

School council minutes
Date: March 4, 2019 6:30 pm
Saint Mary School- Huntsville
Note taker: Ellen Cowden
Facilitator: Sandra Bauer Heinz

Attendees: Barbara Heeneman, Greg Avdeef, Katie Rowe, Ellen Cowden, Cheri Webster, Ron Rawlins, Sandra Bauer Heinz

Welcome and Prayer: Barbara Heeneman

Approval of previous minutes: Katie 1st, Greg 2nd

Outstanding Action Items from previous meetings: see other items in committee/objectives below

Students report: nothing at this time

Financial report from Vicky Perentesis: financial in February from Vicky – Vicky unable to attend tonight's meeting needing to confirm amounts – question around funds
Sound system, outdoor equipment - \$198.52, \$66.22, \$38.40 – Barb to confirm numbers
Ski boxes – motion to have removed – yes motion approved
Arts – Barry \$400
Improv \$450
Beanstock \$670
\$480 will go from arts enrichment approval back into total amount
\$925 back into the budget – Sand would like to finalize numbers with Vicky

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fundraising: May 1st fundraising night at Family Place Restaurant all orders will go toward the fundraising from 4 pm to 9 pm
BBQ – Catholic Education week – early May
Art auction – perhaps for next year?

Property: look at in the spring

Social: science north night – Barb reached out to them for tech night on April 4 for PRO Grant which we were just informed was approved
Skating night at arrowhead? – table for next year
Winter fun night – table for next year – not enough parent volunteers
No other activities at this point

School/parish partnership: Parish Priest is retiring, Knights of Columbus hockey tournament March 15

Pediculosis prevention: checks were completed

Council Objectives:

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Science North – Sandra to also reach out to Science North April 4th

Chair Report:

Learning Commons request: classes will sign out time, STEM activities, technology, \$200 for Wintergreen \$100 for other shipping

\$2500 for Wintergreen Learning Commons – voted and approved for Option #1 for a total of \$2500.00

PRO Grant: try to look at technology night that includes Science North again

Volunteer Recruitment: in need for a breakfast program coordinator – limited to what we serve and shop – posted on Facebook page. ½ of the volunteers for the breakfast program are staff members

Food premises regulation: schools to look at someone to be certified

Knights will be certified for the BBQ – Grant is taking this on – someone needs to be qualified by May

Principal report from Barbara Heeneman:

Our enrollment is currently at 215.

Thank you to all of our parents who volunteered with winter electives and have been driving to various events (e.g., games, athletic & club tournaments etc.).

Student Teacher: We welcome to Ms. Lexi Hammond who is on student placement from Nipissing University in grade 2/3 with Mrs. Webster until the end of March.

School Events:

* Kindergarten registration is ongoing. Please share this information with anyone who has children who are turning 4 years of age this year. It is best when parents register early as staffing numbers are decided at this time of year for the fall.

* St. Dominic is also accepting registrations and is encouraging families to register early for grade 9 as this impacts their staffing as well.

* Shrove Tuesday is tomorrow. We are thankful to all of the volunteers who are helping to make the pancakes tomorrow.

* Winter Activity day is scheduled for tomorrow March 5 during the middle block. Everyone is reminded to dress appropriately. Extra socks and mitts are recommended. Thank you to Ms. Bond for organizing us this year.

* Our Ash Wednesday Mass will be held on March 6 in our gymnasium. We thank Mrs. Baumgart and her class for their leadership in organizing the Mass.

* We will collect for the Lenten Food Drive “Forty Items in Forty Days” from March 6 – April 17. Thank you to Mrs. Webster and her class for leading this.

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* We have one team that will be competing at the Junior Math Olympics. They will compete on March 27, 2019. Thank you to Mrs. Baumgart for coaching.

* Hydro One will be coming to Saint Mary's on March 18 & 19 to provide safety presentations to grades 1 – 8.

* The Grade 8's are launching the Don's Bakery Muskoka Fundraiser to help offset the cost of their year-end trip to Niagara Falls on June 4, 5 & 6, 2019. Families are welcome to put in an order at the office, with Mrs. Godard or see any of the grade 8 students. Orders and payment must be submitted by March 29, 2019 to avoid disappointment.

* Leadership is having a spirit day on Friday March 22, 2019. Students have been divided into house teams and each have a colour for their "House team".

* Science North will be coming to Saint Mary's for workshops for JK – Grade 3/4. They will also lead an interactive show for the entire school.

* Holy Thursday – Hunger Meal is scheduled for April 18, 2019. Information was sent in the March Newsletter. Students in JK – 3 will once again need parental permission to participate.

Winter Electives:

* The school needed to help subsidize a number of students this year. It is possible that we will need to reduce the number of dates from three to two in order to keep costs down. The school will also explore funding from the OPP.

Mayor Aitchison Visit:

* Mayor Aitchison came to visit Saint Mary's on February 6, 2019 to speak about the importance of face-to-face verbal communication. Students were able to test out their skills and tell him what they love about Huntsville and voice their opinions on making improvements for our town. The Mayor is launching a new public speaking competition for students in grades 6 – 8 in late May.

Drumming Workshops with Bazza:

- On February 27, 2019 each of our classes had the opportunity to participate in a drumming workshop provided by Barry Hayward of Rhythmicity. The students greatly enjoyed this hands-on workshop as they explored all of the drums and other instruments. Thank to the CSCC for sponsoring this day.

Junior/Intermediate Public Speaking & Primary Reading:

- On Friday February 22, 2019 we had an amazing variety of poems and topics presented to the school. Thank you to Mr. Mantha, Mrs. Gelderbloem, Mrs. Begg and Mrs. Park for being our school judges. Congratulations to all of our public speaking participants and to Eden M. (junior) and Joe P. (intermediate) for getting the top scores in their respective divisions.

Chromebook Update:

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* We are grateful to an anonymous donation that was received just prior to the Christmas break. We were able to purchase 14 Chromebooks for the intermediate division.

Robotics Update:

* The team has competed in two tournaments this year (December & January). Mrs. Webster attended today the provincial competition in Brampton on Saturday March 2. The team was invited to attend due to their skill challenge scores. The school paid the \$100 fee to attend. Thank you to the parents who drove on Saturday.

* We will be sending two teams to compete on Wednesday April 3, 2019 at St. Catherine of Siena School for the SMCDSB elementary competition.

Royal Canadian Legion Remembrance Day Poster and Poem Contests:

* We had great participation in the Legion's Remembrance day poster and poem contests. Many of our students placed in the top three for their category/division. Congratulations to Colleen H., Hailey B., Madeline S., Jocelyn A., Justin C., Clare W., Emerson L., and Eliza P., for receiving awards. We also thank Ms. Payne and Mr. Romanow for all of their support with the Legion contests.

Calendar Consultation:

– Feedback was requested regarding the SMCDSB Elementary and Secondary Calendars for 2019-2020.

Library Learning Commons:

* The school has purchased quite a significant amount of equipment and resources for the Learning Commons.

* Mrs. Smith has put together a request to the CSCC for furnishings, as we would like to enhance this area even further. Please refer to the three quotes and video that was shared. This area supports all learners in the school.

Knight of Columbus:

* Saint Mary's made a donation request to the Knight of Columbus in order to support sending 8 girls to the Opening Doors of Muskoka event that is being held in April. The Knights have generously agreed to donate the \$200 fee (\$25 x 8 students = \$200) so that the school can send the students to this amazing event held at the Bracebridge Sportsplex.

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School Day:

* Training scheduled for office staff for School Day is scheduled for late March. More details will be shared with the CSCC as they become available

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PRO Grant:

- The Finance depart has confirmed that the Ministry has sent Saint Mary's the PRO grant for the Technology proposal that was sent in last May. The school has reached out to

Science North to see if they are available to come in the evening on April 4, 2019 as they are already coming for daytime workshops and a school show on that day.

Parent Engagement Involvement Funding Consultation:

* \$500 is available. In the past, council indicated that they wish to continue using the funds to cover the cost of the agendas for the allocation.

Athletics/Co-curricular/Clubs:

* Volleyball for Intermediate Boys and Girls has finished. Thank you to Mrs. Godard for coaching. The Girls took home third overall. The Boys were crowned North Muskoka Champions.

* Our Nordic Ski team competed at their final race on Friday March 1. The day was filled with personal bests, first time racers, sunshine and fun. Thank you to their coaches Mrs. Webster, Mrs. Bond and Mrs. Baumgart.

* Our Hockey team will be competing in two tournaments this year. The first tournament will be held in Bracebridge on March 21 and the second is set for March 28 in Parry Sound. Thank you to Mrs. Bunker for supervising and Mr. Urbanski for coaching.

* Badminton will be starting up shortly.

Adjourned at 8:10 pm