



St. Gabriel School Parent Council

585 Signal Road, Fort McMurray, AB, T9H 4V3

EMAIL: stgabrielpc@gmail.com

Minutes - November 08, 2017

6:35pm School Staff Room

This meeting was called to order at 6:35pm with an opening prayer done by Everyone.

In attendance:

John Barfoot, Sarah Dube, Melissa Highfield, Susan Wilkie, Ashley Seniuk, Bev Pilgrim, Gayleen Sinclair, Cathie Langmead, Jennifer Malbon

The minutes from the September 13, 2017 meeting were approved by Sarah Dube and seconded by Gayleen Sinclair.

Guest: Cathie Langmead Trustee of the Catholic School Board.

Introduction of Cathie to the parent council. Congratulations for reelection. Discussion around the Councils of School Councils. A group of members that include a superintendent (trustees that will bring information back to the board), parent council members. This group will discuss key education issues as well as the pillar of reports, AB Education Reports, transportation, student fees and the 3 year plan for the District/ schools. More education related meetings. Inquiry of what they should do to increase the number of parents that attend. Suggestions from Parent council to increase parent attendance: Webinars or linked in as an additional option. Baby sitting.

Principal Report:

PAT results in. Last year was uncertain due to the wildfires. Over all was a strong success story. Full report to follow through email communication to parents and teachers. We will be focusing on bringing our overall average up this year. February - Grade 4 take a survey (parents) and they mail this back to the government. This is a good gauge to see the effectiveness of programs such as 'Leader in Me'. These are good results, however we are always striving to raise the bar each year. The addition of 'Raz Kids, Mathletics, Reading Eggs' all contribute to increasing the average.

Co-Chair Reports:

Election of Co-chair: Co-chair position still open.

Volunteer Update & Parking Permit Draw: Volunteers needed for parent teacher interviews welcome table, Christmas Store, Christmas Luncheon, Smoothie Day, Apples, Breakfast Program. Utilization of Signup Genius for setting up volunteers. There were 128 volunteers for the past month. Laura Rumbolt was drawn for the parking permit from Nov 9-Jan 10.

Crosswalk: The Bylaw Officer is still looking into this for us. Waiting for an update. Round table - Suggestion of a letter from parent council with possible petition to Roads and Transportation including the counselors in the communication. This is due to the potential safety hazard. More information to follow.



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ASCA Workshops: The Superintendents of Catholic and Public Board are looking at setting up some workshops with ASCA because two new public schools opened and it's a good opportunity for both school systems. We will wait for these workshops.

Meeting Time Poll Results: Majority selected 3:30-5pm timeslot. Parent Council decided that we will try February's meeting at this time. Will have to ensure childcare is still available.

PTI Welcome Table: Will include pamphlets, volunteering opportunities handout, and wanted/captured bulletin. Parent Council agreed to offer mints/water/oranges. Volunteers needed.

Sun Ergoes – Theatre & Dance: Had this group in the past and wasn't a great presentation. Parent Council decided not to proceed with this this year.

Staff Christmas Luncheon: Will purchase the meal from Safeway on the first Tuesday of December to get the discount on trays. Volunteers needed for supervision.

Fundraisers: Staples School Tools went well made \$315.00. Dieleman Catalogue - Raised \$1982.40 - Shipment received and distributed. Christmas cards raised \$210.00 - canceled evening session due to lack of interest. FundScrip - Received \$9925.00 so far with an average of \$340.00 profit - deadline November 14 at 8:30am. Additional forms to be made available in the front office and Facebook page. Suggestion of purchasing gift cards for events. Parent council decided against this for liability and tracking reasons. Gift Card Holders will be available for sale during FundScrip distribution (\$2 each or 3 for \$5) including a few cards received from the hostess of the Christmas Card Making Fundraiser. M&M's distributed next week - cut off November 28 - Pickup Dec 8-15. Gayleen questioned the District Policy which restricts Parent Council's from choosing certain food category fundraisers after noticing other Catholic Schools were doing a fundraiser for pizza. Gayleen will write an email as a parent to the Superintendent inquiring about more details on this topic.

Coordinator Reports:

Special Event Day: Popcorn Day - Went smooth aside from the popcorn machine needing replacement or repair. Discussion about fixing or the purchase of a new popcorn machine. Gayleen Sinclair motioned to purchase a new popcorn machine for up to \$800.00 - Sarah Dube seconds. Parent council unanimously approve. November 29 - Smoothie day.

Christmas Store: Purchased gifts from shoppers that is closing down. Point of Sale (POS) system available to us from the company to use to cash out students. Will look into this option more.

Bulletin Board: Will be changed mid-November to promote the Christmas Store and M&M Fundraiser. Melissa requested help on embellishing the Leader in Me bulletin board by the JTP classroom.



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Valentines Dance: 3 mom's as potential volunteers. Reach out for more volunteers on signup genius. Gift baskets - how many, how much and what kinds. Suggestion for Lego, movie, sledding, art basket, pet basket. All ranging from \$30 - \$40. Raffle to take place the following day. This allows for kids with extra tickets at the end of the dance to place them in desired basket raffle boxes. Parent council agree. There is a DJ booked and 2 face painters lined up.

Breakfast Program: Discussion around Breakfast program. Fruit went well. Suggestion around the addition of a cart out front, more volunteers, and a volunteer to possibly man the cart. Sarah Dube motion to purchase a cereal dispenser, Gayleen Sinclair seconds, parent council approve.

Treasurer Report:

Email banking and email transferring set up today. Student council email used for parent council to track. Gayleen Sinclair motion to have Michell Chellew and Jody Boyle removed as signing authority and to add Jennifer Malbon as new signing authority. Sarah Dube seconds and parent council approves.

Summary of Account Balances on October 31, 2017 - Community of Spirit Account: \$2,145.94

Community of Spirit Account: \$19,096.43

Total Deposits

\$21,242.37

Closing Comments and Round table: Accelerated Reading Prog.(AR) may consider dropping for costs and savings if reading eggs works. Not having term rewards used - AR reward, frees up \$650.00 and could be used elsewhere e.g. a picnic. 20min learning session around AR, Leader In Me, Reading Eggs. Committee is in agreement. Add to next meeting's agenda.

Potential opportunity for students to present Leader In Me or Mathletics to parent council at our next meeting.

Parent Council to work on better communication on use of fundraising money via Facebook page and through John's weekly newsletters. Will also include information about the Facebook group on John's next weekly newsletter.

Dieleman Spring Fundraiser to be temporarily booked to secure 50% profit. Add to next meeting's agenda to discuss if we will proceed with it.

**Next Meeting dates and Times: January 10th, 2018 - 6:30pm-8pm & February 7th, 2018 - 3:30pm -5pm
All parents welcome!**