

St. Gregory Catholic School Advisory Council – Wednesday June 19, 2013

Attendees: Adam Grnak, Gabrielle Benedek, Arlene Martin, Anna Iwasykiw, Edward Filippozzi, Luanna Fanelli, Anne Mishko, Vita Peri, Lori Tenuta, Melanie Fernandez-Alvares, Gina D'Alessandro, Jennifer Pyz, Angela Severino, Lisette Santos, Maria Skinner, Vince Arone, Fr. John Bertao, Armando Arauz, Elsa Passera-Berardi, Tina Hall, Nadine Lustri, Nancy Donnaperna, Tanya Giaquinto, Karen Loughlan-Plut, Vito Vacarelli, Domenic Ruso and Daniela Balsamo.

7:05pm – Father John leads council in the opening prayer.

Add to agenda: Melanie Fernandez-Alvares would like to speak about new members and the council.

Much Music Video Dance Party – Rob Dice

- Age appropriate music and videos.
- The event takes about 3 weeks with lead up and the actual dance.
- There is a flat rate cost depending on the day of the week chosen. M-W \$1300.00, Th \$1400.00 and Fri\$1500.00
- They provide incentives to get the older kids involved i.e. winning the chance to be the guest host.

Mrs. Iwasykiw is leaving St. Gregs to become a Vice Principal at St. Pius. Council presented her with flowers and CSAC will dedicate two books to the school library in her honour. Other book dedications from a previous assembly were for Mrs. Martin who is leaving St. Gregs to become Principal at St. Roberts, and Mrs. Reilly who is retiring from the school board after 34 years. Mrs. Christine Vieira recently celebrated 40 years with the school board. CSAC had previously presented her with flowers and a necklace.

Chair Report – Adam Grnak

- 1) CSAC meeting minutes from the May 22, 2013 meeting were approved and posted.
- 2) Run-A-Thon winners were: Joshua Skuce, Maja Mandaric and Joseph Ali. Class winners were Mrs. Mulvihill, Mr. Zinko and Mlle. Carniel's classes. The event raised about \$4500.00 after expenses and half will be presented to St. Mark's school.
- 3) There was a suggestion to have a more transparent process in place in case we wish to choose other schools to share fundraising proceeds with in the future.
- 4) Parents advise they do not appreciate suggested amounts on fundraising forms.
- 5) The Family Fun BBQ went well and raised about \$2000.00.
- 6) The Sacramental Luncheon was a success and a big thank you goes to the teachers and volunteers, and to Fr. John for offering the use of the church hall for the event. CSAC would like to thank Karen for a wonderful afternoon.
- 7) The graduation ceremonies are planned for Thurs June 20th and Friday June 21st. The frame that will be given to the grade 8 graduates was presented at CSAC.
- 8) Grass rehab in the green space needs volunteers. Suggestions were to plan it for the end of the last day of school. The fertilizer and seed were donated.
- 9) The Curriculum BBQ is planned for Tuesday Sept 24th.

Principal's Report – Gabrielle Benedek

- 10) This was a fast and wonderful year.
- 11) EQAO and CAT4 are all done. Results are expected in the fall.
- 12) A play day has been planned for the last week of school. Grade 6 and 7 will be captains.
- 13) The mulch for the kindergarten yard has not yet arrived.
- 14) The school elevators are working but temperamental. Students who require the use of them are accompanied by an adult.
- 15) St. Gregs is slated to start full day kindergarten Sept 2014.
- 16) There is a change in the JK/SK schedule for the upcoming year. There will be 2 classes with space for only 9 JKs in the morning and 3 classes in the afternoon.
- 17) The rotary program for the grade 8 students has many factors to take into consideration. There were no significant differences this year in grades or behaviour. It prepares the students for the change in high school, but the necessary staff need to be available to make it work.
- 18) The new Vice Principal for St. Gregs is Mrs. Katherine Van Dinter.

Treasurer's Report – Domenic Ruso

- 19) Domenic presented the Financial Statements for the period ended June 18, 2013, so that Council has an accurate as possible picture of the operating results for this school year before council breaks for the summer holidays. Fund raising revenue was \$10,829 lower than budget. Capital expenditures were \$9,449 less than budget. The net of these two budget items was \$1,380 (\$10,829 less \$9,449). Domenic indicated that Programs and Expenses will need to come under budget by this amount, so that we are able to fund all remaining expenditures. However, final expense reports will need to be submitted, before a final analysis can be completed. Based on information received to date, it is anticipated that we will end the year with a net cash position of \$293 as compared with the budget amount of \$396. Domenic also expressed a concern that we might encounter some cash flow timing problems, due to the fact that \$1,830 (\$730 for Run-A-Thon and \$1,100 for Dance-A-Thon) are with Canada Helps and \$2,930 is with the School Board. We will need to have access to these funds to pay remaining expenses. In addition, \$1,300 was paid to SIS as a prepayment for next year's program. Nadine questioned the appropriateness of this payment, as it appears that this was not the past practice and the prepayment was not in our budget. Domenic indicated that should there be a cash shortfall, this payment will be netted against the final invoice owing to SIS of about \$2,600. Domenic will work with the school administration to sort of these cash flow timing issues.
- 20) It was noted that we are committed to donating 50% (to a maximum of \$5,500) of our Run-A-Thon net revenue to St. Mark's. This amount is \$2,233 (\$4,466 x 50%). This amount has not been netted from the Run-A-Thon net revenue and has not yet been paid to St. Mark's. This donation will be paid in due course and reflected in the final financial statements that will be presented at the AGM in September 2013.

BRICKS – Daniela Balsamo

- 21) Winning names were presented to council. Foundation Builders and grade 7 student recognition winners were presented at an assembly at the school. Grade 8 winners will be presented at the grad ceremony. All winners can be viewed under the CSAC BRICKS tab on the school website.
- 22) The new committee next year will look into fine tuning the guidelines and criteria for nomination evaluations.

Communication – Tanya Giaquinto

- 23) The new website is ready to launch. Bookmarks with the website and new CSAC email will go into each report card envelope.
- 24) The council will ensure the email communications comply with Bill C28 and will get permission to communicate with families using their email.

Technology – Adam and Tanya

- 25) The classroom audit was completed with Phil Vokins. Some minor issues were addressed immediately while a list was made for items necessary for other issues.
- 26) The board maintains the antivirus protection for the technology. The board only maintains computers that are purchased through them and under warranty.

Pastoral Council – Father John

- 27) The parking lot should be closed for about 4-5 weeks. The church is still waiting on board approval for their small section of the parking lot.
- 28) As of Dec 1st the church will be piloting a new program to offer the sacrament of confirmation to 12 year olds (grade 7s). This will be open to students outside of St. Gregs as well. They are looking to schedule it around Pentecost again.
- 29) The two First Communion ceremonies are going to be held on the Saturday of Corpus Christi.
- 30) Fr. John wanted to encourage safe driving habits on and around the parking lot. There are an average of 4 accidents in our general area weekly.

Amendments to the CSAC Constitution – Adam Grnak

- 31) 3 amendments were presented to CSAC as per the discussion at the sub-committee meeting regarding motions, proxies and directed donations. There were some changes required around wording. These will be presented at the AGM in September.
- 32) CSAC has also decided that attendance will be more strictly enforced for future councils. The use of a sign-in sheet will be implemented.
- 33) There was a concern about the accepting of nominations from the floor on the night of the AGM. A suggestion was made to remove the number of members from the constitution. As the constitution is able to be adjusted as necessary at the same AGM it was decided to leave it as is.

T-Shirt Sales – Anne Mishko

- 34) The shirts were well received and there are plans to offer them again in Sept. Tanya is also looking into possible spirit wear providers. Offering things like ordering starting in Aug and on-line. A suggestion was also made to consider making this a fundraiser for smaller initiatives.

Milk program – Tanya Giaquinto

- 35) Sandra Antoniadis has been helping to look into this program again. There will need to be 7 volunteers present for the startup of the program. The school also requires 2 fridges and a freezer and are looking for donations.
- 36) Online orders are going to be implemented as the order method to allow parents more flexibility.

Air Conditioners – Adam Grnak

- 37) The library is in need of two air conditioners. Adam suggests this item be deferred until next year as there are only 2 weeks left.

School Photographer – Adam Grnak

- 38) The school contract for next year has been granted to Bill Tierney Photography.

Grants – Lisette Santos

- 39) Lisette is looking to create a database of the various grants that St. Gregs could be eligible for. This way we can keep a current timeline for the actions required. She requests that those with grant info get back to her by August 31st with the details of the pertinent ones.

CSAC Donation – Edward Filippozzi

- 40) A couple of parents with children in grade 2 have set up a small fundraiser for one of the grade 2 students who has been having health issues. There has been an outpouring of support. Domenic Ruso has offered to make a donation from his company on behalf of CSAC. The funds are going to a Great Wolf Lodge stay for the family with all remaining funds going to Sick Kids hospital in the student's name.
- 41) Ms Benedek feels there will be other situations where the school community will come together to help support a student who is sick. She suggested, if possible, the CSAC budget include a "Helping Hands" fund as part of future CSAC budgets to assist the families and these initiatives.

Meeting adjourned.