



MINUTES

Blessed Cardinal Newman School Council Meeting

Date: February 1, 2017 at 7:00pm

Number of Attendees: 23

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Laura Dennison at 7:03pm.

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: Mary Martin – Trustee**

There are 7 trustees of which 3 are new since the last election. It is an all female board. The board is very diverse which provides a range of viewpoints and varied experience. They serve as a conduit for the vision of the community to the district and province. They are policy setters and politicians who liaise with municipal and provincial governments. Decisions are made with the benefits to the district as a whole in mind, which can be challenging to each ward. Community engagement is important to help plan our future. The Thoughtstream survey consultation process is coming soon regarding the budget. It consists of open-ended questions regarding what parents' value, what is working and what isn't working. In planning the parent trustee forums the board tries to learn what is important to parents to try to offer subjects that are worthwhile.

The school board works for the preservation of Catholic education in Alberta. There are movements afoot to eliminate it. Diligence is required by parents to be aware of the issue and be involved when it becomes more of a reality.

2. **Approval of Minutes of Last Council Meeting** (Dec, 14, 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 Dec. 14, 2017 School Council Minutes as presented was put forth by Liisa Batti seconded by Lori-Ann Bergeron. Motion Carried.

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

- a. Report on Parent and Trustee Meeting – Jan. 23, 2018 – The Power of Our Relationships with our Children by Jody Carrington.

This was an excellent presentation. It addressed the lack of emotional regulation in our children – how their reactions go from zero to trauma. She addressed ways to deal with this. She is coming back on March 13 to Coast Plaza Hotel to do the same speech as it is very popular and highly recommended to attend. E-mail Laura to RSVP at bcn.schoolcouncil@gmail.com.

- b. The Teacher Appreciation Lunch was provided by School Council on Jan. 24. David's donated tea (thanks to Cheryl Schneider) and Tesoro Italian was hired to cater it. We came in under budget for this event. Eight volunteers came in to supervise the students while teachers had lunch. Special thanks to Cheryl Schneider for getting the tea donation and her help during the event. Also, thanks to all who volunteered for this event.

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

- a. School Council current balance: \$18940.57
- b. Education Society current balance: \$3313.36

6. **Committee Reports**

- a. Family Event – Mary Rose Argonza Oberhoffner
 - i. We had a phenomenal turn out of well over 400 people in attendance at this year's **Winter Luau** which occurred the evening of January 19th.

388 people (113 families) had RSVP'd by NOON the day of the dance and indicated that they would be ordering 314 hot dogs. This number does not include the parent and student volunteers who stepped forward, or the people who just showed up.

- ii. Admission and Food Tickets were paid at the main entrance and prices were as follows: \$2/person up to 3 people, \$5/family for three or more people, \$2 for hot dog combos (consisting of a hot dog, bag of chips, and bottle of water), \$1/Pina Colada, \$0.50 bag of Veggies and Dip, \$0.50 bottle of water.

Based on Food Tickets Redeemed, we sold the following: 248 Hot Dog Combos, 10 Bottles of Water on their own, 33 Veggies, 206 Pina Coladas.

- iii. Dancers were treated for a second year in a row to the incredible, **DJ Squiggly Sounds, David Hanishewski**. We had a unique surprise Polynesian dance performance by the lovely and gracious ladies from **Pearls of Polynesia which** featured audience participation, warrior cries, the hukilau and our own Mr. Gratton!

Other surprise guests included Moana and students who dressed up as our mascot, Swoop the Eagle. They did a phenomenal job going around, dancing and taking pictures throughout the evening.

- iv. Other highlights included: the delicious pina coladas, complete with mini umbrellas and slices of fresh pineapple as garnish, that Cheryl, Laura and the wonderful volunteers at the Canteen made; the fantastic prize patrol, Erin; limbo lines; door prizes; and other prizes. The prizes for Best Costumes were generously donated by The Jolly Goods Candy Shoppe in McKenzie Towne (thank you to Carol Flores-Gracia for getting that donation). There were also some water bottle infusers donated by **Booster Juice**.
- v. The only issues that came about were fairly minor and will be looked at for next year if this event is repeated: There were some crowding issues as the sheer volume of people was unexpected. We had a package of glow sticks mysteriously vanish. We also had several volunteers who committed but were unable to attend for

various reasons at the last minute or just did not show up for their shift.

- vi. For those that DID volunteer and are here this evening, I, personally, would like to say a HUGE Thank You as I don't know what I would have done without your help in both planning and executing this event!!!!
- vii. The School Council budget for the dance is allotted at \$1000.00. Total expenses which included, food, entertainment and decorations for the dance = \$1879.52. Keeping in mind the very reasonable prices we charged, the total money earned at the dance was \$1528.60

This means we only spent \$350.92 out of the \$1000.00 allotted.

b. School Supplies – Marnelle Perras

- i. Marker round up is continuing.
- ii. Started investigating school supply lists to get quotes from Write-On and Staples as well as standardizing the lists to reduce waste.

c. Fun Lunch – Sarah Pereira sends her regrets but sent the following report.

January was the first month for the Lunch Lady. There were a total of 130 orders (40 of which were for pancakes!). Delivery was on time and 100% accurate. It took some time to distribute the warm meals into the individual student bags but there were the right number of volunteers to help and the Lunch Lady had staff helping so everything was ready in time. So far they have not received any feedback (positive or negative) but they would like to hear from parents and students. Please e-mail bcn.funlunch@gmail.com with your feedback. Thanks to all the volunteers who help with Fun Lunches every week – your time is greatly appreciated.

d. Parish Liaison – Teresa Stadnyk

- i. SATG is having a fundraising dinner theater “A Journey to Jesus” on Sat March 17, 6:30pm in the parish hall. Buy your tickets in

advance on Feb. 3/4: \$20/adult, \$10/youth, 10 and under free.
Tables of 8.

- ii. International Night at SATG. Calling all cultural groups and families on Sat Apr. 21 to celebrate 15th anniversary of the church and 20th anniversary of the parish. It will be an International Food Fest.
- iii. The Community Garden will be having a lunch and learn meeting on Sat. Feb. 24 @ 11:00am. It is a soup or salad lunch for \$10/person.
- iv. 2018 donation envelopes are ready to be picked up in the Narthex. Contact the office if you have not used envelopes in some time so you can be issued the 2018 ones. Please do not use old/outdated numbered envelopes and these cannot be tracked.

7. Administration's Report – Carl Gratton

- a. Our School Survey results are on the school's website. Click on "about us" and then "reports". They can also be found in the February newsletter.
- b. Mid-Year Report (school plan update). The school plan is revisited at this time of year to re-evaluate whether the goals have been met, are still in the process of being met or have not been addressed yet. This is outlined in the February newsletter.
- c. JH School Convention is being planned as part of the school plan to address some of the issues that arose in the School Survey. There will be various speakers, a trade show and other activities.
- d. School Events Update – Tara Ehret
 - i. Band Concert was held on Dec. 15.
 - ii. The students made a giant circle of snow angels at recesses on one of the snowy days.
 - iii. Advent Liturgies were held on Dec. 21

- iv. Grade 1's were visited by an "Elf" to answer their Christmas letters (responses were written by Grade 9 students in Mrs. Barciak's class)
- v. Family dance on Jan.19 was a huge success.
- vi. Congratulations to the basketball teams.
- vii. Lots of field trips happening after Christmas break.
- viii. BCN Basketball tournament on Feb. 5-9 for SR Boys and Girls.
- ix. Hamburger Day on Feb 12 to support B Ball Tournament.
- x. Shrove Tuesday Pancake Breakfast Feb. 13.
- xi. Feb. 14 Ash Wednesday Liturgy @ 10:45.
- xii. Feb. 28 Pink Shirt Day.

8. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting was put forth by Lori-Ann Bergeron. Meeting adjourned at 8:38pm.

Next School Council Meeting is Wednesday, March 14, 2018 in the Learning Commons.