



MINUTES

Blessed Cardinal Newman School Council Meeting

Date: May 4, 2017 at 7:00pm

Number of Attendees: 29

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Laura Dennison at 7:02pm

1. **Welcome and Prayer:** Chairperson Laura Dennison welcomed everyone. Vice Principal, Jenn Gakis, 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.
4. **Administrator's Report:** Tod Desautels/Jennifer Gakis/Greg Way
 - a. Playground Update
 - i. Mark Rawlek, Superintendent of Support Services, attended to discuss the playground. All district playgrounds were recently assessed. The oldest part of ours was rated a Class B, which means it is beyond its serviceable life and at some point will present a safety hazard. Therefore the oldest portion of our playground will be removed this summer. The district will carry this task out at their expense and will grass the area over. We need to reimagine whether we need to replace it or consider other options for keeping the students active. The district does not contribute towards a new playground as this is not part of its mandate. Playgrounds are a combination school/community project. Doing a new playground in stages was recommended by Mark so the impact down the road wouldn't be as great as things age and need to be replaced. School council could put forth a survey to determine whether a new playground is needed or whether there are other ideas. Community associations would be involved. There are matching grants from the city as well as other grants available. This subject will be revisited at the next council meeting.

b. School Update

- i. Welcome to Carl Gratton who will be the new principal starting Sept. 2017/18. He is from St. Stephen's school. He will be attending the Grade 7 orientation on May 18 as well as the Kindergarten orientation on May 25.
- ii. This summer our junior high lockers will be replaced and the following summer the inside of the school will be painted.

5. **Approval of Minutes of Last Council Meeting** (March 22, 2017):

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 March 22, 2017 School Council Minutes as presented was put forth by Lori-Ann Bergeron seconded by Liisa Batti. Motion Carried.

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

- a. Laura welcomed Carl Gratton – New principal of BCN for 2017/2018
- b. Report on ASCA Conference
 - i. Attended three breakout sessions. How to be a trustee, Bill 1, and Curriculum Development. There was discussion of the Truth and Reconciliation Act for Indigenous people that was very eye opening. We participated in a Blanket Exercise that is an interactive explanation of what happened to the Indigenous Peoples when the Europeans came to North America. There is a task force working with school boards to get this exercise taught in the schools with various exercises for different grade levels.
 - ii. Bill 1 is the elimination of school fees. There are still a lot of unknowns regarding this but so far they are focusing on the Instructional Material Fees and Transportation Fees (only for those living greater than 2.4km from their designated school). This bill does not eliminate field trip fees – we will still have to pay those fees.
 - iii. Curriculum development is a huge task. They are working on a digital version which can be changed and updated continually. The estimated roll out for the new curriculum is: K-4 at end of 2018; 5-9 at end of 2019, 10-12 in phases from 2020-22.
 - iv. Laura also attended a seminar entitled How to Build a Playground and has a lot of information to share at the June meeting regarding this subject.

c. Budget Numbers

- i. The school has now given us their invoices so the budget will be updated.

d. Open committee positions for 2017-18

- i. Elections for the School Council Executive will be held at the next meeting on June 15, 2017. The following positions need to be filled for the 2017-18 school year:

- Vice-Chair
- Naturalization committee – Maureen Gayle has offered
- Fundraising committee (the current committee will continue to mentor and support the new leader to help with the transition)
- Lost and Found committee
- Volunteer coordinator
- Treasurer (Sharon's term is up but he's willing to continue unless someone wants to take it over. He would help the new person.)

Descriptions of all these roles are on the website. If anyone is interested in taking on any of these roles they can contact Laura directly.

The following committee leaders will continue:

- Volunteer orientations – Laura Dennison (she would love help)
- Parish Liaison – Teresa Stadnyk
- Family Events - Mary Rose Argonza-Oberhoffner
- Fun Lunch – Sarah Pereira
- Christmas Market – Andrea Sereda/Tanya Kordikowski
- Coffee Shop – Cheryl Schneider
- School Supplies – Kelly Giesbrecht (This is the last year Kelly will organize this, if you want to help Kelly to take over the following year please let Kelly know.)
- Spirit Wear – Tamara Bezemer
- Grants and Corporate Donations – Michael Lyzaniwski

7. Treasurer's Report - Sharon Pereira

- a. School Council current balance: \$22,525.44. A cheque for \$9,500.00 has been paid to the school for various budget items.
- b. Education Society current balance: \$24,764.37. A cheque for \$10,000.00 has been paid to the school for new Smart Boards.

8. Committee Report

a. Fundraising – Liisa Batti and Lori-Ann Bergeron

- i. F.A.ST fundraiser was a success. Raised \$11,476.25, just shy of the goal. Thanks to parent volunteers who helped that day. Without their help this would not have been possible. Also a shout out to all the students and staff who participated, especially Div. 3. It was a tough one for them this year! Thanks to Crystal, Christine and Suzette from High Fitness who came in and did two classes with our Div. 3 students. The fundraiser expenses will come in just under \$500.

Ice Cream Parties go to:

- Div. 1 Top Earner: Kindergarten AM Hanson
- Div. 2 Top Earner: Grade 5 Tkachuk
- Div. 3 Top Earner: Grade 7 Bressanutti
- Class Participation: Grade 8 Sterling

b. Christmas Market – Tanya Kordikowski and Andrea Sereda

- i. They are already starting to get e-mails about it from vendors. The date is set for Nov. 18, 2017. Tanya is wondering if we should re-visit the Christmas Market at some point to see if we want to continue with it in future years.

9. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting was put forth by Erin Luong. Meeting adjourned at 8:12pm

Next School Council Meeting: Thursday June 15, 2017 at 7:00 pm in the Learning Commons. (Education Society Meeting to follow).