

CSPC Meeting Minutes – April Meeting

Date: Wednesday April 19th, 2017

Time: 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Location: St. Gregory School Staff Room

Meeting Attendees: Jennifer Pyz, Carla Marchetti, Christina Sachanowicz, Vanessa Thomas, Stephen Thomas, Julie D’Aprile, Matthew Akelaitis, Phil Vokins, Celia Goncalves, Diana Morrone, Joe Pannozzo, Monika Boszormenyiova, Kelly Chong, Dori Falcone, Jacqueline Wewior, Marj Bridger, Maria Skinner, Andria Dametto

CSPC Members apologies: Luana Fanelli, Susan Rowlison, Sonia O’Brien, Nataliya Arcidiacono, Daniela Balsamo, Lori Tenuta

Meeting called by CSPC Co-Chair Phil Vokins

Opening Prayer led by Principal Pannozzo

Guest Speaker Carla Marchetti

- Premise of fundraising is that funds raised in a particular year should be used that year to benefit the children at the current time
- The rights that this council has to amend the bylaws and constitution rules is the same that future councils will have - if they choose to amend it back or change it again they can by calling a “Special Meeting” EGM
- Process is as a council we would have a subcommittee of council members look at what is to be amended and then majority of council has to agree. At the AGM in September it would be presented to everyone in the parent community that attends and they can vote to accept, reject or amend as proposed

- As a parent council we are able to make a recommendation only - and if its accepted by the majority at the AGM it can pass
- The bylaw to keep the funds saved for a certain incentive could be amended by future councils, this article could be changed by that council calling a meeting and getting the majority vote
- If funds designated for a certain incentive are no longer needed for that particular initiative they can be changed to another incentive if the new council so chooses
- Certain initiatives may change in funding (cost of A/C as an example) so what is a certain amount now may not be that amount in a few years
- Facility changes may not be accepted by the facilities team as it potentially changes their annual budget operating budget - they have to approve in advance
- Looking at a 2-3 year project is to have the full intent of the project clarified and outlined so that the project can be completed in that time frame (i.e. playground - this year we do primary yard, second year big yard, third yard finishing touches) that way every year it's like an independent project being completed
- There is nothing that can be put into the constitution that will force the next council to adhere to whatever initiative is selected by current council - each council has the right to choose what they want to fundraise and/or spend on

- Number of people at the AGM doesn't matter - the vote for majority would just need to be 50% plus 1
- Facilities (when meeting with Council) will let us know what we can fundraise for and what we can't and what the future maintenance will potentially cost and who will be responsible for it. Board wants no additional cost onus if the item (i.e. A/C) was to break down and need repair
- An EGM ("Special Meeting") can be called by this council instead of waiting for the AGM if it is felt that the need is great to get this initiative in order (3-4 weeks' notice would suffice)
- If there are no amendments at the AGM for the constitution we would note there are no amendments this year and dissolve the existing council (present parent council is in office until the new council has their first meeting - once executive council is elected)
- Current constitution says that whoever wants to make the wording change would need to send it to the secretary 45 in advance of any vote. From there it would need to be sent out ten days prior to the parent community (in advance of voting) if the vote doesn't pass the constitution says that the same item (amendment change) cannot be voted on again for one year

Co-Chair Report - led by Julie D`Aprile and Phil Vokins

- Facilities has been reluctant to work with council regarding the potential initiative to save for A/C - a meeting has been booked for later this month so potential answers will be provided

- Although wording in current constitution says we can save for a joint long term venture as long as council and Mr. Pannozzo are in agreement, the protection of the funds was why Carla Marchetti was asked to come in and clarify (to see if there was any)
- It is proposed by Julie that the IT budget be increased to implement purchasing 24 new ipads (and accessories; speakers, reading/learning programs) so that there would be two full carts of ipad for the primaries to sign out as they currently only have one per classroom. An IT audit was done and the current system isn't working well. The original proposal email was sent April 2, 2017 so 30 days are needed - voting will commence at the next CSPC meeting
- It is pointed out that if money is spent now we can focus on the IT long term and getting all the necessary technology in the school currently, as we have already done with the Junior and Intermediates regarding the chrome books
- It is important we provide all the same opportunities for all the children in the school to have the same level of technology (1:1)
- Junior and Intermediate teachers have the ability to sign out two full carts of notebooks and a full cart of chrome books
- Subway Subs lunches raised \$2,694.50 this year (7 days trial run) It was a success and will be back next year
- With those funds Julie D'Aprile proposes we purchase the gym safety mats that are needed for physical education (\$2,105 + taxes) \$2,378.65 as the current ones are falling apart and will not adhere safely- this will be voted on at the next meeting

Principals Report - led by Mr. Panno

- Father John is finishing his term at St. Greg's at the end of the month - no new replacement has been named
- Enrollment for 2017 looks to be 743. About 30 new Kindergarteners are already being redirected to nearby schools (most of these are tier 2 so in boundary addresses) Proper documents are required to register (utility bill, property tax bill, home deed)
- Police Officer came in yesterday to speak with the kids about lock downs and the process. 4 lockdowns are required yearly. He suggested there should be a lockdown down when the kids are in transition as well which is something that is currently in the planning stages
- Chess Club has ended - tournaments upcoming
- Track and field and soccer are beginning
- Thursday April 20th Junior students are putting on a theatre production at 6:30
- BRICKS assembly has passed and forms are pending submission
- First week of May is Catholic Education week, Thursday May 4th at 6:30 is an open house for parents to come to the gym and view all the good works the kids and teachers have done to celebrate Canada's 150th Birthday
- May 24-26th EQAO Grade 6, Grade 3 EQAO is May 29-31st

- Share life Civvies day raised \$800, next Friday there will be a civvies day for Autism awareness
- ARTucate was successful and the best yet - lots of positive feedback from students and parents
- Swim Team will be participating at centennial meet on the 29th-30th
- Bingo night Thursday April 27th at 6:30 (pizza dinner starting at 6)
- Last 10 chromebooks arrived, projector has also arrived, RAZ Books are purchased and in use
- Officer Rich will be visiting the FDK and Grade 1 students May 11th
- An Officer has come in already to speak with the grade 6-8 students about social media and cyber bullying
- Two portables will be put at the school for next year (September 2017)

2017 Treasurer's Update

- **Treasurer's Report Attached**
- Tier 2 ITEMS - Voted on
- SIS \$5,571 - NO

- Extended French \$400 - YES
- Book Club/Kids Lit/ Library Materials \$1500 - ABSTAIN (In till May)
- Drama & Presentations \$1000 - YES
- Sacramental Lunch \$500 - YES
- Graduation \$500 - YES
- Teacher Appreciation Lunch \$600 - YES
- Liturgical Tables \$1000 - NO
- Swim Team \$500 - NO
- Fitness Health & Safety \$1000 - NO
- Chairs \$1000 - YES
- Music \$700 - YES
- MVP Scoreboard \$700 - NO
- Buttons \$440 - NO
- Hockey Jerseys \$1500- ABSTAIN (In till May)
- Phys Ed Equipment - \$500

Luana Fanelli's proxy vote was held by Phil Vokins. Lori Tenuta's proxy vote was held by Jen Pyz.

2017 Subcommittee Update

- Jen updated that ARTucate made about \$8100 gross (some expenses are still coming through) committee will be meeting next week to discuss final numbers and brain-storm suggestions for what the proceeds can be spent on next year
- It is brought up whether the funds be used this year as the other fundraisers profits are - Jen advises she will speak with the ARTucate subcommittee about their ideas and plans and bring the discussion to the next CSPC meeting
- It is stipulated by the treasurer that the funds should be put to a vote like other budget revenue - further discussion will commence at a later time
- Phil updates that Marathon is a go May 7th - you have to register individually and fundraise with sponsorship forms that are separate and for St Gregs specifically

- Boundary Review is being decided at the board level and by the Trustees. While we may have individual positions, the Council needs to be representative of every parent and therefore does not take an official stance. We have had strongly worded complaints from a non parent at the school (nor do we understand if the gentleman is planning to be a part of our school community) that Council is taking a stance and engaging in political activity by publishing the enrolment figure on our website. We have written a firm yet polite response back which points out that the enrolment figure has been published for many years and so could not have been placed there to politic in any way. The gentleman has not responded with an acknowledgement, but since raised new complaints and also now publicly questioned our budget process. We have attempted to be open and welcoming even in the face of what appears to be some hostility, and invited him to attend Council or meet with Mr. Pannozzo, and again answered his new complaints politely, but have received no response. It is therefore likely that in reality the gentleman's complaints have little to nothing to do with the Parent Council. We are in touch with the board and trustees who have been copied and in any event hope the issue will disappear with a board resolution expected imminently on the boundary question.
- A second boundary question was raised by the Co-Chair with respect to Secondary School Admissions, which may affect all parents in some way
- A brief overview of the status of the DRAFT Admissions and Placement of Pupils Policy - Secondary School was provided by Phil (**see attached**). The Policy will be sent out for consultation by the Board. The proposed policy will implement fixed boundaries. Each grade 8 student will be directed to one (1) co-educational secondary school based on the proximity of the elementary school to the secondary school. Students will have the option of selecting one other co-educational secondary school. Admission to that school may be granted pending space availability, program availability, and proximity of the secondary school of choice to the home address of the student. Once the Policy is

distributed for consultation, a complete review of the Policy and any implications will be undertaken and reviewed with Council.

Other Items

- Marj and Mrs. Pires are working on the welcome to Kindergarten orientation bags for Kindergarten Orientation night. There are not enough bags so more had to be ordered for a total of \$328.00 (Council's portion - which would be the difference in the influx of bag price changes from \$6 to \$14) Marj proposes we cover it, motion is passed.

Goodnight and meeting closed by Co-Chairs Phil Vokins and Julie D`Aprile