

École Père Kenneth Kearns Catholic School

School Council Meeting Minutes

November 24, 2015

IN ATTENDANCE	
Amy Berube– Chair	Paulette Caharel - Secretary
Scott Endres– Chair	Alison Cabay – Treasurer
Natalie Wallace- Vice Chair	Dora Berry- Fundraising Coordinator
Karen Boutin	Jeanine Losty
Christine Carcoux	Barb Crowley
Karen Bohaychuk	Kathy Abelar
SCHOOL STAFF	
Mme. Gravelle - Principal	Marilyne Guay

1. Call to Order

Amy Berube called the meeting to order at 7:01pm

- Opening Prayer Mme Gravelle.
- Approval of Minutes from last meeting, 1st Karen Bohaychuk. 2nd Natalie Wallace.
- Approval of Agenda, 1st Barb Crowley. 2nd Karen Bohaychuk.

2. Old Business

- BBQ Purchase- Amy & Alison both looked at it. It's easy to use, has a 40lb tank, 7 burners. The grand total with tax was \$2094.75.
- Fiscal Summary- The annual return for society was submitted.
- Jump Rope for Heart & Stroke Foundation- January 4, 2016 will be the kick-off assembly. It's a party/celebration to encourage the kids to fundraise. **This will be a Parent-driven event, NOT the teachers.** It's a 100% charity event for the Heart & Stroke foundation; no money will go to our school.
- Christmas Cards Fundraiser- a Huge Thank you to Barb Crowley & Terri Kezema and to all the parent volunteers for helping with the cards!

3. Reports from Council

- Administrative Report
 - Les remerciements: Thank you to Natalie Lavigne who spoke on behalf of EICS parents at the [November 22 10:30AM](#) mass at OLPH Parish. She shared what a blessing it is to have Catholic Education for our children. She spoke beautifully and from the heart!
 - Catholic School Review: Huge success, lots to celebrate. Thank you for participating. **Pam Gravelle is** going to Jean Vanier from [December 2-4](#) to Assist Shawn Haggarty for their Catholic School Review.
 - Possible Modernization of ÉPK. We know not when, but we know we are at the top of the list. Therefore any major initiatives that may be related to our building may not be implemented (we can research and have a plan, but not implement) because of this possible modernization.

- IV. Lockdown VS Shelter-in-Place: First Lockdown practice went really well. Kids were great. Lockdown is used if there is a situation inside the school and we need to protect those inside. Front doors will be locked and no one will be permitted in or out. Shelter-in-Place is when there is an emergency outside of the school (in the community or with weather). Front doors will be locked and no one will be permitted in or out. In a real situation there will be a phone call made (synervoice) to all parents letting them know about the situation. Please do not come to the school to pick up your children. We will keep them safe until the situation is resolved.
- V. Student Leadership Team (made up of grade 4s) will be leading 3 Social Justice projects this year to raise money for Development and Peace. This organization is endorsed by Archbishop Richard Smith, and it helps those in Syria needing support. The Health Champions Leadership Team, made up of grade 3 and 4 students, will be implementing a variety of healthy active school initiatives. The first is the Rainbow Snack. Each week will be dedicated to a different colour of fruits and vegetables. When a child brings in a fruit/veggie of that colour, they get a coupon. The grade level with the most coupons each week will win a dance party in the gym.
- VI. Chapel Committee: Thank you to Natalie Lavigne, Aaron Abercrombie, Kelly Vass, Krista Taylor, Lana Panchuk, Charlene Michaud, Lucille MacPherson, Loraine Auger, Pamela Gravelle. First meeting was on November 17: Great start and we are already starting to bring in items for the Chapel. Next meeting is December 7 @ 9:30AM.
- VII. Promotion of why French Immersion is great for brains:
- VIII. Adapted from Research conducted by Fred Genesee and Peeter Mehisto, discussion on Building Bilingual Education Systems: Cambridge University
- IX. When mono-language learners were compared to bilingual learners, bilingual learners...
- Fought off dementia for 4 more years
 - Had cognitive advantages because they have stronger executive functioning skills, meaning they could attend (be attentive) for longer and with more concepts
 - They had better focus and better attention to the task or goal
 - Communication: they were able to access more resources, in more than one language, without it being a detriment to their mother tongue
 - They were more adept at reading the subtleties of language and body language; they understood more in conversations than just the words
 - They were able to look at problems from multiple perspectives, they got “stumped” less
 - They developed more self-confidence because they worked through more unknowns, and ventured through uncharted territory, coming out with great successes
 - They were more open, flexible and adaptable
 - They were more creative thinkers and problem solvers
 - They have an enhanced working memory, and it surpassed the working memory of mono-language learners, and they surpassed late second language learners; meaning learning a second language at a younger age created a stronger working memory
 - Working memory is the ability to hold information in your mind, work with it and manipulate it
 - Significant because : you can only work with what you can hold onto

b.) Executive Report.

CEPAC Meeting: Scott Endres, Amy Berube & Natalie Wallace will be attending this Tuesday, December 8 @ 7:00pm.

c.) Treasurer's Report.

Financial update: There is still some outstanding Munch a Lunch bills due. Please pay immediately. We are also looking at adding the Club Moo to Munch a Lunch. Thank you!

d.) Fundraising Chair Report.

- a. Fund script. Thanks to Alison Cabay for organizing and taking care of this! In November over \$200 was raised. The funds from the Fund script go towards the Chapel & School Council.
- b. Clothing Order. Thank you to the parents who ordered. Unfortunately we had a problem with sizing. We will be returning the cheques and forms. Stage 2 clothing feels bad for the mistake in sizing. They are trying to find children's sizes as opposed to Youth sizes. Hopefully within the week new order forms will be going out.
- c. Club Moo. We will be joining this with Munch a Lunch. More volunteers are needed for this program to run smoothly. Thank you to the parent volunteers so far.
- d. Grade 4 Fundraising. We are hoping Sobeys will work them again. There is an upcoming bottle drive in the New Year, so save your bottles please!
- e. A Fundraising tab has been added to the School website. It's a great way to see upcoming fundraisers, if you need forms and to volunteer.

e.) Upcoming Events & Celebrations.

- a. School photos are going out this week. Upcoming Spirit Day is Hawaiian themed. We recommend all parents to go on to the School Calendar to see upcoming events.
- b. December 8th is the Grand Opening of the EPK Bank that the Grade 4's will be running. Thank you to Donna Hayden for heading this all up. All the kids in school have access to use the bank. Every week it will be open during a certain lunch hour. There are tellers, board of directors, CEO, greeters. The money does go to the ATB Bank, the outlet is at school.
- c. This is the first junior French ATB in Sherwood Park! It is **Context learning to the max!**
- d. December 11th is the Advent Celebration. There will be refreshments in the library. More info is available on the school website.

4. New Business.

- a.) Bylaw Amendment. We are working on new School Council and Society bylaws. Thank you to Alison Cabay for taking this on! We are very appreciative!
- b.) Volunteer Bank. To set up a database where people's skills/special talents can be utilized. Only School council can access the data bank. Natalie Wallace puts forward the motion to set up a database. No one seconds it. Motion is dropped.
- c.) Family Fun Night. There will be an online survey coming out shortly. Once we have the results we will present at the following meeting.

- d.) School Council Bulletin board. We are looking for a parent volunteer or two to organize the board/decorate it. Please email us if you are interested!
- e.) Die-cut (upper & lower case corrections) purchase. Alison Cabay motioned to purchase the correct lower case letters for the die machine up to \$900. Barb Crowley 2nds it. Everybody agreed. Motion passed.
- f.) Student Leadership T-shirts. A ton of exciting things are happening at our school during lunch. Health Champions, Stamping Club, Worship Band (that has 17 kids & continues to grow!) and Rainbow lunch, Intramurals, Dinner Music, La Banque EPK Junior ATB. We are looking to purchase T-shirts for our leadership teams (approx. 70 kids whom have taken a leadership role) to promote in our school. \$700 budget for the T-shirts. Natalie Wallace motions to purchase T-shirts up to \$700. Karen Bohaychuk 2nds. Everyone in favour. Motion passes.

Adjournment, 1st Barb Crowley. 2nd Karen Boutin.