

# St. Paul School Council Meeting Minutes

## Monday March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 6:30pm

1. Meeting opened at 6:33pm with opening reflection provided by Laura Fraser.
2. Laura F made a motion to approve the Minutes from January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Seconded by Crystal J. Approved.
3. Belinda S made a motion to amend the agenda as many parents had asked for the BYOD topic to be discussed first as they would need to leave early.  
Crystal J, made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Alex F. Approved
4. BYOD: (Bring Your Own Device) During the Jan-16 meeting, the topic of BYOD was put on the agenda to gauge interest from parents regarding a possible change to the BYOD policy. Prior to this meeting, parents were encouraged to read the Jan-16 meeting minutes with pros and cons of BYOD. During this Mar-11 meeting, parents were polled to see if the majority were in favor of changing the BYOD policy. The results were 9 in favor of change, and 30 not in favor. The topic was struck from the agenda.
5. Administration Report-Gina Almquist, Principal
  - a. Enrollment: Our kindergarten numbers are low right now
    - i. Administration will be sending out a form to our current families to confirm registration for the 2019-2020 school year.
  - b. Childcare:
    - i. The YMCA will not be an option for St. Paul as there were not enough registrations to support a program.
    - ii. Kepler Academy will be attending the open house on Wednesday March 13<sup>th</sup>. Kepler Academy is an Early learning Child Care and Day Care which will soon be opening in the area.
    - iii. Educare daycare is another community option which buses kids to St. Paul.
  - c. Gina passed along a message from Sophie Ogle regarding her and Father Deans delight with the behavior of the Children at the Ash Wednesday Mass.
  - d. The school sold 65 "Choose Kindness" T-shirts for Pink shirt Day. We received back \$130 to be put towards a bullying prevention education program.
  - e. There have been a lot of indoor recess and Administration wanted to thank the SAC for purchasing new games and equipment the children have been enjoying it.
    - i. "Can-struction" tree was delivered to the parish for their local Food Bank Depot.
  - f. Talent show was a hit. The Grade six students did a great job organizing this event.
  - g. St. Justin's school sent a thank you video for the amazing Shoe box campaign and pancake breakfast provided by our school and students. Alex F was thanked for organizing another great event. Alex also passed around some Letters from St. Justin's students who expressed how happy they were to receive a great breakfast and wonderful gifts.
  - h. Important Dates:
    - Wednesday March 13- Demo of Learning & Open House 6:30-8:30 PM- No appt. necessary. All classrooms open with student work, portfolios, etc. Teachers on hand in classrooms to have informal conversations with. Clubs will be highlighted in the Gym- Volleyball, Running Club, Dance, Musical. Makerspace and projects in the Learning Commons. Please tour the school, chat with staff and invite anyone who may be interested!
    - Friday March 15- Gr. 6 Fieldtrip to City Hall in the AM  
Green Day!  
Irish Dance Performance at 9AM in the gym  
Movie Afternoon- Lower and Upper. Movies TBA. Donation – pop and chips supplied
    - Thursday March 21- Full day of school  
Hat Day!  
Staff vs students volley ball game at 1:45 PM
    - Friday March 22 – Half day- off at noon for spring break!
    - March 25-29- SPRING BREAK
    - Monday April 1- Back to school from Spring Break

- Tuesday April 2- Grade 4s to the Art Gallery
- Wednesday April 10- Run Wild Pep Rally @ 9AM – raise awareness and drum up interest in the Run Wild event on Sunday May 5. It is a chance for young people to focus on fun and fitness as well as the opportunity to fundraise and learn about important charities in the community. This year's race will support the St. Albert Sturgeon Hospice Association. Race is at Lion's Park in St. Albert.
- Friday April 12- Grade 4 to gymnastics
- Thursday April 18- Holy Thursday-still a half day
- Friday April 19- Good Friday and no school
- Monday April 22- Easter Monday- no school
- Thursday April 25- Resurrection Celebration @ 10:45 AM in the school gym
- Friday April 26- Family Dance @ 6:30 PM

6. Council Report-Christin Bryant, Chair

- MLA Lori Sigurdson has asked to do a cheque presentation/photo op with St. Paul with the grant cheque received from the playground rebuild. She will be coming Wednesday March 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am. All parents are welcomed to attend.
- Christin also reminded parents she and Belinda will both be leaving their positions of Chair and Vice-Chair at the end of the year. Christine and Amanda are willing to stay on as Treasurer and Secretary. However, if there is interest in any of these positions let an executive member know so your name can be put forward. The SAC executive get voted in at the last meeting each year. This will be Tuesday May 28<sup>th</sup>, with nominations being asked to be submitted by May 14<sup>th</sup>.

7. Committee Reports:

- Parish Liaison- Laura Fraser

Dear St. Paul Parent Council,

March 11, 2019

Greetings from St. John the Evangelist Catholic Parish! On behalf of Fr. Dean and St. John parishioners, I want to share with you how proud we are of your children and staff, and much we appreciate the close relationship between the Parish and St. Paul School.

This relationship is expressed through liturgical celebrations at Church and at school, sharing information on sacramental preparation programs, and reciprocal invitations to events and celebrations. In particular, the proximity of St. Paul makes it possible for relatively frequent visits to the Parish in comparison to the bussing required by most of our other Parish Schools. Some of these visits are for particular Masses, such as school year opening and closing Masses, and the recently celebrated Ash Wednesday Mass. Parishioners always express how respectful and reverent the children are. Some elderly Parishioners specifically choose to come to Masses when the School is here because they enjoy the presence and contributions of the children so much (and these Parishioners are not related to the children)! The children experience what it means to live their faith through worship together at Mass; God is truly present with them.

The students' also saw the direct result of their recent social justice initiative. Walking over with the Food Bank donations on that sunny Wednesday was beautiful from so many perspectives! We shared this with our Parishioners in our weekly Bulletin, as we do with all our school-parish interactions, and we've posted pictures on our Facebook page.

Another project we are hoping to involve St. Paul students and families is to have grade 6 students help and serve at our monthly pancake breakfasts. This is still in the planning stages and we hope to discuss this in more detail later, but please let us know what you think.

The Advent Concert in the Church was a great success, and we hope to continue to support St. Paul in this way. It literally brought families into the Church who may never come otherwise, and this could be a first step in bringing a family back to Sunday Mass. The familiarity the children have with St. John's and Mass is such an important influence in bringing their parents on Sundays. If there is anything the Parish can do to support families in learning more about the faith, St. John's is very happy to help. We often get busy with life as young adults and become disconnected from the Church, and the knowledge and expression of our faith can decrease in importance. However, children re-awaken the parent's desire for a closer relationship with God for themselves and their family, as seen in through their choice of a Catholic school. Please share with us any ideas you have that we could support in family or adult faith knowledge and development.

We have a project to support the faith life of the Parish through Word on Fire Engage, which will give all parishioners access to excellent online resources. This is done by signing up to Flocknote, our communications hub, and will also allow us to communicate effectively on a large scale by text or email, similar to school communications. In future we will include sacramental preparation families in this method of communication, and to give them access to adult-level faith resources.

St. Paul's children are blessed with the love of their families and school staff, and treasured by the Parish.

- b. Grant application-Nadine Morris
    - i. Nadine announced that there are a lot of small grants coming up and would like to test out partnering with another school by the end of the year.
  - c. Family BBQ- Anna Mercuri
    - i. Set date of the BBQ for Wednesday June 5<sup>th</sup> from 4-6pm.
    - ii. Forms will be sent out closer to the date.
  - d. Casino- Tami Lackey and Heidi Paranych
    - i. AGLC has notified us that the date for our next Casino will be sometime from January-March of 2021 at the Starlight Casino WEM. Heidi asked people to begin thinking about volunteering.
  - e. 21<sup>st</sup> Century of Learning- Michelle Bessette and Heidi Gibb
    - i. The committee has tentative dates of May 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 15<sup>th</sup> for their annual plant fundraiser. The group is looking at possibly extending the event into two days. Last year's fundraiser brought in \$4500, which was used to purchase the large fish tank in the front foyer.
  - f. Environmental Enhancement-Jennifer Assaly, Jennifer Boyko Postma, and Mrs. Nicholson
    - i. Jennifer announced they will be running the gardening club on Tuesdays during the lunch hour. This year the group may focus the club towards the younger grades, as the school has many activities going on right now for the older grades.
  - g. Fundraising- Jenna Sdao
    - i. Jenna announced they had sent out the "Our Money for Our Kids" ask envelopes but received few back.
    - ii. Anna M. made a motion to hold a bottle drive later in the spring, seconded by Laura M. This motion was approved.
  - h. Family Dance- Lisa Sadd
    - i. Family Dance is set for April 26<sup>th</sup>
    - ii. The DJ and photo booth have been booked.
    - iii. Grade 6 students will be deciding the theme later this week.
    - iv. Ticket prices will be \$20/family in advance, \$25/family at the door.
    - v. Volunteer and ticket order forms will be sent out soon.
  - i. Staff Appreciation- Stefania Valle & Tara Heron
    - i. The dates have been set for May 27-31. Letters will be sent out soon looking for monetary donations, volunteers, and baking.
  - j. Yearbook Committee- Stefania Valle & Tracy Hawkins
    - i. The committee has started on layouts for the upcoming yearbook.
    - ii. Please submit your photos as you take them, in Full/actual size format. Send to [stpaulmemories@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulmemories@gmail.com)
8. Motion at adjourn at 7:33pm by Nicole B, seconded by Stefania V.

# St. Paul Parent Advisory Association Meeting

## 1. Treasurer's Report/Financial Overview- Christine DeRose

### Account Information

- a. St. Paul PAC Account Balance: \$33,108.59 (as at March 11, 2019)
  - i. Our Money Our Kids Fundraiser – Year to Date \$ 2,070.00
  - ii. Healthy Hunger – Year to Date \$ 783.20
  - iii. Riverbend Gardens – Year to Date \$ 476.25

Casino Account Balance: \$ 77,751.56 (as at March 11, 2019)

- iv. Deposit of \$77,066.79 into our account from AGLC in February 2019 (This was received from December's Casino)

## 2. Administration Funding Requests

- a. \$265 for makerspace.
- b. \$1500 for the purchased recess equipment.

## 3. Funding Requests

- a. Christine motioned for \$115 to cover outstanding expenses from the pancake breakfast.
- b. Stefania motioned for \$1200 to be used for Staff Appreciation week.
- c. Anna motioned for \$1000 to cover costs for the family BBQ.

Michelle B. made a motion to approve all funding requests, Alex F seconded. All requests approved.

## 4. Motion to close the meeting at 7:37pm made by Andrea A, seconded by Stefania V.