



# St. Gabriel School Parent Council

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

EMAIL: [stgabrielpc@gmail.com](mailto:stgabrielpc@gmail.com)

## Minutes – February 8, 2017

6:30pm 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, Gayleen Sinclair, Lana Obrigewitsch, Marianne Corbett

The minutes from the January 11, 2011 meeting were approved by Gayleen Sinclair and seconded by Lana Obrigewitsch.

### **Principle's Report**

There has been a down-turn in moods. This January has been a hard month because of all the Friday school days, cold weather with indoor recesses, and it being 9 months from evacuation. The Teachers' meeting on Friday will establish a plan to deal with it. Staffing still remains as an issue as teachers have been ill.

April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting might have to be moved. For that week there is Science in Motion, Music Festival, and Mr. Barfoot may have to attend a workshop. A decision to move the meeting will be made at the next meeting.

Magician will be coming February 23<sup>rd</sup> 9am. This is funded by a donation from the church.

Parent Teacher Interviews will be March 27 & 29.

### **Chair Discussion**

#### **Volunteer Update/ Parking Permit Volunteer Draw**

Current volunteer opportunities include: Apples for Apple School and Bulletin Board. For the past month there were 59 occurrences of volunteerism at the school. Gloriann Hillman was drawn for the School Council parking pass permit from February 9 - March 8<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Valentine's Family Dance**

Due to lack of volunteers the activities have been downsized and the doors to EEP and towards the meeting room will be closed. Therefore, bean bag toss and puzzle will not be done, the location of activities were relocated, and a photo booth back drop will be used in front of the blue doors going to EEP.

#### **Pallet Board Sign (Our Happy Place)**

The Pallet Board Workshop includes all materials and 2 hrs of instruction (not including setup or clean up). Prices are \$55-\$65 depending on size of the stencil; \$10 for Parent Council – max of 25 people. Parent



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Council must do all the promotion for it but Our Happy Place will collect the money then give us fundraising amount at the event. The paint being used is Home Hardware Beauti-tone, which is not odourless but minimal. Once deposit is paid it is non-refundable. The dates provided by Our Happy Place were discussed and the dates that worked for Parent Council and the location were March 14, April 3, April 26, April 27 daytime only. Gayleen and Marianne stepped forward as volunteers. It was decided to do it from 6:30-8:30pm and do a Facebook poll to see which date (April 3<sup>rd</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup>) there is more interest for.

## Lessons Learned

### **Santa Packs for Homeless**

Was finished quickly and would only need volunteers for 1.5 hours if filling 150 packs. Probably won't be done next year.

### **Teacher Christmas Luncheon**

Would alter the menu to have the extra buns, meat plater, and chicken wing platter, and one less dessert platter. Will also rename it to Staff Christmas Luncheon.

### **Teacher Appreciation Gifts**

There were mixed feelings on this; for those who did try it - some had great response and others did not. Going forward will focus more on non-monetary appreciation initiatives that can involve the entire class and is optional such as fingerprint card, hand outline poster, hand formation picture.

### **Popcorn Day**

Sold 241 bags and profit was \$208.85. Won't request money in advance instead collect number of participants in the morning from each class. This should reduce returning money for those who are not there that day. Delivery at lunch time was difficult because not everyone was in the class at the delivery time. The gap time between deliveries was good and allowed time to get more supplies.

### **Smoothie Day**

Sold 18 Half cups and 213 Full cups; profit was \$335.75. It went very smoothly for collection, making, and delivery. Could reduce the delivery time interval to 10 minutes and only need 3 volunteers (1 to do prep, 1 on blender, 1 collecting/ counting money). The gap between AM and PM deliveries was good and allowed time to get more supplies.

## **2016-17 Parent Council Goals**

Sarah presented some of the items that she has been working for Parent Council behind the scene. It includes an Executive Orientation Manual with templates, checklists, letters, volunteer database, profile information; tracking number of volunteers and interest/participation at activities; establishing Class Parent Reps; increasing technological communications through the website, Facebook, sign up genius; creating welcome packages for new students who enter during the school year and new EEP/K students at the open houses.



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## Bulletin Board

The next bulletin board will be "Be the Reason Someone Smiles". It will include take and give compliment cards. Every student will also get a Good Deeds Scavenger Hunt card to complete. The card is to be initialed by an adult. It was also suggested that they be stapled in the student's agenda so that it doesn't get lost as easily and can be initialed by parents and teachers. Prizes will be handed out at the end of every week for the month of March.

## DancePlay

DancePlay was brought forward as an activity to have at the school. The program focuses on developing physical literacy and fundamental movement skills. It also fosters positive social interactions and mental health through the 3 Rules of PLAY: Be Positive. Be Fun. Be Yourself. Students are motivated to move in their "Bubble of Awesome" as they leap, jump, skip, play and dance their way to healthy and happy living! Motion was made by Gayleen to fund this one day workshop. Lana seconded the motion. Jenna will organize it.

## ASC Conference & AGM

The Alberta School Council Conference & AGM is April 28-30<sup>th</sup> at the Delta Edmonton South. The Executive Committee members were invite to attend with the cost of the conference and hotel to be paid for by Parent Council. Some members were interested but they need to check their schedules.

## COSC

Items discussed at the last meeting included:

**Santa's Anonymous Update** - Natasha McArthur Poole (Last year they packed 565 hampers, and the final numbers are not in for this year, but the estimate is 850-950; They did not send perishable items in the baskets this year, because they did not have the storage facilities for it. So it was toy baskets and gift cards; That meant easier packing, so next year they will probably go down to one day shift and more night shifts; This year they had sizeable donations from the Red Cross and the Trades & Technology Center in Edmonton; They are expecting similar numbers next year)

**Alberta Education Results Report** - George McGuigan (There are no diploma/PAT results because we were exempt from writing them; Our dropout rate is one of the lowest in the province; FMNI completion rate is the highest in the province approximately 80%; 100% completion rate from the high schools this year. Not having to write diploma exams was a benefit to the students with lower marks; Next year will give us a better academic picture)

**Teacher and Substitute Teacher Shortage** – George McGuigan (Approximately 30 TOC's and 40 TAS; Doing everything they can to try and get teachers, but it is hard for people to commit to move here with no contract; Schools can advertise or reach out to parents letting them now that TAS positions are available)



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**Father Merc Vex Robotics Regionals** – Natasha McArthur Poole (Being held Saturday, January 4th 9am-3pm at Father Merc. They have 3 teams coming up from Edmonton to participate, and it is open to the public)

## **Treasurer Report**

End of January statistics are as follows:

\$13,493.34

First account - \$11,349.40

Second account - \$2,143.94

## **Closing Comments and Round Table**

Deileman has approached us with a spring catalogue fundraiser. It was agreed to see what was available in the catalogue before deciding on whether or not to do it.

School supplies through Staples for next year should be coming up soon.

Meeting adjourned at 7:38pm

**Next meeting: March 8, 2017 at 6:30pm. Location: St. Gabriel School staff room.**