



# St. Gabriel School Council

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

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

## Minutes – November 19, 2019

3:15pm Indigenous Liaison Room

This meeting was called to order at 3:17pm with an opening prayer done by everyone.

### **In attendance:**

Jennifer Lacey, Abbie Ouellet, Sarah Dube, Darlene Scharf, Lynne MacCuish

The following additions were made to the agenda under fundraising: Valentine's Family Dance

No amendments were made to the October 8, 2019 minutes.

### **Principal Report:**

#### **Breakfast Program- Food Drive**

Mix 103.7 approached the school about doing a food drive for the breakfast program and cooking class. A list of items has been provided to Mix 103.7 but no further information to when and how this is to take place was provided.

#### **Christmas Concert**

Christmas concert for grades 1-6 is Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the school gym. EEP/K will have their Christmas concert during school hours on Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. The format for the Christmas concert will be similar to last year and there will be a stage for easier viewing of students. A sign up genius will be available for parent volunteers to sign up to help with set up and take down.

#### **Nutrition Grant**

The Fort McMurray Catholic School District received a Nutrition grant and has divided it amongst the schools who are in need for it. St Gabriel School has received \$10,000 which can only be spent on food. Mrs. Knott will be doing the Food Handling Course at the school. This grant will be used towards the fruit in the office, breakfast program items, cooking class ingredients, nutritious lunches such as noodles and sauce, and apple school food taste testing.

#### **Polar Bear Club**

Mrs. Lacey will be starting up the Polar Bear Club at our school this winter. The Polar Bear Club provides the opportunity for students to go outside more often as long as it is warmer than -24C. Interested students will be able to pick up a form for parents to sign giving them permission join the club. It will be optional and if the kids don't want to go outside on a day when it is an indoor recess then they can stay inside. It was suggested that parents might also be available to volunteer for supervision of the club.

#### **Intramurals**

Mrs. Germain and a team of student leaders will be organizing intramurals during indoor recess days to encourage more physical activity for students.



# St. Gabriel School Council

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

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

## **Bulletin Board Contest**

Recently the Student Lighthouse Team had a Halloween bulletin board contest which 4M won. The Lighthouse team has several other ideas which they will be presenting soon to Mrs. Lacey. We can look forward to a few more student led ideas to take St. Gabriel from good to great!

## **Lego Donations**

The Lego Robotics Club started and there was an overwhelming interest. However, due to the complexity of the programming it will be available for grades 5/6 on an ongoing basis. Grade 4 students as welcome to come by and see what it is all about. It was suggested that parent volunteers might also be available to volunteer for supervision of the club. Used Lego donations are still being collected and can be dropped off at the school office. As well any magnetic blocks or technics will be accepted.

## **Indigenous Liaison**

The Indigenous Liaison position has been filled and they will be starting December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## **Treasurer Report:**

OCT 7 – NOV 18, 2019

Summary of Account Balance on Oct 6, 2019	\$9,326.70
Deposits (Deileman Catalogue, Walk-a-thon, GST Rebate)	8,691.82
Expenses (Child care, Council Appreciation, Eco Club, Fruit, Office/Mail Teacher Appreciation, Waterfor staff, Walk-a-thon)	<u>1,290.74</u>
Summary of Account Balance on November 19, 2019	\$16,727.78

## **Chair Report:**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Election of Executives**

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

#### **Teachers Appreciation/ Wish List**

Ten teachers have submitted for the teacher \$100. Mrs. Lacey will let the teachers know that the remaining funds of \$651.23 are available for a teacher’s wish list. This can be for individual or group purchases such as grad 6 and kindergarten graduation presents, crafts, school supplies, books, or Lego for the Lego Robotics Club. Teachers are to submit their requests to school council for approval.

#### **PTI Welcome Table**

A welcome table will be set up at the entrance of the school during Parent Teacher Interviews. PTIs are Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup> 4-7pm and Thursday, November 28<sup>th</sup> 4-7pm. The welcome table will include a



# St. Gabriel School Council

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

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

bulletin poster board of what school council is and the vacant positions needing to be filled. Raffle tickets for the Parking Spot Raffle and Christmas Concert Couch Raffle will also be sold here.

## Jessica Dale

A Wacky Hair Day will be done on December 5<sup>th</sup> by donation to raise funds for the Dale family in memory of Jessica Dale. There was also discussion about how we can do something for the family in the upcoming months such as doing a memorial plaque on the buddy bench in her memory as she was an advocate on mental health awareness. It was also raised that there was concerns of the impact to her child in doing something and that this would set precedence for future situations. School Council will reassess the family's needs in 6 months to see if anything additional will be done.

## Eco Club- Zero Waste Workshop

The Eco Club attended the Zero Waste Workshop put on by Elements Society last Friday. It was a great learning and brainstorming session. Other schools in attendance that the students got to converse with were St. Kateri, FM Christian School and Timberlea Public. The group will be setting a goal, communicating it, measuring before and after, and reporting the results. The Eco Club will also do a presentation during a success assembly. The next steps are to do a waste audit the week of November 25<sup>th</sup>. The Eco Club members will buddy with the waitlist students to do this. Parent volunteers will be need for lunch recesses to assist with the endeavor. Sign up will be done through sign up genius and made available through Facebook, email, and [www.stgabrielsc.ca](http://www.stgabrielsc.ca).

## NEW BUSINESS

### Creativity in the Class

Typically in EEP and Kindergarten students are required to colour by staying in the lines, using colours that make sense, leave no white spaces, and use 5 or more colours. The tool below is used to develop the skills of early development. However, to encourage creativity in the class once the previous skills are mastered by students the alternative poster below shows how we can stay in the lines or play with the lines, use realistic colours or any colors, fill the white space or not, use lots of colours or just one or two. Teachers will be notified that parent volunteers can make the creativity poster for their classroom if they want.





# St. Gabriel School Council

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

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

## **ASCA Engagement Session**

St Gabriel School Council is hosting the ASCA Engagement Session at our school on November 23<sup>rd</sup> from 1-4pm. This is an opportunity for school councils to provide input to ASCA on matters that concern our parents as well as have the opportunity to connect with the Minister of Education. To make this session more accessible to parents and other school council members Sarah requested that we provide and pay for the child care service. Sarah motioned to approve \$60 for child care service. Darlene seconded and all in favour.

## **Christmas Staff Luncheon**

To show our appreciation of our staff we provide a Christmas staff luncheon on the last day of school before the Christmas break, Thursday December 19<sup>th</sup>. Platters will be ordered on the first Tuesday of the month from Safeway downtown to get the best discount. Sarah motioned to spend \$350 on make your own sandwich, condiments, veggies, chicken wing, and squares trays. Darlene second and all in favour.

## **Bulletin Board**

The bulletin board for December is Slide into the New Year and for January is Valentine's Family Dance. Volunteers are required to put up the bulletin boards. Sign up will be done through sign up genius and made available through Facebook, email, and [www.stgabrielsc.ca](http://www.stgabrielsc.ca).

## **ASCA Survey Choice in Education**

ASCA is requesting that parents fill out a survey on Choice in Education. The development of the Choice in Education Act will affirm that parents are the primary decision-makers in their child's education and support the range of choice within the current education system. This is a parent's opportunity to protect, improve and enhance education choice in Alberta including: public and separate schools, Francophone schools, charter schools, private schools, early childhood education and home education. Deadline for the survey is December 6<sup>th</sup>. The survey link has been made available on Facebook and will also be included in an email this week. Choice in Education Survey Link: <https://extranet.gov.ab.ca/opinio6/s?s=PCEdu>

## **AB Health Survey – Tobacco and Vaping**

AB Health is requesting that parents fill out a survey to provide their input on ways to improve Alberta current tobacco legislation to further prevent and reduce the harms of tobacco, vaping and tobacco-like products. Deadline for the survey is November 29<sup>th</sup>. The survey link has been made available on Facebook and will also be included in an email this week. AB Health Tobacco and Vaping Survey Link: <https://extranet.gov.ab.ca/opinio6/s?s=tsra>

## **Breakfast Program**

Since receiving the apple donation from Superstore we have an abundance of apples. Therefore, Sarah has started to slice the apples and dehydrate them into apple chips and make apple sauce and dehydrate it into apple fruit rollup or use it for the popsicles on the breakfast cart. Sarah requested that the cost of the dehydrator and kitchen supplies: mandolin, colander, and strainer be made by School Council. Darlene



# St. Gabriel School Council

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

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

motioned that \$300 be available to cover the dehydrator and kitchen supplies. Lynn seconded and all in favour.

## **Fundraising:**

### **Walk-a-thon**

The walk-a-thon raised \$6,256.70 with \$497.10 in expenses for a profit of \$5,853.71. This was more than last year but less than the first walk-a-thon.

### **Dieleman Fall Fundraiser**

The Dieleman orders have been received and will be handed out to students this week. The financial section reports revenue of \$2,063, however, the balance of \$275.95 was still owing therefore the profit was \$1,787.05. This was lower than previous years in which we would raise about \$2,500. It would be better if there was more time between handing out the catalogues and the deadline.

### **Special Event Days**

Extra Hot Lunch of Chicken Strip Meals is set for Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup> because there is no hot lunch that day since pizza will be on the Wednesday of that week. Gluten free chicken strip meals will also be available. Information to go home this week and deadline for order forms is Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **Boston Pizza Operation Education**

Information was sent home in November by email and we have collected 5 receipts totaling a return of \$9.59. This number significantly lower than normal. During each term (Sept-Dec) and (Jan-June) we usually get a return of \$50. The possibility of providing the information about the program through print media was discussed. The group felt that due to current economic environment that families are eating out less or using skip the dishes instead. Therefore, promotion of the program will only continue electronically.

### **PTI Parking Spot Raffle**

The parking spot raffle sales will be available during PTI on November 26<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> 4-7pm. Tickets are \$1 each and the draw will take place at the end of PTIs on Thursday November 28<sup>th</sup>. The winner will have the parking spot from November 29<sup>th</sup> to January 14<sup>th</sup>. Information to go home this week.

### **Make it Sow**

Information about the Make it Sow fundraiser was presented. There are several seed packages to choose from. Our profit would be 50%. The consensus around the table was preference to get plants from the growing smiles fundraiser since it requires less effort and of those in attendance no one would purchase the seed packages. Therefore, the group agreed that we would not do this fundraiser.

### **Christmas Concert Couch Raffle**

The Christmas Concert Couch Raffle sales will be available during PTI on November 26<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> 4-7pm. Tickets are \$1 each and the draw will take place at the end of PTIs on Thursday November 28<sup>th</sup>. Two



# St. Gabriel School Council

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

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

winners will be selected for front row couch seating of 4. Separate collection will be made for EEP/K for classroom resources. Information to go home this week.

## **Valentine's Family Dance**

The Valentine's Family Dance will be Tuesday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 from 6-7:30pm. The primary focus of the dance is to provide a social event for families as well as fundraise. In the past the dance has brought in around \$800, however, the focus is to have all event costs covered. DJ from last year is booked. Face painting is a big hit so it was suggested to have multiple stations spread out and not do tattoos. Another alternative to face painting, a Fairy dust station, was suggested. The group agreed to have one face painting station and one fairy dust station. Sarah will approach the previous face painting parent volunteers to see if they would be available and Darlene will organize the fairy dust station. The group agreed that new games for the hallway be purchased. The idea of a scavenger hunt was suggested but would encourage the students to run. The reason we started having games in the hallways was to stop students from running up and down the hallways. Sarah knows of a company with good quality valentine's games and will provide the information to Darlene. Something new this year will be a craft station to do a photo frame to go along with the photo booth. An actual photo booth that prints out pictures was suggested but would be costly. Typically the photo corner was a free activity at the dance so that families who do not have the extra disposable income could still do one of the activities. Darlene will look into getting a backdrop and using red and pink helium balloon on the sides to fill the space. Lynn offered to pick up items from Edmonton in mid-December if needed. No photographer will be available but parents can take photos with their phones or cameras. Raffle ticket baskets will be available. Last year the class pizza party basket didn't do well so the focus will be on lego, nerf, girly toys, movie night, and craft. Food options will remain similar to previous years with the exception of adding the option of a gluten free pizza. All other pizza must be made with whole wheat or multigrain crust which is available at Little Caesars, Pizza Hot and Panago. Last year's vendor was Little Caesar and the price was very reasonable. Orders need to be made at least a week in advance. The gym decoration will be a heart-gram in which students will write kind words about other students or staff in the school. Volunteer time slots will be reduced into 45-minute shifts so that parent volunteers can also partake in the event. Therefore, a minimum of 16 volunteers will be required. Also having back up volunteers available to fill in for bathroom breaks or if a volunteer doesn't show be useful. Westwood high school does have a community volunteering course for credit so anyone with contacts to make this arrangement would be appreciated. Volunteers will also be needed for other Valentine Dance prep work because many hands make for light work. Glow in the dark necklaces and bracelets will be available for purchase. There are left-over glow in the dark items from last year to use as well. Another suggestion to increase fundraising was a song request but due to the limited dance time it would only profit approximately \$15 which wouldn't be significant for the effort of it. Sarah motioned to approve \$200 to be spent on raffle baskets and an additional \$500 be spent on new games, decorations, glow in the dark necklaces/bracelets, prizes, face painting/ fairy dusting supplies, and photo frame craft. Darlene second and all in favour.



# St. Gabriel School Council

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

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

## **Closing Comments:**

Meeting adjourned at 4:34pm.

**Next Meeting date and time: Tuesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – 3:15-4:45pm. All parents welcome!**