



# St. Gabriel School Council

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

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

## Minutes – May 5, 2020

2:00pm Online Google Meeting

This meeting was called to order at 2:00pm with the FMCS Land Acknowledgement.

### In attendance:

Jennifer Lacey, Sarah Dube, Abbie Ouellet

No amendments were made to the March 10, 2020 minutes.

### Principal Report:

#### **Offsite Learning**

St Gabriel School teachers have embraced offsite learning by setting up google classrooms, websites, and paper workbooks. Currently there are 5 EAs working with students remotely. Alberta Education has announced there will be no physical school for remainder of 2019-2020. A form of evaluation will be given but won't be in depth like previous report cards. About 70% of students are participating in offsite learning. All requests for technology or workbooks by parents have been met by the school. For some families the parents are working from home or are essential services and therefore are less able to accommodate offsite learning. As well there are some students who haven't checked in or picked up their school items at all. Staff is available at the school during 9am to 3pm for student items to be collected or library books to be dropped off.

### Treasurer Report:

MAR 9, 2020 – APR 26, 2020

Summary of Account Balance on Mar 9, 2020	\$14, 828.47
Expenses (Office/Mail, Valentine Dance, Special Event Day, Water for Staff, Pink Shirts)	1,227.19
Deposits	<u>0,000.00</u>
Summary of Account Balance on Apr 26, 2020	\$13,654.28
Outstanding Transactions	
Deposits – Debit for March Hot Lunch – need to be reimbursed	\$50.00

There was also a discrepancy of +\$3.00 between the school report and treasurer report. Further investigation is required.



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## Chair Report:

### OLD BUSINESS

#### Election of Executives

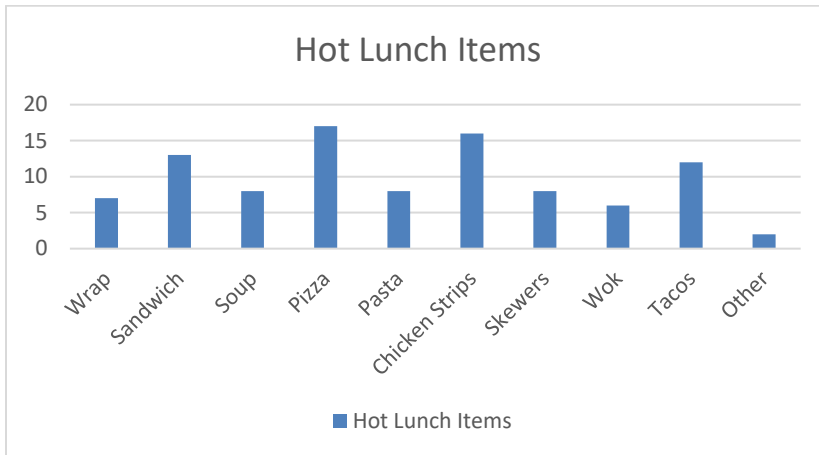
No one currently step forward for Vice Chair, Secretary, or Treasurer.

#### Teachers Wish List

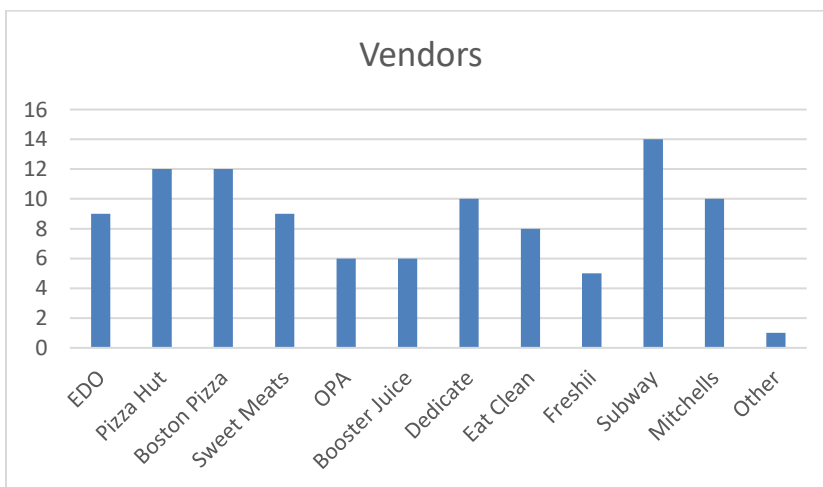
One request was received from Mrs. Falewski to purchase a class set of white board markers for \$27.99. This item has been approved.

#### Council Surveys

The April survey results about 2020-21 Hot Lunch options are presented in the following graphs.



Other was smoothies.



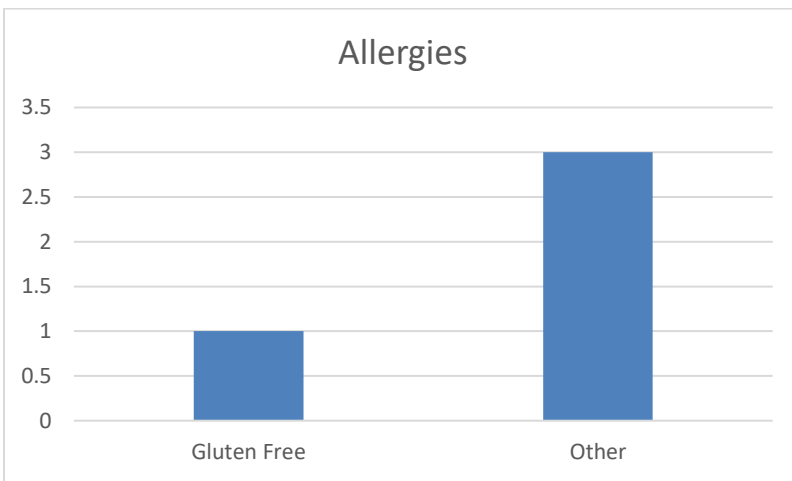
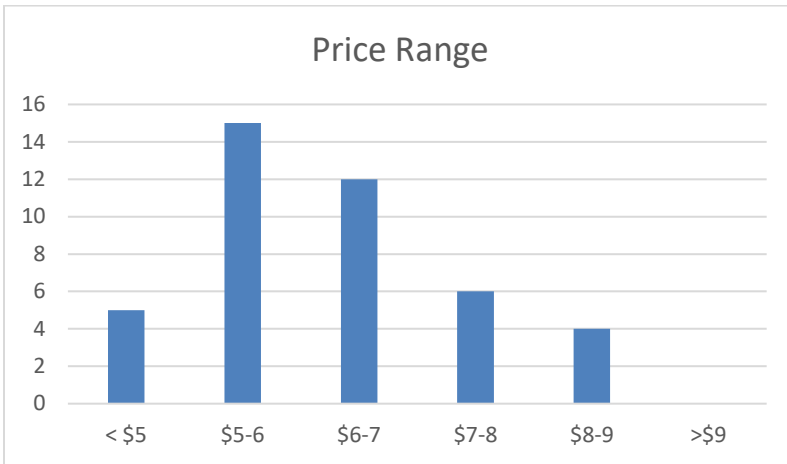
Other was School Council.



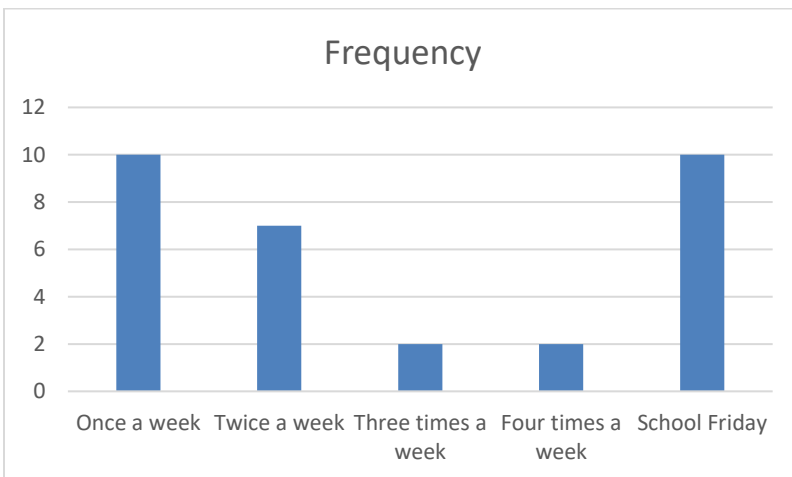
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Other included Dairy Free, Egg, and Soy.





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The May survey will be about resources/support that School Council can provide for parents. It will ask if parents require any of the following resources/ support during offsite learning: reading books; tutorials for accessing and using school class websites; craft supplies; busy books/worksheets; technology; online resources for education; and other. This survey will be sent home next week and the deadline for responses is May 19<sup>th</sup>. Sarah will then use the results to put in place any resources/supports requested, starting with the resource/support requested most to least.

## **Volunteers**

Currently there are no volunteers needed for the remainder of the school year. Sarah thanks everyone who has volunteered for the school year and appreciates what our volunteers do for our school. All the things that School Council does would not be possible without our volunteers.

## **Garden Boxes**

Jolene had her meeting with her contact, Josh, from the Garden of Eden, Evergreen Church. Josh has grant writing experience and is willing to pass on any tips if we are interested. He got financial injections from three different grants totalling \$40,000-50,000. Josh suggests we should look at the raised garden beds between St. Anne and Timberlea schools and recommends they be at least 18-24 inches tall so the soil doesn't dry out too quickly especially if built on asphalt/ concrete. His supply contacts were: Joracan for the compost bins that rotate for stirring. They are a Quebec company that has a local Alberta representative that drove down to deliver them. You can see them on both sides of the shed beside the church. They used Duke's Building Supplies for wood supplies to build boxes, Burnco for soil, mulch, sand, and a guy on Facebook Market Place for the water tanks. Water tanks were \$100 each and Josh did the custom designed spigot pieces from PVC. Michelle's Independent Grocers outdoor/grocery manager, Fehed (actual name is Mohammed), was approached at the end of season to get supplies at a major discount. The used tires were free and other wood came from a guy on Facebook who was giving it away. Josh recommends checking out Facebook market place for free items such as green tools, bees, worms, etc. The sign was half price from a guy in Sapræe Creek. Josh can provide more detailed information about contacts as requested.

Mrs. Lacey had decided to start with 4 garden boxes at the front corner of the school, where Eymundson Drive and Signal Road meet. More garden boxes will be determined based on the teachers/ parents/ community response to them. If successful in getting volunteers over the summer to water and weed the boxes, then more will be built. The grant deadline has been extended and Mrs. Lacey will follow up with Ms. Jenna Powers about the application.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **CCSC (Collaboration of Catholic School Councils) Meeting -former COSC**

Four items were discussed during the meeting: ASCA Advocacy Resolutions 2020, GrACE Community Engagement Session, Budget 2020-21, and Covid-19. There are no concerns with the intent of the proposed ASCA Advocacy resolutions. School Council are encouraged to review the resolutions with their School Council and vote. If you are unable to make it to the ASCA AGM, a proxy can be arranged. The GrACE Community Engagement Session is on March 30<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at Father Beaux for about 1 hr. It will go over the



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role of Catholic religion in the school and how to continue to promote it within our schools. The format of the evening will include information and break-out sessions. District has been given the budget and framework for next year, 2020-21. Several grants were combined together to give Boards more flexibility in distributing the money as they require. However, the amount has not increased. Districts will also be accountable to substantiate when reserves are used. It is anticipated that modifications will be made to the framework as the year roles out. In response to Covid-19, District has formed a committee to review the emergency response procedure that was developed a few years back in response to the H1N1 and includes individuals such as the head caretaker, teachers and administration. This committee is establishing the supplies and resources needed to ensure the safety of the students for this situation. District is following the direction from Alberta Health on the matter. Information and updates about COVID-19 is available on the District website. Several precautionary steps are being taken by schools and are outlined in detailed in the Superintendent's email to parents.

## **ASCA Conference & AGM**

The ASCA Conference was cancelled due to Covid-19. The ASCA AGM went forward as an online meeting. The new board of directors has been selected and published. For more information visit <https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/>.

## **Spring Fun Afternoon**

School Council has already collected some of the items for the spring fun afternoon. It was decided that the crafts be handed out at the next teacher/ student engagement parade which is planned for later in May.

## **Support/Resources for Teachers and Parents**

Currently at this time teachers do not require any support or resources from School Council to proceed with off-site learning. Our teachers have been doing an extraordinary job during this time. However, with limited physical contact with students and parents, there have been less opportunities to show our appreciation for our teachers. Therefore, Sarah will encourage parents to reach out to the teachers and show them their appreciation for them at this time.

School Council will survey parents/guardians to see what resources/ supports they would like School Council to provide. One parent has already reached out about reading books and therefore it has been included as an item on the survey. Sarah will ask for help from the school or parents to fulfill any requests/ supports requested, starting with the resource/support requested most to least.

## **School Grounds Cleanup**

Every year the school organizes a school grounds clean up. However, without students physically attending school the litter is beginning to accumulate from the winter melt. Sarah has contacted the municipality to find out the guidelines for community cleanup this year. She has not received a response as of yet. Mrs. Lacey noticed that RMWB staff have been in the area collecting litter at the adjacent properties to the school. Since Mrs. Ouellet has been going to school she will check to see if the school grounds have also recently been cleaned up. If not, Sarah will organize a signup genius for families to help cleanup the school grounds. This will limit the exposure to Covid-19 by reducing amount of people onsite at once and giving the volunteers a defined area to stay within. Garbage bags and gloves will be provided.



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## **Fundraising:**

### **Special Event Day**

The extra hot lunch on Monday March 23<sup>rd</sup> was cancelled due to Covid-19. The group discussed whether or not the money collected should be returned or an alternate extra hot lunch date be scheduled for the fall. There were only two students in grade 6 who had submitted orders. The list of orders was provided to Ms. Samson and Mrs. Lacey to determine how to proceed. Sarah will bring in the money collected for the hot lunch to be deposited.

### **Growing Smiles Flowers**

This fundraiser was cancelled. Alternatively, School Council will look into Growing Smiles Christmas Wreath Fundraiser and Spring Flowers Fundraiser for the next school year.

### **PTI Parking Spot Raffle**

Since there were no PTIs this fundraiser did not proceed.

### **Boston Pizza Receipts**

The receipts that were collected at the school from January will be submitted for the Operation Education 5% cash back.

### **School Supplies**

School Council will continue to provide a school supply purchase option for the 2020-21 school year. Regardless of the phased roll out of school in the fall, school supplies will still be needed for students for the school year. Deliveries will be made to home to reduce contact. Staples and School Start will be contacted about the programs they will be offering. Preference will be given to the supplier who provides delivery to home and flexibility in deadlines to order.

## **Closing Comments:**

Meeting adjourned at 2:51pm.

**Next Meeting date and time: An online google meeting will be scheduled in June. Date to be determined and communicated the week prior to it. All parents welcome!**