

**School Council Minutes
Saint Mary's School Huntsville
September 16th, 2019 6:30pm**

Facilitator: Sandra Bauer Heinz

Secretary: Katie Rowe

ATTENDEES: Barbara Heeneman, Cheri Webster, Sandra Bauer Heinz, Katie Rowe, Mabel Claer, Chantelle Armstrong, Greg Avdeeff, Mary Avdeeff, Trevor Saari, Kim MacDonald, Sonya Martins

WELCOME AND PRAYER:

Barbara Heeneman

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Sandra 1st, Greg 2nd

ELECTIONS FOR 2019/2020

- Secretary- Katie
- Treasurer- Sandra to check with Vicky, if not, Sonya
- Vice Chair- Katie
- Chair- Sandra

Committee Chairs:

- Social- No Lead
- Fundraising- No Lead, but Katie will continue with the chocolate fundraiser
- Property- No Lead
- School/Parish Partnership- No Lead
- Pediculosis Prevention- Sonya
- Communications- No Lead

OUTSTANDING ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

See other items in committee/objectives below.

STUDENTS REPORT:

No Student Present.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Balance in the Account: \$7,232

Committed Funds: \$6,200

Chocolate Bar Invoice: \$7,361.95 (can be paid after sale)

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Social:

- Nothing to Report

Fundraising:

- Chocolate Fundraiser
 - September 19th-October 17th
 - Kim/Sonya/Katie to collect money and returned bars on Tuesdays and Thursdays
 - Goal \$7,000
 - Katie will spend up to \$200 in prizes, plus pizza party
 - Prizes from company coming Tuesday
 - Katie will set up Display Cabinet for prizes and Competition Graph for classes
 - Katie will organize boxes on Thursday to go home and for the BBQ- others will volunteer as needed at the BBQ
 - Any leftover chocolate bars can be sold at the CWL Bizarre on October 26th
- Need Fundraisers for later in the year
 - Gift Card Fundraiser
 - Discount Card Fundraiser- Katie will look in to
 - Need more ideas- everyone come with more ideas to October's meeting

Property:

- Sand
 - Barb received quote from Hutcheson for \$750+
 - We have a volunteer with a truck that can deliver once we find a good quote
- Edging
 - Edging needs to be done around swing area
- Posts
 - Chantelle will contact soccer club and town to get recommendations for someone who can fix
- Pavement
 - Anyone available can meet September 21st at 10am at the school to paint Bike Track and Four Squares
 - Sandra will get paint and supplies
 - Cheri will bring paint trays
- Swings
 - Swings did not pass inspection. We only have 1 accessible swing and 1 regular swing which will likely need replaced soon as well.
 - Barb to look into cost of replacing 2-3 swings for October's meeting

School-Parish Partnership:

- Nothing to Report

Pediculosis Prevention:

- Nothing to Report

COUNCIL OBJECTIVES:

- Family Tree
 - Use 2 of 3 boards in front hallway so 1 can be used for Parent Council communication
 - Possibly use Bristol board so it lasts longer
 - School photos should be available mid October

- Barb to send reminder out in October Newsletter to bring in Family Photos with names so we can build our tree back up
- Cheri to check with Staff regarding any feedback

CHAIR REPORT:

- CPIC
 - Anyone interested can see Barb for application
 - They meet 4-5 times a school year
- PA Day Agenda
 - Circulated
- Board Insurance
 - Needed for events off site
 - Costs \$151.20
 - Voted to decline it
- Coffee Hour
 - Was run by the Health Unit/Principal at the time
 - More interest in focusing on social events rather than starting this up again

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

- Enrollment
 - Our enrollment is up significantly and we are currently at 230. As a result, we have been allocated another teacher and a 1/2 class was created. We are excited about this growth as it is a testament to value many families place on receiving a Catholic education in Muskoka. This change in class structure will benefit and improve the learning environment for our students. A great deal of time and thought has gone into the revision of classroom assignments. As always, our goal as a staff is to create balanced classes in terms of the learning strengths and needs of our students. Every effort was made to minimize the disruption and to make the transition for all students a smooth one. We have completed our restructuring and our class placements have been finalized for the remainder of the school year. We will also be getting a portable on-site that will be arriving later this fall.
- Board Theme "*Called To Be Our Story*"
 - Every year, our Board chooses a spiritual theme. This year, we are continuing to reflect on the theme of "*Called To Be Our Story*"—and we will look at it from some new angles that highlight important aspects of our Board's work.
 - Our founding story is the story told in the Bible—and we are reminded that it begins with the story of God's Creation. Our story is the story of our planet, and of the entire universe around us, and so "*BEING our story*" calls us to stewardship and care for the environment—what Pope Francis calls "*our common home*". How can we, as believers, show respect and care for this world, in all its beauty, variety and richness? What are we being called to do?
- Staffing
 - A posting has gone out for the 1/2 permanent position. Every effort will be made to hire as soon as possible. In the meantime, Mrs. Rebecca Gilkinson one of our occasional teachers is teaching the 1/2 class. All staff have worked together to create a warm and welcoming environment in room 119 for this class.
 - Elementary Guidance Teachers have been hired again in the board to support for Grade 7 & 8 students. Mrs. Laurie Mask, has been assigned to Saint Mary's will be working with our Grade 7 and 8 students this school year. She will be focusing on Career and Individual Pathway Planning, as well as supporting the important transition from elementary to secondary school.

- School Events
 - Community BBQ and Scholastic Book Fair is on September 19 from 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm. We are thankful that the Knights of Columbus are cooking for us that evening. Our intermediate division will host “Minute to Win It” games to support their fundraising efforts for leadership camping.
 - The school is participating in the Annual Terry Fox fundraiser on October 4 (*revised date) during the last block of the day (1:55 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.). Staff are once again giving incentive prizes to encourage fundraising efforts. Thank you to Ms. Payne for organizing this event.
 - School Photo Day is on Wednesday September 25, 2018 (Re-takes October 29)
 - Our Opening Mass with Father Paul will be celebrated this Wednesday, September 18 at 9:15 a.m. in our gymnasium. We thank Mrs. Baumgart for her leadership in organizing our opening celebration.
- Playground Inspection
 - Exposed weed mat and grass encroaching in the primary yard swing area.
 - Sand is needed. Quote from Hutchinson was for \$750 + HST.
- Balance Day
 - We have transitioned nicely into our updated Balance Day Schedule, which now includes two 45 minute Nutrition Breaks. Our daily schedule is listed below:
 - 8:45 am *Classes Begin*
 - 8:45 am - 10:45 am *Learning Block #1 (120 min)*
 - 10:45 am - 11:30 am *Nutrition/Recess Break #1 (40 min)*
 - 11:30 am - 1:10 pm *Learning Block #2 (100 min)*
 - 1:10 am - 1:55 pm *Nutrition/Recess Break #2 (40 min)*
 - 1:55 pm – 3:15 pm *Learning Block #3 (80 min)*
 - 3:15 pm *Dismissal (*Note later time)*
- School Day Online Ordering: Milk & Pizza
 - Products can be ordered in School Day between September 11 – 23, 2019
 - We will be using School Day for Milk and Pizza orders this year. Milk and Pizza orders are available to purchase through School Day effective September 11 – 23, 2019. Late orders will not be accepted. Milk will cost \$1.00 and Pizza is \$2.00 per slice. Pizza will be once again distributed at the first Nutrition Break on Wednesdays as in previous years. If busses are cancelled during the winter months, Pizza Day will be the following school day. Please be sure to complete a separate product order for each child in your family. If you have any questions about registering School Day, kindly call Mrs. Hetherington in the office.
- Upcoming P.A. Days
 - Our first P.A. Day is scheduled for Friday September 27. A copy of our Agenda is posted on the office door and has also been shared with our CSCC Chair.
 - Our October P.A. Day is scheduled for Monday October 21, 2019 – more details will be forthcoming.
 - Friday November 15, 2019 is scheduled for Parent/Teacher Conferences.
 - There are no classes for students on P.A. Days, please help to share this information.
- Sacramental Preparation Sessions at St. Mary the Assumption
 - Parent Information Sessions are being held on September 23 at the church.
 - 6:30 p.m. First Holy Communion & Reconciliation
 - 7:00 p.m. Confirmation
- Electronic Newsletters & New “School Messenger” Communication Tool
 - Our September newsletter was sent in hard copy to all families (youngest & only). It indicated that all other newsletters will be sent electronically. If a family still requires a hard copy we asked that they kindly notify the office.
 - SMCDsB has purchased and will be implementing a new communication tool called “School Messenger”. It will enable SMCDsB to contact parents and guardians easily via text message and/or voice callout. This system will be critical in ensuring that needs to be delivered in a timely manner to families particularly in emergency situations. In order to ensure a successful rollout of this new tool,

we must verify that contact information are accurate and up-to-date. Student Verification forms will be sent home the week of September 16, 2019. Parents/Guardians are asked to carefully review the information contained in the Student Verification Form and indicate any changes/updates on the form and return to the school prior to the scheduled P.A. Day on September 27, 2019.

- We will phasing out using our current e-blast platform.
- Athletics/Co-curricular/Clubs
 - Mrs. Baumgart & Mrs. Webster have been practicing with the cross-country team. They look forward to their upcoming meet on September 26 at Hoya Hills.
 - Basketball teams have been selected for Intermediate Boys and Girls. Thank you to Mrs. Godard for coaching.
 - Drama Club will be meeting once a week with Mrs. Claer.
 - Yearbook Club is running and it will be a whole school yearbook. Thank you to Mrs. Claer and Mrs. Caradonna.
 - Ukulele Club will Mrs. Rankin will also be meeting weekly with Mrs. Rankin.
 - Science club is also starting this week with Mrs. Rankin and Mr. Romanow.
 - Our Green Team is also starting up thanks to Mrs. Baumgart.
 - Robotics is also starting this month thanks to Mrs. Webster.

COMING CSCC MEETINGS:

October 7th

November 4th

December 2nd

Adjourned at 8:15pm