

John Paul II School Council Meeting- Wednesday, February 9, 2011

Call to Order: 6:36 pm by Jodie Cowan

Present: Dave Dempsey, Cindy Escott, Sean Murdoch, Cyndi Rehman, Adrienne Menzak, Anne Gauthier, Elizabeth Groat, Jodie Cowan, Pam Schneider, Sherri McCrea, Kim Stefura, Tammy Assinger, Deidre Craggs, Christine Kronewitt

Regrets: John McCaffrey

Minutes taken by: Cyndi Rehman

Review/Adoption of Agenda: Request for funds for interview supper to be added to New Business. Kim Stefura moved to accept this addition; Tammy Assinger seconded the motion.

Review/Adoption of January 12, 2011 minutes: Accepted as submitted by Jodie Cowan.

Trustees Report:

- Anne shared information regarding the “tripartite” discussions that were held between the provincial government, ASBA, and the ATA. They met to discuss teacher’s wages/raises, and hoped that an agreement could be made to adjust the upcoming salary raises to teachers. Suggestions to replace part of the increase with less instructional time, cuts to extracurricular items were mentioned, but there was no agreement at this time. Talks ended for now between the three parties, but further discussion may occur at a later date.
- Anne asked the board if there were any plans for Stony Plain to be awarded a new Catholic Junior High School to alleviate crowding at JP II. We are the number one priority for receiving a new school, but it is up to the provincial government, and there are no plans for building any new schools.

Treasurer’s Report:

- John was unable to attend meeting. Currently, Friends of John Paul II bank account has a balance of \$7605.44, but he is awaiting receipts from our parent night.

Principal’s Report:

- See report for details regarding school goals and Youth Awareness Conference.
- The new computer labs are now completed and are in use. The “travelling” lab has been a hit and is in high demand by all teachers and students.
- Mr. Dempsey stated that the Youth Awareness Conference was a success. Local Catholic junior high students attended the one day conference, and were able to attend sessions ranging from topics on Self Image to Development & Peace to Drumming. This is the first YAC that has been held for a number of years, and students were very excited to attend the one day information session.

- Regarding the yoga session offered at the YAC, concerns were brought forth regarding yoga and whether it was appropriate to offer a session on it, as it is considered New Age Spirituality. Mr. Dempsey stated that it was basically a stretching session, but will look into it for future reference.

Fundraising Report:

- Hot lunch program has been a success. They have decided to add an extra hot lunch day per week, so beginning March 9, hot lunch will be available Monday, Wednesday & Friday, and will run until the end of May. New menus have been added from a variety of restaurants.
- Christine Kronewitt stated that Sandyview Farms have forwarded us cheques from their 10% fundraising days in November (\$300.87) and January (\$184.33).

Parish Liason Report:

- Adrienne reminded us that the Temperment Study is upcoming and runs for 10 weeks.
- A mini- retreat for reconciliation is being held March 6 or 8. Reconciliation takes place March 16 for Grade 2.
- Patty Schneier is a guest speaker that Holy Trinity Catholic Church is bringing in. She will give three different talks February 27 & 28, aimed at parents and teens.

Chairperson's Report:

- The parent information night on bullying was a success. Westlock Catholic School attended via video conference, and 31 people attended in person.
- Jodie and Pam will attend the Council of Councils meeting on February 23. Westlock Council chair Kevin Verbek and Cindi Vaselenak invited school councils in the Evergreen Catholic School Division to meet and share ideas/concerns they have. Information regarding fundraising options and bussing (with regards to weather/distance) were asked to be brought forward.

New Business:

- Community Information Night- to take place during parent-teacher interviews on March 8. Organizations to be contacted include Public Library, FCSS, APFA, Children's Mental Health, Mike Landry, RCMP, TLC, Town of Stony Plain, & Public Health Unit. Each organization attending will have a table to display information from 4:30-8:00pm. Jodie will contact the organizations. Cyndi will help her gather information to place on Parent Council table.
- Staff Interview Supper to take place after school on March 8. Pam Schneider to lead, Deidre Craggs & Elizabeth Groat to co-lead. Christine Kronewitt will check with Sandyview to see if they can give us a discount on a ham.

- Elizabeth Groat requested that parent council purchase serving dishes to use for the staff dinners. Cyndi made a motion that parent council use \$200 to purchase new serving dishes. Christine K. seconded. Elizabeth to purchase dishes so they can be used at the upcoming staff dinner.
- Spring Dance for K-grade 6 to be held Friday, May 13. Deidre Craggs volunteered to lead this event.
- Kindergarten Open House to take place May 25. Jodie and Cyndi will attend and present information about parent council.
- School garden needs to be addressed. It was suggested that students take care of the upkeep of it as a service project. This will have to be put on the agenda for April.

Share & Celebrate

- Grade 1A recently used the notebooks for a class project on penguins.
- Grade 3 recently built and presented their bridges as part of their building things unit. They are beginning multiplication in math.
- Grade 5 recently attended the symphony.
- Grade 7 & 8 had their YAC day Feb. 9.

Next School Council meeting: April 13 at 6:30pm in the school library.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

