

St. Paul Catholic School Catholic School Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 7th, 2021

Present: Karin George, Nickie Harrison, Madonna Howell, Lori McCaw, Donna Power, Cathy Pye, Elva Strome, Victoria Vajda, Lisa Romano, Phil Carney

Prayer & Intentions

Adoption of the Agenda

Approval of September Minutes

Motion to approve put forward by Cathy Pye

Motion seconded by Donna Power

Treasurers Report

Balance of the account – \$5025.48

No deposits since October 14th

Principal's Report

- Foundation silent auction – each school and/or school council donated a prize. St. Paul donated some framed student photography, binoculars etc. (bird themed). The auction closes tonight at 8:15
- Next semester – quads or semesters? A parent survey went out seeking input about what the preferred mode is. This survey was sent to parents from Algonquin & Lakeshore CDSB, Hastings Prince Edward DSB and Limestone DSB. Survey closes this Friday, December 10th and a decision will be made after it closes.
 - Question – how are kids doing with the quadmester or octomester mode, vs. regular semesters? Answer – it's mixed. Students have a variety of preferences. Some like having only two courses at a time, while others prefer the stretched-out length of semesters.
- School picture day – booked for Wednesday, January 5th
- Uniform committee – a handful of students and staff have joined the committee. They have been asked to talk to whoever they can to get some ideas. Hopefully a meeting can be convened during early January to look at the McCarthy catalogue to see what we can find that matches the ideas gathered.
- School security systems are nearly 100% functional. We are looking at more cameras for inside of the school, but this year there have been incidences of vandalism to cars outside in the parking lot. The school board has hired a surveillance company who can purchase and install cameras for a much nicer price. Looking at relocating a camera from inside to outside, and to install additional cameras in a couple of blind spots that still exist within the school building. The cameras help school leaders and staff to deal with issues and concerns in a timely manner. The costs would be roughly \$2000 all-in. Asking if Catholic School Council would be able to contribute to this.
 - Motion from Cathy Pye to contribute the full \$2000. Motion seconded by Donna. Vote will go out via email to give all members of CSC a chance to respond
 - 5 more members voted in favour of supporting the request. No one was opposed.

Teacher Rep Report – Nickie Harrison

- Ms. Cozzi organized a trip to the Christmas Tree Farm for the students from the Lifeskills Development Centre and a virtual field trip to the zoo. This coming Monday the students

- Christmas Sharing Baskets are rolling in. Items are due by Monday, December 13th so that baskets can get out to the community in time for Christmas.
- Ms. Gauthier's grade 9 Religion classes have been preparing Advent liturgies for the school community. Videos are shared to a private YouTube channel.
- Next Wednesday, all grade 10 students will be visiting the Sir James Whitney campus to visit and learn about the 4 tech programs offered there. Students will choose two of interest to participate in. Funding is covered by the Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) program, including bussing and lunch. Students chose using a Microsoft form. Permission forms are due ASAP.

Student Council Report

- Council is planning a Christmas spirit week for next week. Previously, they have planned a spirit week in October, and some activities around bullying awareness & prevention week.
- Student council also sponsored 3 children for snowsuits again this year.

Catholic School Council Business

- Parents Reaching Out Grant – completed by Mrs. Romano on behalf of council, as a school board email address was required to submit. Superintendent Faught is looking into getting a couple of different school councils together to bring Dr. Alex Russell (“Drop the Worry Ball”) as a speaker.
- Student awards from the 2020-2021 school year – the school is working on this. The secondary side of thing is organized, but the elementary side is trickier due to a new student information system. The school is awaiting more information from the board, and once that is received, the awards will be presented to students. The goal is to keep the elementary and secondary awards ceremonies together, rather than separating the two, as this unites the school community.
- Question – how do remote learners in classes that include labs (Chemistry, physics, etc.) participate and receive grades?
Answer -
- New portal for the trades – Madonna mentioned that it looks like it will be a great tool for students or even community members who are interested in going into the trades, looking for work in the trades, etc. As soon as she receives more information, Madonna will share it with council.

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 20th 2022 at 6:00 pm

- **Please contact Mrs. Romano or Mr. Carney if you would like to join the virtual meeting**