

Minutes for school council meeting- September 20, 2018

6:30 p.m. at Holy Child School

Call to order – 6:30 p.m.

- **Attendance** – Quorum (parent majority, Chair and Principal in attendance) achieved.
- **Parents:** Claudette Gourdeau-Chair, Amy Ressler-Vice Chair, Denise Krueger-Secretary, Sara Engelhardt- Treasurer, Dawn Harrison, Michael Lee, Ryan Slimmon, Marie Brown, Rachel Livingston, Courtenay Walsh, Cody Topp, Maria Topp, Lisa Witherley, Rhodora Casten, Simona Eva, Elene Dolgushina, Olga Konstantinova,
- **Staff:** Christine Gannon-Principal.

1. Welcome & Introductions: Staff, School council and parents all introduced themselves.

2. Opening Prayer (Claudette) & Territorial Acknowledgement: (Denise) (3 min)

3. Approval of Agenda /Minutes (2 min)

- Minutes read and reviewed with all in attendance.
- **Motion:** Approval of Agenda and May 16 ,2018 Meeting Minutes. Englehardt/Krueger - Carried

4. Administration Update – Christine Gannon - Principal (15 minutes)

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers on our School Council Executive. Thank you to our parent/guardian volunteers who went on the Jr. High Fieldtrip this week to COP!

- We are in desperate need of parent/guardian support for volunteering for activities at HC School, for example, fieldtrips and sporting events. If we do not get the volunteer support that is required for these activities, we will not be able to participate in sporting events away from the school, etc.
- Playground Update - Our playground is so beautiful! Thank you to the Alberta Government for giving us a \$250,000 grant for our playground, and to our wonderful School Council for their support in the planning Process. A very special THANK YOU to Mr. Michael Lee, an amazing parent at HC School for all the preplanning and groundwork to help facilitate our playground.
- Enrollment: 361
- Staffing Update/Classroom Configurations: 2 additional teachers this week (Div.I&Div.III)
- School Plan 2018 /2019: Continue with our District's "Champion" Initiative & Math focus.
- Storytelling Residency: "Jeff Stockton" (Tentative date: Dec.)

- Communication: Please see our "Spurs Weekly Bulletin" for weekly information.
- o Refer to our Website for most current information
- o School Connects: Email or text messages (Please ensure we have your most up to date information)
- Sports Update: We are working on building a Cross Country Team to attend the Cross-Country Meet at the end of September. We have a boys and girls senior volleyball team and we are running a developmental volleyball league to support our junior players. Unfortunately our senior teams could not secure parent volunteer drivers, therefore, all of our away games will be forfeited unless that team agrees to come to our school.
- Maybe look into a partnership with Southland.
- Note to go out for drivers.

Enrollment/Staffing Updates/Classroom Configurations:

- Total: 361
- K am/K pm (Mrs. Matheson)
- Gr.1/Gr.1 (Ms. Cartier-Aries & Mrs. DaCosta/Mrs. Chmilar)
- Gr.2/Gr.2 (Miss. Himsl& Mrs. Villareal)
- Gr.3/Gr. 4/3/Gr. 4 (Mrs. Schier, Miss Dupont & Mrs. Zuchetto)
- 6r.5/Gr.6/5 (Miss Sheets & Mr. McDonald) & 6r. 6/Mrs. Mahalek
- Welcome to our 2 new Special Education classes: Elem. & Jr. High (Ms. McKeown & Ms. Old) .
- Welcome to our new Special Education Assistants

Often, parents are confused about combined classes. Here is some information for you:

- All classes, regardless of whether they are combined or not have students learning at a variety of levels.
- Combined classes have two grades within each class. All homeroom configurations are balanced for learning abilities and social development.
- Teachers develop and adjust programming for each child - just as they would in a single grade classroom.
- The benefits of a combined grade class are:
 - o Developing independence and responsibility
 - o Increased motivation to learn
 - o Fostering social and academic Growth
 - o Encouraging respect for others
 - o Building leadership and decision-making skills

In all homeroom configurations, the following occurs:

- Alternating teacher guided activities, independent activities and project-based learning activities
- Combined grade classes offer a creative learning community where dedicated staff guide and encourage academic excellence.
- Each grade level completes Alberta Education prescribed curriculum. The teacher may use a variety of assessment tools to help your child learn the curriculum and to ensure each child's learning needs are met.

Fundraising - From the upcoming cheque writing campaign, money collected will be spent on programs such as:

- Storytelling Residency
- Zorbit Math Program
- Athletics Program

5. Chair's Report – Claudette (10 minutes)

1. Thank You's
 - a. everyone for coming out tonight; the Welcome Back BBQ & meeting; Special note to those volunteers and the many donations received to put the BBQ on
 - b. Michael Lee for all his work in making the playground a reality for this year.
 - c. To Amy, Denise and Sara for sitting on the executive for SC
2. Procedures & Communication
 - a. Quick note to share about the role of parent council as being an advisory role to school admin
 - b. Ensure due-process with communication; first Claudette then proceed as either as SC or if required to school admin.
 - c. Issues that fall under school parameters are to be directed to Christine
 - d. Agenda items need to be communicated with Claudette – 7 days prior to the next school council meeting via email (cgourdeau@shaw.ca) or cell (403-990-1743)
 - e. School Agenda's are made and put out approx. 1 week before SC meeting. If the item is not on the agenda, it can not be discussed at the meeting.
3. Upcoming events for the first half of the school year (Now – Dec'18)
 - a. Proposed dates:
 - ✚ September 20- Welcome back BBQ
 - ✚ October 17- 2nd School Council Meeting

- ✚ October 26 – Halloween Dance
- ✚ November 17- Parent Steak /Pub Night
- ✚ December 7th– Christmas Movie Night

b. They have been approved by Christine, with the understanding that things may need to change based on district/school requirements that may arise throughout the year. Christine will communicate in a reasonable time as permitted if there needs to be a change.

4. Volunteers

- a. We need volunteers! Last year recap – most of what was done, was directed by SC with some involvement of others. We struggled to get quorum at some of our meetings last year. We need you to come out and get involved. Follow your passions and help build that Holy Child School Community.
- b. Claudette asked Michael to spear head the Halloween Dance, as this was a passion he shared last year, but we were not able to accomplish. He agreed.
- c. Fundraising Chair – Kim Perry has stepped up to lead this work. She was not able to attend tonight. Please think of ideas, come prepared to share and discuss next SC meeting.

- Volunteers – Pub night - November 17. Denise to organize with manager.

6. Treasurer Report - Sara (7 min) Beginning school year balance is \$2864.54

Motions:

1. To pay Denise Krueger back for ketchup bought at Sobeys for welcome back barbeque in the amount of \$19.92. Englehardt/Ressler. Carried
2. To pay Denise Krueger back for Burgers bought at M&M meats for welcome back barbeque in the amount of \$652.68. Englehardt/Lee. Carried

7. Committee Updates – Amy (15 min)

- Healthy Hunger – October 4 & 18
- Special Events –
 - Halloween Dance (Oct 26.)
 - Parent Pub/Steak night – Saturday, November 17th
- Fundraising –
 - Colleen Dejonng – Bake sale
 - Kim Perry – Fundraising Coordinator
 - Popcorn machine purchase

- Buddy Bench
- December movie night. 2 gyms?
- School Council meeting – Oct 17 – November 21.

8. Adjournment of Meeting (8:00.P.M)- Motion: Englehardt/Slimmons. Carried.

Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, October 17, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.