

St. Gregory Catholic School Advisory Council

Minutes of meeting for Tuesday November 16, 2010.

Attendees: Daniela Balsamo, Frank Massari, Adam Grnak, Riccardo Agostino, John Cassidy, Jackie Dansereau, Nancy Barone, Michelle Niedbala, Rick Sarabia, Angela Severino, Jeanine Larmour, Anne Mishko, Vince Arone, Debbie Birks, Anne Shaw, Suzanne Tiefenbeck.

- 1) 7:05 – Welcome and opening prayer – Mr. Cassidy

Chair's report – Adam Grnak

- 2) The website is up and running. This will be CSAC's primary communication tool from now on. There will be a section created that is password protected that can contain more details regarding students (ie photos, names etc)
- 3) CSAC will have a manned table at the Thursday evening Parent/Teacher interviews. Coffee will be served. It is requested that we ensure the children do not serve themselves coffee.
- 4) The CPIC summit focused on Engaging Parents – and we are already planning many of the community building events suggested.
- 5) Welcome to Ms. Barone, the teacher rep for CSAC.
- 6) It is requested that any further changes to CSAC's meeting days be made in June so that families have a chance to properly schedule for them. The meeting days were recently changed from every third Wed to every third Tues evening.
- 7) Sorry to advise that Michael Olah has had to resign from CSAC due to scheduling conflict. We thank him for his contributions and he will be missed.

Principal's Report – Mr. Cassidy

- 8) Mr. Cassidy advises that the school population is back to normal after the flu outbreak situation. He is pleased with the way the community, the board and Public Health responded. There have been no issues related to this for over 2 weeks.
- 9) The new report cards called 'progress reports' have been distributed. Advises November is too early to be able to properly grade the students. Detailed information is available on the board website.
- 10) The boys and girls volleyball teams both won at their tournaments. The boys are going to the city tournament and the girls are to play on Wed Nov 17th.
- 11) The Christmas concert is planned for Dec 15th. This is for primary students only. The school will look into a spring talent show to allow for contributions from the junior and intermediate students.

Vice Principal's Report – Mr. Agostino

- 12) The primary soccer house league and running club are going well. The school has plans to expand the house league to include the juniors and intermediates later in the year.
- 13) The school learning plan is complete. Will focus on literacy and numeracy. Will measure the data by following the EQAO and CAT3 marks for the same group of children as they progress through the grades, instead of comparing the same grade level year after year. The complete learning plan is available on the board website.
- 14) Key assessments are a tool used by teachers to be able to gauge how well the students absorbed a certain lesson plan. They are short and are part of the instructional day.

Treasurer's Report – Frank Massari

- 15) The Interim report is available. There are no unusual items to report.
- 16) Scientist in the School has invoiced the office for this month.

Sub-Committee Reports

Budget – Michelle Niedbala

- 17) The updated CSAC approved budget is available on the website.
- 18) The LCD electrical charge was covered by the board.

Pizza – Daniela Balsamo

- 19) The decision to keep Pizza Nova and the price at \$2 per slice was put to a vote. 9 votes counted.

Technology – Rick Sarabia

- 20) The decision to complete the LCD project is considered phase 1. Phase 2 will address the wish-list which includes more smartboards and laptops. There are 15 more LCDs to be purchased to complete the school. Extra funds are required to update the computers and to train the staff. We require about \$14,000.00 more to finish.
- 21) There are some smaller and less expensive accessories that the teachers require to help them use the technology more efficiently. (ie speakers and wireless items)
- 22) Plans to make parents aware of the value for their funds include demonstrations at community building events and on the website.

Fundraising – Angie Severino

- 23) Plans to utilize some of the off-pizza Thursdays might be well received by parents (ie Swiss Chalet or Subway lunch) Motion to have one for December 9th: Anne Mishko, 2nd Jeanine Larmour.
- 24) Before Christmas we will run the FundScrip program which allows people to purchase gift cards for major retail/restaurant/service chains and have some money raised for the school. Motion to launch before Christmas: Jeanine Larmour, 2nd Rick Sarabia.

Community Involvement- Anne Mishko

- 25) Movie night flyers went home last week. Date: Nov26th. We have 160 people planning to attend and 100 planning to purchase food.
- 26) Family Skate party planned for Feb 6th. We will charge a \$2 per person entrance fee and all snacks will be free. Motion to adopt: Daniela Balsamo, 2nd Rick Sarabia.

Health & Safety – Jeanine Larmour

- 27) The Anti-bullying bookmarks are ready to go. Students to individualize the backs and have them laminated and returned. Thank you to the Mishko and Severino families for making this possible.

Kidssetials – Jackie Dansereau

- 28) We currently have 276 students ordering for Tuesday lunches. They have agreed to return \$0.25 per meal – projected to the end of the year we could have \$2100.00 back from the company.

Pastoral Council – Vince Arone

- 29) Religious education for the sacraments has been scheduled. The details are available on the church website. They are looking for educator volunteers.
- 30) The pew fundraiser has begun. The church needs about \$3700 per pew. The church enquires if the school/CSAC would be interested in making a donation.

9:00pm – meeting adjourned