



# St. Gabriel School Council

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

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

## Minutes – February 19, 2019

4:00pm CTS Meeting Room

This meeting was called to order at 4:14pm with an opening prayer done by everyone.

### **In attendance:**

Abbie Ouellet, Sarah Dube, Geraldine Connors, Jennifer Lacey

No amendments were made to the January 15, 2019 minutes. Quorum was not met and therefore all items on the agenda were for discussion only. Motions will be tabled for the next meeting.

### **Presentation: Heart Math**

Natalie Mansvelt explained how she has been using a variety of calming programs with the different grades. Each meeting attendee was able to use the Ipad with the Heart Math app and heart monitor as she explained how she has been working with students to understand what the statistics mean and how to influence them. Students are able to track how different activities and deep breathing can affect how their mind is working. Students are challenged to remain in the green zone for greater than 80% before moving onto the next level. There is a total of 4 levels. She has at the school 7 Ipads and heart monitors. It's not a program that she can use with an entire class, so she works with smaller groups or individuals on Heart Math. EAs or Teachers have access to the technology if they want to use it with a student during the day. For a classroom setting Natalie uses other programs such as Sunshine Secret for grades K-3 and JTP and Smart Brain Wise Heart for grades 4-6. Smart Brain Wise Heart can be set up so each student has an account.

### **Principal Report:**

Mrs. Lacey presented the draft District Calendar for 2019-2020. It is very similar to this year's calendar where Christmas break starts a few days before Christmas and goes into the first week of January, Easter break is later in April, and days off for staff in lieu of PTIs are with long weekends. The comment was made that it was nice to see not so many Friday School days in January because longer weeks are difficult for the students since there are more indoor recesses due to the colder weather.

Lighthouse team has set a goal to purchase school pride t-shirts (red with the logo on the chest and back) for staff and students. They are currently getting a quote for the t-shirts and will do fundraisers to offset the cost. The Lighthouse team presented to staff their first fundraiser decision to do a pizza by the slice with a juice box. Grade 5 and EAs will help out with the fundraiser. With the costs being approximately \$10 per shirt for 300 individuals more fundraising or donations will be required.

Banners have been purchased to put up on the fence to promote St. Gabriel School. Early Entry registrations are current low and the Open House for EEP/K is April 4. Next year full day Kindergarten will continue to be offered.



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## **Treasurer Report:**

Summary of Account Balance Forward	\$12,317.14
Recent Deposits (Hot Lunch, Drink Containers Return, Valentine Dance)	2,676.45
Recent Expenses (Hot Lunch, Apples, Child Care, Staff Luncheon, Office-website, Parent Recruitment, Teacher \$100)	1,497.44
Total Available on Feb 19, 2019	\$13,496.15

Profits were as follows: Hot Lunch \$45.37, Valentine Dance \$915.66-Pizza Party (receipts to be submitted), Drink Container Return \$236.95.

## **Old Business:**

### **Election of Vice Chair/ Selection of Coordinators**

At this time no one came forward for Vice Chair or Special Event Coordinator.

### **Volunteer Update**

Volunteers are needed for the Recycling Fridays to take the paper recycling to the yellow bins at Save on Foods in Thickwood.

### **Meeting Presentation**

Sarah has made contact with RCMP Cst. Rob Lafleur again because there was no response from Cst. Gloria Norman. He will reach out again. Mrs. Lacey will give Sarah another contact at the RCMP to follow up with. The group discussed other presentation ideas: Lighthouse Team who may need assistance in funds for school spirit t-shirts for all staff and students and a hand bells demonstration with the proposal to purchase a set of hand bells for the school. Sarah will arrange these presentations for the March, April or May meetings.

### **Council Survey**

January Results: What other kind of fundraiser would you support and make a purchase from? FlipGive (0), Spring Flowers (14), Parking Spot Raffle (5), Extra Hot Lunches (19), Bath Bombs (10)), no other options/ comments were provided. Other companies that have approached us are: Dieleman Spring catalogue/ All occasion cards, and In-Dey-Go. It was discussed that it seems that we request a lot of fundraising from our parents and that we should evaluate whether or not it is necessary to do more fundraising. Currently our profits from the fundraising for this year has been below the budgeted amounts to cover the budgeted expenses. Therefore, more fundraising is still required especially if more proposals are requested from School Council. More financial detail will be provided at the next school council meeting to determine exactly how much more is required to cover the remaining budgeted expenses. In comparison to past years more fundraisers have been needed because the net profit from each fundraiser has been less and less over the years. It is not an expectation for all parents to support all the fundraisers, rather to support the ones they feel meet their needs and preferences.



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## **Science in Motion**

Mrs. Lacey approached the staff and they would like to continue with Science in Motion. This item will be tabled until the next meeting to approve the deposit (approximately \$1000) to reserve Science in Motion for the 2019-2020 school year.

## **Sensory Floor Decal**

Mrs. Lacey followed up with the Facility maintenance about the floor decals and it would be fine to do. Mrs. Lacey would like the Nature Hop set for \$325 + GST. This item will be tabled until the next meeting to approve purchase of the Nature Hop set.

## **Eco Club – Food Waste Recycling**

In October Sarah submitted a proposal for funding to do a food waste recycling project with the Eco Club. This is to collect food waste from snacks and lunches to be processed into a soil nutrient within 4-7 hours in a food cycler machine. We have been awarded from the Climate Change Student Action Plan (Alberta Environment and Parks) \$985.45 to put towards the Food Waste Recycling Plan to purchase two Food Cycler Machines and supplies. Once the machines are purchased and received then the Eco Club will present to the school either by individual class or at a success assembly. The soil nutrient will be available for other school/community garden beds. Sarah will make an announcement at the next COSC meeting and reach out to other community groups about the availability of the soil nutrient.

## **New Business**

### **COSC (Council of School Councils) Meeting**

The COSC Meeting on February 4<sup>th</sup> was postponed because of the cold weather. It has been rescheduled for March 4<sup>th</sup> 7pm and location to be determined. All executives are invited to attend.

### **PTI Welcome Table – March**

A school council welcome table will be set up in the entrance during PTI evening hours on March 25/27. It was suggested to provide only fruit and no water bottles. Volunteers will be needed to man the table. This item will be tabled until the next meeting in order to approve the purchase of fruit.

### **ASCA (School Council) Survey**

Sarah reviewed the questions and responses for the following ASCA School Council survey.

1. Does your school have a School Council and a Society? – No

If No:

- a) Why not? – We were advised by ASCA that as a Catholic School we were to only be a school council. There is no need for us to be a society since we do not engage in gambling related fundraisers.
- b) Is your school council strictly advisory or does it participate in/organizing fundraising? – Advisory and organizing fundraising



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- c) If your school council participates in/organizing fundraising, in what way does the administration contribute to decisions regarding how funds are used? – Administration provides feedback and input on how funds are used. We collaborate together as much as possible with the Principal and Staff Representative.

## **ASCA Conference & AGM**

The ASCA Conference and AGM is on April 26, 27, 28 at the Delta Edmonton South.

## **ASCA Draft Resolutions**

The deadline to submit pre-voting is March 22, 2019. This item will be tabled until the next meeting. Meeting attendees were encouraged to review the package prior to the next meeting to expediate the decision process.

## **Alien In-line Skating**

Alien In-line skating is coming March 11-14<sup>th</sup> and a Family Skate Night is on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> 5-6pm and 6-7pm. Sign up for the Family Skate Night will be available via Sign Up Genius. Information and release form will go home the week before. Remaining amount owing is \$2797.20.

## **Breakfast Cart**

Silicone yogurt tubes and popsicle trays have been purchased as an alternative to the dixie cups in order to reduce the time for students to eat them. The tubes and trays are slenderer than the dixie cups which makes it quicker for students to eat. This item will be tabled until the next meeting to approve reimbursement of costs.

## **Hot Lunch Vendors**

The following vendors were discussed as possible hot lunch vendors for the 2019-2020 school year: Mitchell's, Eat Clean, Sweet Meats, Earls, Pizza Hut, Boston Pizza, Wok-Box, Opa, Booster Juice, or In-house (Mac n Cheese and extras, Soup and sandwich combo). It was discussed that cost, quality, and convenience are factors for parents. The higher priced hot lunches or selections that can be prepared easily at home are less appealing, however, parents like that they don't have to prepare a lunch. Since the addition of pizza Fridays there seems to be a lot of pizza. The suggestion was made to only offer pizza on Fridays and rotate other vendors on Wednesdays. Upon review of each existing vendor the following comments were made: Pizza Hut is okay quality for the price, Boston Pizza pasta isn't overly popular, Wok-Box is ok but pricey, OPA portion sizes are too large, Booster juice wrap options are something that can be made at home because they don't come warm. Mrs. Lacey will review with the Shelley, Office Manager, the total orders received from each vendor to determine if they are low order numbers associated to any particular existing vendor. As for other vendors, Mitchell's is too pricey and students are picky about toppings, Eat Clean is healthy but facility isn't ready to accommodate hot lunch orders yet, Sweet Meats quality wasn't worth the price and students are picky about toppings, Earls doesn't meet the choose most often guidelines. It was also suggested that maybe School Council could offer a hot lunch prepared by volunteers in the school kitchen as a fundraiser every two months. The group discussed the options of



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soup/sandwich combo or a whole wheat mac and cheese, carrots/cucumber, fruit bar, granola bar, and juice box. All health codes and food distribution requirements would have to be met. Anticipated profits would be \$1.50 to \$2 per order. Suggestion made to do a trial whole wheat mac and cheese meal deal hot lunch on Monday, March 18.

## **School Supplies**

The group discussed using School Start or Staples for the school supplies 2019-2020 fundraiser. Regarding School Start, staff expressed concerns about the quality of the pencils but parents preferred the flexibility to purchase only items needed versus an entire kit. Regarding Staples, last year only kits by grade were available for purchase and therefore parents were getting more reusable supplies such as scissors, rulers, pencil boxes, headphones, etc. which they didn't need. Sarah will approach School Start and Staples on whether or not they can meet both concerns.

## **Hand Bells**

Upon approaching Mrs. Germain about the category to submit the donation to the Oilsands Rotary Music Festival, she suggested the possibility of School Council purchasing a set of hand bells for the school. Mrs. Germain is currently requesting quotes and anticipates them to be around \$1,300. Other supplies such as cushions, tables, and gloves may also be required. Mrs. Germain will present a proposal to School Council once quotes are received.

## **Fundraising:**

### **Extra Hot Lunch**

The Hot Lunch on February 1<sup>st</sup> from Sweet Meats had a profit of \$45.37. Some of that total was provided as additional donations above the cost of the hot lunch. Feedback received was the soup was messy and salty, soup lids were breaking, there wasn't much meat on the sandwich for the price paid, and students were picky about the sandwich toppings and didn't like the broccoli soup. Group consensus that this wasn't a successful fundraiser.

### **Valentine Dance**

We grossed \$2024 from the Valentine Dance with a profit of \$915.66 minus the Pizza Party expenses still to be submitted. There were 717 food/glow in the dark tickets but there was a lot of left-over cheese strings, apples and granola bars -only 50% compared to previous years sold. Games did very well: kiss the Frog (93) and RaceTrack (84). Face painting went well with 3 volunteers and stencils made it easier to apply (94 tickets- 31 students). Tattoos were easy money (74), however, we believe some of the face painting tickets might have ended up in the tattoos ticket container. Raffle Baskets: Craft (144), Movie (107), Hatchimal (88), Lego (83), Nerf (74), Unicorn (59), Pizza (37), Parking (34). Money was lost on the Pizza Party. Volunteers were an issue to get.

### **PTI Parking Spot Raffle/ Spring Flowers/ Bath Bombs/ Hot Lunch**

The group suggested doing the PTI Parking Spot Raffle in March, spring flowers from Growing Smiles if we



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can meet the company deadline requirements, bath bombs from Soap Much Love with delivery in time for Mother's Day, and whole wheat mac and cheese meal hot lunch on March 17<sup>th</sup>. More information will be gathered and discussed at the next meeting.

## **Special Event Day**

Smoothie or Popcorn Day will be tabled until the next meeting.

## **Closing Comments:**

Thank you to everyone for coming out tonight.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40pm.

**Next Meeting date and time: Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – 4:00-5:30pm. All parents welcome!**