buoyancy. They tested the boats in a water table. For 100 day, each student brought in 100 items of something.

Third Grade students are learning about hearing and sound in science. They had a great time building structures like a bridge, tower and rocket with various items. In Religion, they are learning about Saints. In Linking Generations, their senior read to them from their novel study book.

Fourth Grade students are focusing on kindness and filling each other's buckets. They were very excited to handwrite the message in their agendas.

Seven Grade students just welcomed a student teacher, Ms. Toma. They are working on a poetry unit. They are also enjoying their Artists in Residency program. In science, the students are learning about heat and temperature.

Eight Grade students are studying integers in Math and have a unit test on Thursday. In science they are building projects for light and optic. They will be bringing in materials next week.

All students enjoyed pancakes for Shrove Tuesday which was organized by leader of the nutritional program, Aimee Fontaine.

### **Administration Report – Ed Kucy**

- Final call to complete EICS survey next week. Data is used to set goals for the schools. Parents' opinions matter.
- Students are excited about projects from the Artists in Residency.
- Black History presentation for grade 7 students next week.
- The school was able to participate in a virtual Ash Wednesday mass. They were still able to receive the ashes on their foreheads by using q-tips in order to follow covid protocols.
- New initiative in the school Spin 2 Win. Students are acknowledged for their positive acts. If a teacher or staff member see a positive choice made by a student, the student's name gets put in a draw. A name is drawn and that student gets to spin the wheel. There are numerous prizes (Dairy Queen gift card, use Principal's chair for a day, etc.) If business owners want to donate a prize or anyone has extra gifts cards, donations welcome.
- Nature Kindergarten virtual open house just took place. We are two weeks into registration and we have 22 kindergarten students and 23 nature kinders.
- Waiting for EICS surveys to come back in March. Once back, we can set goals and develop strategies to get there. As a school, we should set true priorities to see where we could use PAC funding.
- Once surveys in, it will be discussed in March and April staff meetings. Some projects may be able to start this year but most likely next year.

### **PART 3 - PAC Projects:**

#### a) Fundraising Options:

- Lori Taylor looked into read-a-thon further. A lot of work to set up initially but once set up would be a great program. Good for the students to be involved in the fundraising activities. Lori will look into program further to see what reading material requirements are and whether the reading

minutes could be cohesive with other reading within the school. Tabled and will be discussed at next meeting.

- Andrea M. may send a survey to parents to see what other fundraising would be welcomed
- Can we offer taxable receipts – Shelley L. just sent out the books to be audited Servus Canada. It will be a month or two until we hear back. She will then tackle forms to enable us to provide taxable donation receipts
- Can companies sponsor items on wish list? They can donate and be acknowledged through a letter but it's a problem not being able to provide a tax receipt.

b) Yearbook:

- 2019-2020 – Orders closed today. Approximately four weeks to ship. Approximately 40 ordered. Teachers will distribute once order is in.
- 2020-2021 (current year). Linda Maitland and Diana Chrystian only collecting photos. Need parent volunteer to put together the yearbook. Ed K. will put request in Smores. Going forward, we should target to have orders in by June and then yearbooks be delivered in September. This would encompass students leaving grade 8.

c) Hot Lunch Program:

- Hot lunch program unable to proceed this year. Frieson Brothers a great option for next year or later once covid restrictions lifted.

d) Funding School Projects:

- Tabled until surveys in and teachers have opportunity to discuss at staff meeting

e) Spring Dance – Can't plan until restrictions lifted.

f) Grade 8 Farewell – Kristine WD. has heard ABJ cancelled their graduation just doing drive by celebration. Angela M. and Laura L. will meet to discuss.

g) How to get more parent involvement:

- After PAC introductions, Andrea M. will send out email asking for feedback
- Look into guest speaker (tech tips for parents on Cyber Safety)
- Possibly a representative from a grade to do a five minute talk

h) Ideas & Additions:

- Andrea M. was gifted a box from teacher within Edmonton Catholic division. The gift box is a class set for the Four Cornerstone Teaching Strategies. It will be donated to Holy Redeemer.

i) Treasurer's Report (Shelley Leroux):

- Received an e-transfer from Alberta musical theatre for an opera attendance that was purchased in 2019 but cancelled in 2020 due to covid. Received a \$997.50 refund
- Paid RAZ and Mathletics subscription. Waiting for Lexia invoice
- Current balance \$49,688.54
- Stale dated hot lunch cheque now calling a donation
- Books sent in for audit. Will take approximately two months

Adjournment:

Next meeting: March 16, 2021

End: 7:47 p.m.