



# MINUTES

## Blessed Cardinal Newman School Council Meeting

Date: February 1, 2017 at 7:00pm

Number of Attendees: 14

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. Laura Dennison added the new high school meeting to the chairperson's report.
4. **Guest Speaker – Tom Brinsmead – Supervisor of Diverse Learning**

Diverse learning – works with students. There are many supervisors that look after different areas of diverse learning. They arrange support for struggling children – psychologists, behaviour consultants, special needs consultants, mental health therapists, speech, occupational, physical therapists, etc. They give support and strategies for teachers to deal with these issues. They also work with Gifted and Talented program and RCSD. Educational assistants are also part of this department. The amount of support depends on the needs of the students at each school. BCN has a diverse learning teacher assigned to the school. Our school has approximately 100 hours of Educational Assistance designated and the school decides how to allocate these hours. They are working on having all student records saved electronically. Diverse learning teachers are highly qualified and experienced.

They also provide PAT support for children that are not ready to write the exams, exemptions, students that need extra time, scribes, etc.

Discussion on funding for gifted versus special needs – assured us that funds are going where they are needed. Also discussed how students get into the gifted program.

**5. Approval of Minutes of Last Council Meeting (December 15, 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 December 15, 2016 School Council Minutes as presented was put forth by Cheryl Schneider seconded by Susan Courchesne. Motion Carried.

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

- a. Report on Parent & Trustee Meeting (Jan 19th) - School and Home Working Together – Dr. Wayne Hammond

The meeting was about building resilience in children – positive reinforcement, strength based parenting, praising in the proper way and changing their mindset to motivate them to work harder. For more information see the slides from the meeting at <https://www.cssd.ab.ca/Parents/SchoolCouncil/Pages/default.aspx>

The next parent and trustee meeting is on March 9, 2017. Please RSVP to me ([bcn.schoolcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:bcn.schoolcouncil@gmail.com)) if you are able to attend.

- b. New High School in Legacy - Erin Luong attended the Legacy high school meeting and provided us with a report. They are still discussing boundaries. Students from BCN would be designated to Bishop O'Byrne in all three models of the boundaries so far. The school will likely have a staggered opening of grades. May start with only grades 10 and 11 so Grade 12 students don't have to switch in their last year. Once they decide boundaries, they will decide on what programs will be offered. There will be enrichment (AP or IB). There will be a mechanics department and a phys ed complex. Administration will be hired in the next month. There will be more consultation. All the information is on the district website.

## 7. Treasurer's Report - Sharon Pereira

- a. School Council current balance: \$22,758.27
- b. Education Society current balance: \$14,123.82

## 8. Committee Reports

### a. Family Events - Mary Rose Argonza-Oberhoffer

- The 80's-themed dance took place on Fri., Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>
- It was a well-attended event. We had a range of age groups with the majority being from elementary and a fair number from Jr. High. Approximately, 70 families pre-registered at a count of about 300 people. We don't have actual attendance numbers but based on the money we made and the number of coats in the coat check, we estimate that approximately 250-300 people were in attendance.
- There were many people who dressed up in their amazing 80s outfits and we awarded Best Costume to a very stylish young lady with great hair, neon and a whole lot of acid wash denim. We gave out quite a few prizes throughout the evening to dancers and did draws for the Jr. High Student that pre-bought tickets and for the families that pre-registered.
- We sold a number of hot dog combos. We started off with 372 hot dogs between what was purchased and donated as leftover from the craft market. After sales and giving away some of the leftover cooked ones at the end of the evening, we were left with 44 hot dogs.
- The leftover hot dogs, water, and chips were used on Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> at a thank you party for the many Leadership and some other Jr. High Students that assisted us in many, many ways at the dance.
- The DJ seemed to be very popular and we would recommend him in the future. I think the only negative thing was that he took a while to set-up and take-down. He started the event on-time, took requests and seemed to be able to read the crowd fairly well.
- It was a big push and scramble to get volunteers for this event, but in the end we had more than enough help. I want to say thank you to everyone here on council that pitched in through various ways as well as to Admin and the Staff for all their help with the event
- Money:
  - Our Budget for the event was \$1000
  - DJ Cost: \$200
  - Food: \$463.03
  - Decorations, Prizes and Miscellaneous Other Costs: \$472.72
  - Total: \$1,135.75

- Profit from Admission Sales and Hot Dog Sales: \$765.50
  - Total Cost of the Event: -\$370.25
  - \$629.75 left in the budget
  - Last year's event cost: -\$358.69
- c. Parish Liaison – Theresa Stadnyk

Laura thanked Theresa for taking on the role of parish liaison.

Theresa could not attend the meeting but submitted her report:

### **CATHOLICISM: JOURNEY AROUND THE WORLD & DEEP INTO FAITH**

Catholicism is a ground breaking documentary film series with Bishop Robert Barron. Come & rediscover your faith with other members of St. Albert the Great's Parish community in a two-part program facilitated by Elias, [ruimones@gmail.com](mailto:ruimones@gmail.com) and Ann, [rowansmithann@gmail.com](mailto:rowansmithann@gmail.com). Part one will begin on Monday February 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:45pm for 10 weeks at St. Albert the Great Church. For more information and registration, please contact Elias or Ann.

### **FR. JULIAN'S RUBY JUBILEE (40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF PRIESTHOOD)**

Fr. Julian Studden of St. Albert the Great Church is celebrating his 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of priesthood. We would like to extend an invitation to all for his 40<sup>th</sup> Ordination Anniversary on Monday, February 13, 2017. The celebration will begin with a Mass at 6:30pm, followed by refreshments and fellowship in the basement hall of St. Albert the Great Parish. All are welcome!

### **FIRST COMMUNION REGISTRATION**

Have you had a chance to register your child for First Communion at St. Albert the Great Church? It's not too late!

Please visit the parish office as soon as possible to fill out a registration form. When coming to register, please also bring a copy of the child's baptism certificate and the \$40 registration fee, per child (if able), payable by cash or cheque. Contact Dan D'Agostino for more information:

[sacraments@st-albert-parish.com](mailto:sacraments@st-albert-parish.com). Preparation will begin in March; full schedule may be found here:

<http://www.st-albert-parish.com/clientuploads/Sacrament%20%20Celebration%20Schedule.pdf>

St. Albert the Great Youth Ministry 6:30PM to 8:30PM in the Parish Hall unless otherwise specified.

Feb. 14 Junior High Field Trip – Laser Quest

Feb. 28 Junior High – Shrove Tuesday Pancakes + Mass

“You need to know your faith. You cannot give what you do not have.”

*Fr. John Corapi*

## 9. **Administrator’s Report:** Tod Desautels/Jennifer Gakis/Greg Way

### a. **Our School Survey**

School uses this survey to adjust teaching and deals with issues that arise. Students do know that it is looked at and noted by the administration and teachers.

Results will be posted on the school website.

Concerns over why such a high level of anxiety was reported – discussing difference between positive and negative stress and how to manage stress. Planning to meet with the Junior High students to discuss these results. Do compare from year to year. The reporting of anxiety is high overall in Alberta.

The school is looking at ensuring all students that need a champion will have access to one. This will be discussed at a future council meeting.

**b. Municipal Government Act**

Tod urges everyone to keep this issue on our radar – He discussed that the education act will replace the school act. We are still bound by school act. Municipalities would have power to change the laws for that municipality. They can make decisions and may affect Catholic education.

**c.** Jennifer Gakis extended her thanks to council for the staff lunch.

**10. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was put forth by Kim VanKosh. Meeting adjourned at 8:47pm.

Next School Council Meeting: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at 7:00 pm in the Learning Commons.