



MINUTES

Blessed Cardinal Newman School Council Meeting

Date: November 22, 2017 at 7:00pm

Number of Attendees: 17

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Laura Dennison at 7:06pm.

1. **Welcome, Prayer and Territorial Acknowledgement:** Chairperson Laura Dennison welcomed everyone. Principal, Carl Gratton, led us in the opening prayer and acknowledgement.
2. **Introductions:** All attendees introduced themselves.
3. **Guest Speaker – Kim Wilson of the Diverse Learning Team**
 - a. This is Kim's 6th year of working with the diverse learning program and her first year at BCN. The other diverse learning teacher is Lisa Bush. The Diverse Learning Team is located in the old computer room which is now called 'The Nest'. All kids are welcome to stop by The Nest. Lisa and Kim work with teachers and students to facilitate learning for diverse learners. They work with whole classes and students individually to ensure kids are achieving what they need to move on to the next year. The SRT process is used to assess students for coding. This process is when teachers that currently have the child in their class get together with the DLT team and teachers that have taught that child in the past to determine how best to proceed for that child's learning. They also work on gifted students enrichment. This area falls to Lisa Bush. There are many students presenting for diverse learning which also includes children who are not coded. They work with ELL as well. Teachers can come forward if concerned about a child. Parents can also suggest that their child be evaluated.
 - b. Diverse learning will be holding a book drive in January. With kids doing so much reading in class (Daily 5) there is a need to increase the supply of books in the classes. Information will go out in the newsletter in January. The books will be sorted according to age level. Teachers will then go and shop for the books they need in their classroom. They would like some parent volunteers to help sort books. Parents interested in helping could contact the diverse learning teachers. They will pick some sorting dates. Need to figure out where to keep the boxes of books as the book drive proceeds. 1000 books is the goal. Kindergarten through Grade 9.

Classes can swap every once in a while to ensure a good variety of books for the students.

4. Approval of Minutes of Last Council Meeting (October 19, 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 October 19, 2017 School Council Minutes as presented was put forth by Pam Myhill seconded by Marnell Perras. Motion Carried.

5. Chairperson's Report - Laura Dennison

- a. Parent and Trustee Meeting Date – November 27, 2017 at Bishop Grandin. Other dates and locations are available. Your parent voice is important in supporting student success. Questions being discussed have been included in the agenda. If you have any input but cannot attend let Laura or Carl know and they can speak on your behalf.
- b. Approval of the 2017-18 Budget
 - i. There are only minor changes to the budget. Accurate numbers for the Christmas market and Poinsettia fundraiser are now included as well as a reduced budget for robotics. Motion to approve the 2017-18 Budget was put forth by Tanya Kordikowski, seconded by Cheryl Schneider. Motion Carried.
 - ii. The School Council needs to support the Ed. Society budget. The chrome books budget was increased from \$10,000 to \$12,000. Motion to support the Ed. Society budget was brought forth by Leanne Lesniak. Seconded by Pam Myhill. Motion carried.

6. Treasurer's Report - Sharon Pereira was unable to attend but sent the following report:

- a. School Council current balance: \$32,157.55
- b. Education Society current balance: \$15, 311.81

7. Committee Reports

- a. Christmas Market and Coffee Shop – Tanya Kordikowski and Cheryl Schneider. Andrea Sereda was unable to attend tonight.

- i. Cheers to a successful 24th year!! The market made \$6300. Donations were down about \$100 this year. We had 1300 people (down 300 from last year), 115 tables with 101 vendors. 3 vendors cancelled last minute and they re-sold the tables. Expenses were the same as last year. Thanks to South City Jazz band directed by Chris Sheppard. Thanks to Sarah Dennison, Caroline Dratnal and Maria Lyzaniwski who played piano for an hour to entertain. Thank yous to all the parent volunteers will be in the newsletter. There was a strong administration presence which really helped when it was time to clean up – all done by 3:45 (a record!!). Andrea is still looking for someone to help her next year as this was Tanya's last year (Thanks to Tanya for her many years of organizing this successful event). Next year is booked for Nov 24. Family photos had some glitches but can be worked out for next year. The ATM may not be needed next year as it was hardly used this year.
- ii. Coffee shop proceeds go to the band so the band students helped. Thank you to Good Earth in Cranston and Sobeys in McKenzie Town for their donations. Thanks to all the parents who did baking. \$670 was raised this year.

b. School Supplies – Marnelle Perras

Crayola color cycle – teachers have a bag with poster on it for marker recycling. There will be a competition between classes – three top classes will get a fruit platter – before Dec. 6. School will do this every couple of months. Extra school supplies can be brought in anytime to the front office. Marnelle will send out reminders to the students to bring markers/school supplies for recycling.

c. Lost and Found – Lori Best

Starting on Thursday and Friday she will be sorting lost and found items. After that will be taken for donation. Will have the tables out during p/t interviews. A big thanks to the lost and found volunteers who come in twice a week to wash out lunch boxes!

d. Spirit Wear – Tamara Bezemer couldn't be here but sent this report.

Spirit wear was delivered at end of October – earlier than expected! All went well. There have been no complaints. Fresh Brand was excellent to work with. Thanks to all those who helped.

Laura extended a huge thank you to Tamara for all her hard work manning the sample tables during meet the teacher night and getting the orders processed quickly when they came in.

e. Fundraising – Cheryl Schneider

Poinsettia fundraiser has made \$7205 as of right now. Delivery date is next Wednesday, Nov. 29. She has 25 extra to sell at p/t interviews. She needs volunteers to help sort and hand out. She felt sales were lower than expected.

f. Naturalization – Maureen Gayle

In October there was mulch delivered and it was placed in beds. Memorial signs were placed. The pea gravel gets swept every once in a while but it is contaminated with dog waste. Unfortunately, the city will not be placing new “No Dogs” signs. A notice will be placed in the newsletter reminding parents that there are no dogs allowed on school property.

g. Parish Liaison – Teresa Stadnyk

SATG Christmas decorating and setting up the Nativity on Dec. 2 and they need volunteers for parking control at 6 and 9pm Christmas masses.

The youth group is selling the Sunday Missals to raise money for their pilgrimage. The cost is \$5 each.

The Christmas gift tree is set up in the Narthex. Parishioners are encouraged to tag a gift tag from the tree to purchase a gift that needs to be under the tree by Dec. 10. They also require volunteers for gift wrapping, hamper packing and/or deliveries. Sign up sheet is in the Narthex.

Dec. 2/3 CWL will be selling advent wreath and candle sets while supplies last (\$25).

Table tennis drop in sessions in the church basement Thursdays at 7pm.

8. Administration’s Report – Carl Gratton

- a. May/June 2017 PAT results are on the website. Our school does well academically, especially in Grade 9. We have a high percentage of kids writing the exams compared to other schools. However, our school scored just below the provincial average for Grade 6 in math. The school is working on identifying students with areas needing work and getting them additional support.

Math Intervention/Programming Instrument (MIPI). Utilized for Grades 4-9 to diagnose specific areas where students are struggling and to identify individual students for additional support.

Targeted Professional development time to coordinate and align math instruction from grade 4 through to 9

Additional team planning time for math programming to meet needs identified.

b. House System Update

The classes have been divided into “houses” named after birds. Buddy systems were honoured and the students will do activities together and houses get points based on these activities: Orange and black day, veterans food bank, etc. are awarded points. The next event is the CCC event – St. Vincent de Paul society’s hampers for Christmas. The giving tree is on display in school. \$5/students Chore-a-thon. Each donation gets ornament on tree. The money will go towards gift cards for the families in need to buy Christmas gifts for their children. Encouraging students to EARN a donation doing chores, etc. at home.

c. We’re not breaking even in the canteen because we haven’t raised prices for 5 years. Lasagna and Caesar Salad, Chicken Fingers and Caesar Salad, Pulled Pork on a Bun, Chili and a Bun, Spolumbo's Sausage on a Bun, and Chicken Burgers will increase from \$3.50 to **\$4.00** per meal beginning in Jan/18.

e. JH students are filling out a survey of whom they see as their champion. 85% only put down a parent as their champion.

d. School Activities

- i. The senior boys captured the banner when they defeated St Joan of Arc in the Championship final on Nov 3.
- ii. Students in all grade 5 classes completed projects and shared their work on the aux gym on Nov 3.
- iii. In support of the Veterans food bank, students worked with their buddy classes to donate food items. But first JH students competed in their first TA challenge - they built a castle with their donations, congratulations to winners 7Grant. Thanks for the support. We collected 3249 items in total.
- iv. Cup stacking events Nov 9.
- v. Faith Based Performer Chris Bray visited BCN on November 9 to present to all classes in two separate sessions.
- vi. Peace Celebration November 10 led by Grade 2.
- vii. The end of November also marked the end of the first experience in CTF programming for grades 5-7. Each student will have the

opportunity to evaluate the course to inform our process as we go forward.

- viii. Close to 1400 shoppers attended Annual Christmas Market.
- ix. Wrestling practices have commenced with the end of the season scheduled for December 8 (girls) and December 9 (boys). BCN hosted a tournament on November 22. The finals are held at Notre Dame High School
- x. Basketball club for JH boys has commenced and will run until the season begins.
- xi. Intramural floor hockey is underway.
- xii. Spectrum club has begun and meets on Thursdays after school.
- xiii. Students in grades 4-9 will completing the annual Our School survey before end of November.
- xiv. Surprise fun activity has been planned for the students in all grades for the afternoon of Nov 29.
- xv. Progress reports issued on Friday November 24.
- xvi. Interviews on the evening of November 30 and Dec 1 (daytime- no classes).
- xvii. On the evening of Nov 30. Mr Gratton will present a workshop to interested parents on a topic requested following the last presentation on Sept 21. Topic: ***How to Motivate the Unmotivated Student 630 -730pm.***
- xviii. Pep rally in period 4 for JH on Dec 5.
- xix. Work habits recognition for JH students on Dec 7 in period 4.

9. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting was put forth by Laurie Best. Meeting adjourned at 8:41pm.

Next School Council Meeting is Thursday December 14, 2017 in the Learning Commons (Christmas Social to follow meeting)