



St. Gabriel School Parent Council

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

EMAIL: stgabrielpc@gmail.com

Minutes – April 5, 2017

6:30pm School Staff Room

This meeting was called to order at 6:33pm with an opening prayer done by Everyone.

In attendance:

John Barfoot, Sarah Dube, Susan Wilkie

The minutes from the February 8th and March 8th 2017 meeting were approved by Sarah Dube and seconded by Susan Wilkie.

Principle's Report

Mr. Barfoot gave an update on the Leader in Me school program. Mrs. Highfield attended a session on March 8th and presented back to staff. Unfortunately Mr. Barfoot was unable to attend for personal reasons. Mr. Barfoot is attending training on April 5th and 6th at Westview school. Westview has been Leader in Me for 4 years so their program is well established. Staff is still scheduled to attend training in August.

District is determining staff requirements for next year by looking at the anticipated numbers of students, staff resignations, and leave of absences. A note will be going home after the Easter break asking parents/ guardians to fill out a form on their enrollment intentions for next year. Father Beauregard has announced that they will be reopening for the 2017/18 school year. Currently we have 278 students; approximately 15 are students from Good Shepherd and Father Beauregard. It is possible that there might be more split classes next year.

Chair Discussion

Volunteer Update/ Parking Permit Volunteer Draw

Current volunteer opportunities include: Apples for Apple School and Spring Fun Afternoon. Apples for Apple School is filled for the remainder of the year and one parent has signed up for the Spring Fun Afternoon. For the past month there were 34 occurrences of volunteerism at the school. Marianne Corbett was drawn for the School Council parking pass permit from April 6th- May 24th.

Gabe's Groceries

We have gotten several food donations and have one family using it so far. Therefore, no special fundraising days are required at this time. More communications will go out to promote it and emphasize the confidentiality of the program in efforts to get more using the program. The food that is getting close to the expiry date will be donated to the food bank if more families don't come forward.



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Lessons Learned

1. **Pallet Board Signs** – Was a success; 16 slots were filled for a profit of \$160. Things to look at doing next time would be to collect the money ourselves; provide babysitting if the next day is not a school day; try not to schedule it too close to any school breaks as this one was just before Easter break.
2. **Good Deeds Scavenger Hunt** – Went well; had to put up compliments on the bulletin board daily; for the last week there were only a few rewards handed out; there was some concern that it wasn't distributed to all kids in the class or was lost in transition.

ASC Conference & AGM

The ASC Conference & AGM is April 28-30th at the Delta Edmonton South and no one has come forward to attend. Sarah will follow up with Gayleen on the option to vote by proxy. The proxy voting process allows a member parent delegate from another school council to bring your council's vote to the AGM.

Christmas Store

It was decided that the date for the Christmas Store next year would be December 6-8. This will allow more time for students to mail to family members and shouldn't conflict with the Christmas concert which is anticipate to be the following week.

Walk-a-thon

The date was not decided as we are still waiting to find out when Jump Rope will be at the end of May. Similar draw prizes will be used from previous years such as gift cards, passes, and school wide goal for a popcorn day. Draw prizes will be by number of donations rather than dollar amount and will be announced the following day during morning announcements. Sarah will look into getting the bottles of water donated and purchasing the jelly bracelets.

School Supplies - Staples

District is reviewing the school supply list with the intention of reducing the items for families to purchase. This may impact whether or not it is worth doing the Staples School Supplies as a fundraiser for Parent Council. More information will be available after the Easter break and a decision whether or not to proceed will be made by the Principal and Co-chairs.

Spring Fun Afternoon

Information has gone home this week and the deadline for permission forms is April 19th. The crafts included this year are colouring wooden baskets/pictures, scratch offs, folding fish/ fortune tellers, I Spy activity sheet, beaded backpack pull, and string art. It is anticipated to have the physical activity and snack in the gym and the crafts in classrooms. Dedicated volunteers will be set up in each classroom to help students with the crafts. This way the students can go around at their own pace and choose to do all or some of the crafts. This is only feasible if enough volunteers come forward for the number of students participating. Snacks to be provided will include granola bars, fruit, and water.



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Bulletin Board

The next bulletin board will be to promote the Walk-a-thon Fundraiser.

Canada Post Grant

Canada Post has a grant available to fund community projects for children. It is a maximum of \$5000 for an elementary school and has to go towards a specific initiative such as breakfast programs, anti-bullying initiatives, literacy, health, recreational or special education programs. The deadline to submit for this year was April 5th but it is something to look into applying for next year. There are several programs that we currently do such as the Apples or Dance Play that we could choose to use for the application.

AR Picnic

Accelerated Reading Picnic is on Tuesday June 27th. A letter with a food choice slip will be sent home prior to the date. Parent volunteers will be required to pre-make and package food choices in the morning so that it is easier to distribute at lunch time. Food choices will be for a wrap (turkey or chicken; lettuce; tomato, cheese, mustard, ranch), for sides (carrots, cucumber, watermelon), and for drinks (water, apple, orange juice).

Treasurer Report

At the time of the meeting the March statement was not available.

Account balances are as follows:

\$11,484.10

First account - \$9,340.10

Second account - \$2144.00

Closing Comments and Round Table

Meaghanne Burt has approached Mr. Barfoot with the Organic Box as a fundraiser. More information is to be provided to Parent Council.

Dance Play was a success and greatly appreciated by staff and students.

Science in Motion is wrapping up tomorrow with an assembly in the afternoon. During the first day assembly Parent Council was thanked for funding the event.

Meeting adjourned at 7:24pm

Next meeting: May 24, 2017 at 6:30pm. Location: St. Gabriel School staff room.