



St. Gabriel School Council

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

EMAIL: stgabrielsc@gmail.com

Minutes – November 20, 2018

4:00pm School Meeting Room

This meeting was called to order at 4:04pm with an opening prayer done by everyone.

In attendance:

Jody Boyle, Karen Arevalo, Ana Everson, Kristi Mardell, Abbie Ouellet, Sarah Dube, Geraldine Connors, Jennifer Lacey

No amendments were made to the October 17, 2018 minutes.

Principal Report:

Since November 2nd our new Principal, Jennifer Lacey, has been nominated at St Gabriel to gain a transfer of knowledge for our staff and students. Mrs. Lacey got the opportunity to open our meeting by reporting and discussing the school goals and PTA results. This year’s school goals will be on numeracy and leadership. Focus on numeracy will be continuous across the school and on word problems and mental math skills. PTA results are fantastic and even though numeracy was the lowest it wasn't by much. Acceptable Standard is the percentage who passed, and excellence is the percentage who receive 80% or higher. More information available on Alberta Education website.

PAT Results:

		St Gabriel	Province
Science	Acceptable Std	100%	78%
	Excellence	47%	30%
Social	Acceptable Std	100%	75%
	Excellence	45%	23%
LA	Acceptable Std	100%	83%
	Excellence	37%	18%
Math	Acceptable Std	94%*	72%
	Excellence	16%	14%

*one student did not pass

Teachers have reviewed the PTA results and test questions to determine specific areas that require improvement. Some ways our school will achieve it’s goals is by focusing teachers’ professional development and educating parents.

The new JTP teacher, Janna Burke, has started. As well, two new EAS have started this week.



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Treasurer Report:

Summary of Account Balance Forward	\$11,778.87
Recent Deposits (drink container return, Colibri, card, popcorn day, walkathon)	1,746.53
Recent Expenses (science in motion)	1,035.00
Total Available on Nov 20, 2018	\$12,483.40

An additional \$500-600 is pending payment.

Old Business:

Election of Vice Chair/ Selection of Coordinators

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

Volunteer Update & Parking Permit Draw

Volunteers are needed for the Christmas Store, Luncheon Supervision, Recycling on School Fridays. PTI School Council Parking spot raffle was announced by Sarah Dube in Live Video on St. Gabriel School Council Facebook group. The profits raised will be used for childcare during School Council meetings.

Council Survey

November Results: A total of 14 votes for Friendship/Bullying – what to do as a parent; 6 votes for Mental Health- Stress Coping for Children; 4 votes for Review of PAT Results. Next survey will be about Valentine Dance raffle basket ideas.

Meeting Presentation

Based on the feedback provided from the council survey, the group agreed to organize a presentation from the RCMP or Alberta Health Services on Friendship/ Bullying for one of our next meetings. RCMP have done an in class presentation on tattling vs telling.

Teacher Wishlist

Email was sent to teachers; received request from Wanda Chaulk for \$78.79 spent on books for the JTP class and Abbie Ouellet for \$134.01 for craft supplies for both grade 4 classes. Mrs. Ouellet motioned to approve the total \$212.80 and Geraldine Connors second, all in favor.

Bulletin Board

Christmas Store is up now, Dec/Jan will be slide into the New Year, Jan/Feb will be Valentine Dance. Parent had suggested doing a Destress Corner idea and the group decided to incorporate it in the Spring Fun Day activities and put it up as a display on the bulletin board.

Science in Motion

This is next week, we have paid the remaining \$1035. Results will be discussed at the next school meeting.



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PTI Welcome Table

Water is purchased and bananas to be bought the week of. Parking spot raffle tickets and float are ready. Information about the raffle to be sent home this week by paper and email. Some volunteers have signed up but more needed. Poster board will also highlight the vacant and filled positions/ expenses/ revenues of school council.

New Business

BP Reading Pizza Party

Since declining the coupons for kid's meal, the Boston Pizza rep has offered to do a school pizza party instead. Teachers are to figure out how to award. Suggest having so many slots available per class so that those who achieve the goals of reading are the ones rewarded.

Mural/ Motivational Sayings

Will be a parents/teacher group effort once this is established from Leader In Me group.

Apples in the Office

Price for a box has gone up from \$60 to \$67.54, so instead Sarah has bought bagged apples, oranges and bananas for about \$40-50 per week; it was suggested that we approach with a letter from the school to receive a donation or discount from Superstore downtown to reduce costs.

Eco Club

Sarah Dube requested that the breakfast cart and School Council special events become more environmental by using reusable cups and forks. Cost of 216 tumblers (\$180), 48 forks (\$60), bins (\$150); total of \$400. The group agreed to purchase a set of 72 cups only. It was decided that students use their fingers for the fruit cups, that the cups be stack on the counter in the classroom instead of in a bin, and there be staggered smoothie day times so cups can be washed in-between and reused. Geraldine Connors motioned to approve the purchase of 72 cups for \$60, Abbie Ouellet seconded and all in favor.

Eco Club has designed and constructed a used pens, markers, highlighters, and mechanical pencil recycling receptacle as part of a contest put on by TerraCycle and Staples. Winning prize is two garden beds, picnic table and \$1000 to start the garden program; second prize \$500.

Eco Club will be doing a compost challenge and requested \$60 for rewards. Abbie Ouellet motioned to approve \$60, Geraldine Connors seconded and all in favor.

ASCA Dec (Isolation Room) Survey

Sarah Dube requested input about Isolation rooms in school. The follow was submitted to ASCA on behalf of our school council:



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1. DOES YOUR SCHOOL HAVE AN “ISOLATION” ROOM? *
Yes
2. WHAT IS THIS ROOM CALLED IN YOUR SCHOOL? (ISOLATION ROOM, QUIET ROOM, SECLUSION ROOM...)
Calming Room
3. DOES YOUR SCHOOL HAVE “GENERAL RULES” AROUND HOW THE ROOM IS TO BE USED?
Yes but we are not aware if there is anything formally written.
4. WHAT INFORMATION HAS ADMINISTRATION SHARED WITH PARENTS ABOUT THE USE OF THIS ROOM?
Communication about use of these room hasn't been consistent between parents. Sometimes there are conversations that might happen during a parent interaction with the teacher. The general parent population is unaware of these rooms as it is used mostly for our students of a specialized program. Our school operates a specialized program called Junior Transition Positive Program. Use of the room is explain in the parent handbook. It compares the space to a bedroom at home - a safe place to calm until they are able to make better choices and is used only in the event of an aggressive tantrum that could lead to possible harm to self or others, a team intervention approach will be used to transfer the child to the calming room.
5. WHAT IS THE SCHOOL COUNCIL’S VIEW ON THESE TYPES OF ROOMS? *
That it should be used when safety of students and staff are at risk. There should be formal processes and reports filled out to document time in, time out, what happened before the behaviour, what the behaviour was, and what other methods of deescalation were attempted. And this information should be shared with parents if the child is having to be placed in the calming room.
6. IS YOUR SCHOOL COUNCIL IN FAVOUR OF, AGAINST, OR UNDECIDED, REGARDING ISOLATION ROOMS?
Majority were in favour. Voting results: 7 in favour, 1 against, 0 undecided.
7. DOES YOUR SCHOOL COUNCIL THINK THERE SHOULD BE PROVINCIAL REGULATIONS REGARDING THE USE OF THESE ROOMS?
Yes
8. WHAT OTHER ROOMS/AREAS DOES YOUR SCHOOL HAVE THAT ARE USED FOR STUDENTS WITH PARTICULAR NEEDS? (EG. SENSORY ...)
Sensory Room, Working Room, Kitchen



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9. HOW AND WHAT ARE THESE ROOMS/AREAS USED FOR?

Sensory room is used for children with sensory processing disorders.

Working room is used for deescalation and self regulation.

Kitchen is used for cooking programs.

Calming room is used for calming, deescalation, safety, and self regulation.

10. WHO MAKES THE MOST USE OF THESE ROOMS/AREAS?

Students from the Junior Transition Program, students with disabilities, student with sensory processing disorders.

Staff Luncheon

To show our staff how much we appreciate them, we provide a luncheon on the last day of school before Christmas break. Abbie Ouellet motioned to approve \$300, Karen Arevalo seconded, and all in favor.

Fundraising:

Boston Pizza Operation Education

The next draw will be on November 29th and there are 17 coupons left to give away. The program continues all year and is operated in two terms, Sept-December 31st and Jan-Jun 30th.

Colibri Reusable Bags

Order was received today. UPS tried to deliver it on Friday Nov 9th but there was no school and Sarah tried to have it redelivered a week ago. A few parents asked if they could still buy to benefit the school. Sarah will post on Facebook to see if there is enough interest to set this up again.

PTI Parking Spot Raffle

Everything is ready for it and information has gone home. Already receiving money for tickets but prefer for payments to be made at PTIs.

Popcorn Day

The popcorn day on November 16th raised \$195 gross; \$150 profit. Next Smoothie Day was decided for December 20th.

Christmas Cards Making

Raised \$157.50 and is happening this weekend.

Christmas Store

Product for the Christmas Store has been received, counted, and priced. There is some nice stuff as well as we have purchased additional dog toys and mugs. The poster contest draw will be on Wednesday November 28th, timeslots for classes has been finalized but not all teachers responded so Sarah ended up filling in the schedule. Parent volunteers requested that only students who have money to purchase items come to the store as to limit student distractions and emotional outbursts of not being able to participate.



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Teachers will be notified that a parent volunteer will come to the classes to get those students who have brought in money.

Valentine Family Dance

Sarah suggested to hire grade 7 students or EAs (\$30 each for 1.5 hours) to run games, tattoos, food, money collect, donations). In past years it has been hard to recruit volunteers because parents want to partake in the dance with their child. Last year we tried to get grade 6 students to volunteer and had only 1 sign up. The group decided to look into getting high school students or boy scout leaders as an option for volunteers. It's also an option to have Karen train a few grade 6 students to do simple themed face painting. Karen suggested her brother as a possible DJ who would donate his time to DJ the dance. The Food Bank was suggested as the organization to focus our donation collections for. The group agreed. It was also decided to do that same games from previous years, tattoos, face painting, picture setup, and food. Sarah suggested to do Valentine-grams such as Smencil Pencils or Glow in the Dark Bracelets to be purchase at the dance which would be handed out on Valentine's Day. Instead the group decided to purchase glow in the dark bracelets and necklaces to sell at the dance and maybe teachers have students do valentine-gram exchanges between classes like the pumpkin-grams they did in the fall.

Closing Comments:

Thank you to all the parents for coming out tonight.

Meeting adjourned at 5:34pm.

Next Meeting date and time: Tuesday, January 15th, 2019 – 4:00-5:30pm. All parents welcome!