



MINUTES

Blessed Cardinal Newman School Council Meeting

Date: November 17, 2016 - 7:00 pm

Number of Attendees: 20

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Laura Dennison at 7:04pm

1. **Welcome and Prayer:** Chairperson Laura Dennison welcomed everyone. Assistant Principal, Greg Way, led us in the opening prayer.
2. **Introductions:** All attendees introduced themselves.
3. **Review of Agenda:** The Agenda was emailed out to the school community last week. Everyone here has a copy of the Agenda. There were no changes.
4. **Approval of Minutes of Last Council Meeting** (October 19, 2016):

The draft Minutes were emailed out to the school community last week for review. There were no questions or changes requested. Motion to approve the October 19, 2016 School Council Minutes as presented was put forth by Cheryl Schneider, seconded by Linda White. Motion Carried.

5. **Chairperson's Report** - Laura Dennison

- a. Parent and Trustee Meeting

The Parent and Trustee Meeting will be held on November 24, 2016 at Bishop Carroll High school. The topic is Formative Assessment and why it is important.

Erin Luong attended the focus group meeting for the new high school. The plan is to open in the fall of 2018. The next meeting is Nov. 23/16 at St. Sebastian school. Everyone is welcome to attend. Register at Help Plan Our Future on the school website helplanourfuture@cssd.ab.ca.

b. Parish Liaison and Naturalization Committee Leaders

Council needs two individuals to take on these committees.

The duties of the Parish Liaison are to forward a summary of school events to parish council based on what's in the school newsletter. They also give a report to school council from the church that the sacrament coordinator gives to them and they also go through the bulletin to highlight things of interest to the school community.

c. Approve 2016-17 Budget

Everyone received a copy of the 2016-17 School Council budget. There was no discussion and there were no questions. Motion to approve budget as presented put forth by Susan Courchesne, Seconded by Maryann Kusmirski. Motion carried.

School Council must support the Education Society Budget. Everyone received a copy of the 2016-17 Education Society budget. There is one change since the October meeting and that is that we were awarded a grant from Shell Canada Community Service Fund to show their support of volunteer efforts of employees who have volunteered for 40+ hours. Sarah Pereira applied for this grant. Thank you Sarah not only for the many hours you put into the Fun Lunch Program, but for applying for this grant for us. This money was approved and added to the budget. Motion to support education society budget was put forth by Cheryl Schneider, seconded by Lori-Ann Bergeron. Motion carried.

6. Treasurer's Report - Sharon Pereira

- a. School Council current balance: \$27,330.03
- b. Education Society current balance: \$13,122.15

7. Committee Reports

- a. Christmas Market and Coffee Shop - Andrea Sereda, Tanya Kordikowski and Cheryl Schneider

Andrea and Tanya send their regrets. They submitted the following report:

This Saturday is our annual Christmas Market! We have been working hard to organize volunteers and vendors and everything is set for the big day. We have sold 112 tables and are still awaiting payment on 8 more tables. South City Jazz and the hand bell chorus will be performing as well as a couple of students who will play guitar. Volunteers from our parent list as well as students from the leadership class are slated to volunteer Friday evening, and Saturday through out the day. Cheryl has got the coffee shop all organized. We hope you are able to stop by with your families for a day that promises to be full of Christmas cheer!

Cheryl reported that junior high band students are helping in coffee shop. Parents are supplying baking and helping out as well.

b. Family Events - Mary Rose Argonza-Oberhoffner

Mary Rose reported that the gyms have been booked for the Family Dance for Friday Jan. 20/17. The DJ has also been booked for \$200. Information will be sent out to the school community by the end of this month. They are now researching food, etc. They will start recruiting volunteers to help with the event in December/16. It will be an 80's theme.

c. Spirit Wear – Tamara Bezemer

Tamara sends her regrets. She submitted the following report:

All the orders were delivered on November 2nd. I apologize that they were not delivered in October as stated in the handouts. The school received the orders on October 28th but they arrived too late in the day to get them distributed before school was out for the weekend. Orders were very similar to last year and overall they seemed to go over well.

d. Parish Liaison – Christine Hansen

PARISH ADVENT RETREAT FOR FAMILIES: St. Albert the Great Parish will be hosting an Advent Retreat for Families on Tuesday, November 22 at 6:00pm in the church. All are welcome! There will be refreshments, confession and adoration. They are also requesting donations of toiletries such as toothbrushes, soap, etc. for this event.

SCHOOL-AGE BAPTISM PREPARATION: If at least one parent is Catholic, and your child is in Grade 2 or higher and you are interested in the sacrament of Baptism, please register for the School-Age Baptism Preparation at St. Albert the Great Parish.

PREPARATION SESSION FOR CONFIRMATION: The first preparation session for Confirmation at St. Albert the Great Parish will take place on the weekend of November 5/6, 2016. Candidates registered for this sacrament, with their parents, are required to attend either Saturday, November 5 from 10am-noon OR Sunday, November 6 from 2-4pm. If registered, no need to specify which date you will attend; simply show up and sign in.

SECOND PREPARATION SESSION FOR FIRST RECONCILIATION: The second preparation session for First Reconciliation at St. Albert the Great Parish will take place on the weekend of November 19/20, 2016. Celebration of First Reconciliation, for children participating in the preparation at St. Albert the Great, will take place in the church at 1:00pm on Saturday, November 26 for students in Blessed Cardinal Newman.

8. Administrator's Report: Tod Desautels/Jennifer Gakis/Greg Way

Tod mentioned that Cheryl Schneider is now sitting on the Calgary Catholic Education Foundation board.

a. School Plans

Alberta Education requires all schools to maintain an education plan that reflects and aligns with the Districts 3 Year Plan. These plans are fluid and are to be considered "living documents". The administrators have developed the 3-year education plan to meet provincial requirements. These plans are reviewed and discussed in detail with the teachers at our school; their input is taken into consideration when preparing these Plans. There is a lot of good data in this report. It compares our school to schools in the province and the district. It shows areas needing improvement and what is going well. It will be posted on the school website tomorrow but can still be adapted as need be. If anyone has any feedback or questions just e-mail anyone of our administration and your comments will be taken into consideration. This report takes into account

only the students who write the exams or fill out the surveys (not like the Fraser report which bases their data on all students in a school even if some students don't write an exam - it counts as a zero giving an overall lower score).

b. School Admin Profile

Each school has their own administration profile. The Principal and the school council chair review it each year and sign off on it. It will be on the school website tomorrow for all to see. The Legacy High School will also be developing their school's Admin Profile.

c. Student Champions

This is a new district wide initiative. The idea was presented to the students at the Remembrance Day Liturgy. Every school has to have a plan in place to ensure that every child has a champion for support and help. All students need to be heard and have someone on their side. The method of incorporating this is being put out to teachers to create a mindset of student champions to ensure no students are left out of this. Every student needs to be aware that they need some adult(s) in the school that they are comfortable with. There is a survey that the students complete where they are asked the question "Do you have a champion in the school?" This survey is called "Our Survey" (used to be called Tell Them From Me). This will hopefully give the staff an idea of where the students are at in this regard. Staff will still be developing their plan for this.

d. New High School Information

A letter was e-mailed home. The next meeting is November 23/16 at St. Sebastian school. All are welcome to attend, you just need to RSVP. (Information is on the website). This is the beginning of the process to determine boundaries. Bishop Grandin, Bishop O'Byrne and the new Legacy high school are all in South Calgary – need to keep all these schools viable. There are a lot of factors to consider (eg. transportation). The construction on the new school has begun - should open in 2018.

e. Food Drive – Jennifer Gakis

The food drive is starting next week. Information is in the newsletter. This time students can bring whatever items they want. Every item counts; from tooth brushes to Ichiban noodles. There will be a class prize for each division; pizza party.

f. Our Lady of the Rosary is likely moving into their new school around Christmas break – before or after (not during). Then our school will re-organize.

g. Parent question regarding Advent Celebrations: There was no possibility this year for using the church for Christmas celebrations as there is a mass every evening. Mrs. Perrault will be organizing some sort of Christmas program for the grades 1-5 students. To be held during the day in the gym. Information will be sent out. School looked to rent somewhere to have an event but it was cost prohibitive.

h. Parent question regarding school supplies and can the process be streamlined so that parents aren't purchasing unnecessary supplies. Discussion regarding school supplies for next year. Suggestion that maybe more choices to opt out of certain supplies at parents discretion.

9. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting was put forth by Cheryl Schneider. Seconded by Marnelle Perras. Meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Next School Council Meeting: Thursday December 15, 2016 at 7:00 pm in the Learning Commons (Christmas Social to follow).