

St. Gregory School Council Meeting Minutes

Tues., Oct. 3, 2017

In Attendance: Janine DiPaolo, Debbie MacDonald, Jan Adams, Craig Kittelson, Sandi Oelhaupl, Nadine Cowan, Pamela Liang, Erin Flory (for Chris), Maura Uchacz

1. Meeting called to order by Janine at 6:33 p.m.
2. Craig led the opening prayer (see Faith Day Pin prayer) and gave the Territorial acknowledgement.
3. Review of September meeting minutes; motion to approve made by Debbie; seconded by Sandi.
4. Kelly Calvert with ESIII update and tour (Educational Support – highest level – St. Gregory has the only JH ESIII classroom in the District)
 - 4 students, very diverse grouping (3 are senior high students, one junior high)
 - Focus this year is on what happens after high school – Life Skills (ie. Store, garden)
 - Tour – Sensory room, kitchen area, lots of technology and supports
5. Reports:
 - a. PRINCIPAL: Craig
 - start-up was great – special focus on building connections (in relation to District Champions initiative)
 - hosted Cross Country meets with schools coming from across city; 15 St. Gregory students will be going to City Finals this Thursday
 - volleyball season well underway. Tremendous interest in playing for teams. There will be a volleyball club after volleyball season for interested students. Intramural volleyball has been offered (participation appears to be weather-dependent).
 - Upcoming Events: Thanksgiving Liturgy, Thurs., Oct. 5, 2017 at 11:10.
 - Clay Tile Mural project to celebrate 50th birthday will take place Oct. 11 & 12; students will each create a tile to be permanently affixed in the school
 - change of Trustee General meeting (to Nov. 7) means we may need to change our meeting date (Wednesday, Nov. 8 is the likely new meeting date)
 - b. CHAIR: Janine
 - Thank You:
 - to Sandi, for help in our transition to a new chair and for 4 years of service as Chair
 - to Nadine, for 2 years of service as Treasurer
 - to Chris, for stepping up as our new Treasurer (letter for signing authority will go home to Chris's wife)
 - others, for continued support
 - new attendees and members for coming out

-Chair and Executive orientation was held last week – took place over 2 days

- tips for Council members on website (council acts as an advisor to school community; handbook has everything you need to know; council bylaws or operating procedures are on-hand; agendas have timelines/set topics; all members are part of ASCA, which has its own resources and website; minutes need to be reviewed before meeting; minutes watermarked with Draft until approved at next meeting; parent concerns addressed by school administration rather than council; fundraising may be embarked upon; councils and societies are separate; principal is accountable for all decisions, including funds; bank statements go to school; specific guidelines for building playgrounds)
- next Trustee meeting is Nov. 7 which is for chairs and principals only, but the other meetings are for everyone.

c. TREASURER: (Chris Absent – presented by Nadine)

- we have approximately \$8 500, as indicated on the Summary of Revenue & Expenditures as at August 31, 2017
- see #6 below for forecast budget

d. FUNDRAISING: (Jamie Absent – notes postponed)

e. SPECIAL LUNCH: Maura

- Healthy Hunger doing very well
- suggestion of hosting a lunch to reward volunteers (especially Rosie) who help set-up, outside of the hockey team who uses it as part of their required volunteer hours (about 20 students, twice per year)
- motion to approve \$100 to budget for pizza lunch for 2 Volunteer Thank You lunches - motioned by Sandi; seconded by Debbie; passed.
- a few glitches (4 people mentioned it to Maura) with the ordering website
- 37 Healthy Hunger dates on the calendar this year

6. Planning for Upcoming Year's Budget:

- See Summary of Revenue & Expenditures as at August 31, 2017 – Forecast Budget for 2017/2018 – for figures
- There will be a school-level cheque-writing campaign, then the application for the CIP grant that would potentially match donations to increase spending ability – campaign would run from Thanksgiving to before Remembrance Day
- Expenses to be continued by council:
 - My Blueprint (\$500); Telephone (\$500); Year-end Appreciation gifts/breakfast (\$500); Robotics (\$800); Mathletics (\$1500); and Grade 9 Year End (\$500).

- d. Expenses to be reviewed by council (and possibly discontinued, depending on other needs arising):
 - Teacher Incidentals (to be used on materials or kids – up to a maximum of \$100 for a full-time teacher; \$50 for half; for a total of \$2050); and ASCA Conference (\$500);
- e. Expenses to be discontinued by council (these costs will be covered at the school level):
 - Activity Day fees (\$500), science fair lunch (\$200), Music department (\$1000), and debate club (\$300);
- f. Wish List Items that council will consider paying for include (these were all be tabled until the next meeting at which time a firm price should be available):
 - banners which will be put up in the school (around \$1000 for a total of 3 banners);
 - new basketball hoops (\$7600 for materials, install etc. – other departments may help cover that cost); and
 - Healthy Hunger Volunteer Lunch (\$100)
- g. Wish List Items to be covered by the school and grants:
 - 50th Birthday Tile Project (\$8000 for materials - \$1000 paid last year so \$7000 remaining + an additional cost to attach it (\$1000), but we'll apply for a Calgary Catholic Education Foundation grant to help cover these expenses);
 - replace lab computers by end of year (\$10000 - \$12000), which the cheque-writing campaign proceeds, along with a matching CIP grant, will hopefully cover.
- h. Budget to be finalized and approved at the next meeting

7. Education Act Consultation Update: Sandi

- a. Invited to Alberta Education Act Consultation (Bill 1 and how it affects the province's school boards) which covered: school fees, transportation; age of access (currently must be 19 on Sept. 1 to gain funding/access to an education – the suggestion is to raise it to age 20); age of entry (must be five before Mar. 1 here, but not consistent across province – recommendation was 5 before Dec. 31)
- b. was over 2 days – open to Trustees, school councils/parents to attend
- c. there was an overwhelming sense that School Trustees require autonomy to make the best decisions to meet the unique needs of each Board/District.

8. Mental Health Awareness: Craig

- a. Dare to Care coming next week – will especially looking at bullying vs. conflict

9. New Business: Sandi

- a. Change Day – Nov. 17 – Alberta Health – commit to do one thing that will change one aspect of your health (pledge online <http://www.changedayab.ca>)

10. Meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM - Next meeting is Wednesday, November 8, 2017.