

École Père Kenneth Kearns Catholic School

School Council Meeting Minutes

November 22, 2016

| IN ATTENDANCE | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Natalie Wallace - Chair | Barb Crowley –Treasurer |
| Karen Bohaychuk– Vice Chair | Heather Weiss - Secretary |
| Tammy Start – Fundraising Chair | Dora Berry |
| Carla Weyland | Fernando Soares |
| Christine Carcoux | Leanne DiMarcello |
| Sarah McDonald | Michelle Szott |
| SCHOOL STAFF | |
| Mme. Gravelle - Principal | Carmen Emery – 2E |

I. Call to Order

- Natalie Wallace called the meeting to Order at 7:30 pm
- Opening Prayer – Mme. Gravelle
- Approval of Agenda: 1st –Carla Weyland; 2nd – Christine Carcoux
- Approval of Minutes from October 25, 2016 1st –Dora Berry; 2nd –Karen Bohaychuk

II. Special Guest: Trustee Michelle Szott

EICS Board Highlights

- Greetings from the other 7 trustees
- Tony Sykora, a board trustee, is ill and now palliative; thoughts and prayers to him and his family
- All board highlights are available on website (eics.ab.ca) after each meeting
- Next Meeting is November 30/16, all are welcome
- EICS now has an App (developed by IT dept.); can check school newsletters, bus times, etc.
- Board would like feedback on the one:one device program. A big goal of this program is to teach children to use devices ethically
- Age of Entry for kindergarten is up for review: currently it is March 1. Looking at a new cut-off date of December 31, to become aligned with EIPS and other school boards across the province
- there is a link on the Alberta Ed website regarding SLAs (testing for grade 3s), and their review. This testing is a pilot project within EICS, in it's 3rd year, in response to the PATs not being utilized appropriately. The SLAs have been very labour-intensive for the teachers.

- Division initiative CEPAC is to bring all the school councils together. Various presentations scheduled; one in November was by Saffron; next topic will be on harassment, with the next meeting sometime in January (*exact date TBD)
- ACSTA (Alberta Catholic School Trustees Association) is a group that supports Catholic education. They have a Facebook page and are on Twitter, and also a newsletter, next edition coming out Dec. 4/16. David Wells will be speaking at the next Conferences: S.P.I.C.E. (Sharing Purpose in Catholic Education) and Blueprints.
- Reports there is a large increase in the number of ELL (English Language Learning) in the other schools in EICS.
- Rumors that grade nine students may be moved back to middle school were put to rest (they will not be moving).

III. Old Business

a. Update on Caring Corner - Sarah McDonald

- Registry.com has been set up through Superstore, but unsure if this is the best option, as every order gets charged a pick up charge
- Discussed setting up a Gofundme account, or using Fundscript, to offset the costs. A drawback to these is that they may take longer to organize.
- Another possibility mentioned was to add donation options to the Munch a Lunch order website.
- Until logistics are fully determined, parents at meeting volunteered to simply purchase some groceries in the meantime. Pick up healthy low sugar snacks if possible.

b. Update on Greeting Card Fundraiser – Tammy Start

- There were 2600 cards ordered in total, including a corporate order of 514 cards
- Overall very successful

c. Update on Perogy Fundraiser –Tammy Start

- Only 19 orders so far
- Have informed parents that there are a couple more days to get the orders in

d. Update on Looming Project – Barb Crowley

- Parents can sign up on the volunteer sign up website to come in and make a belt for their child
- There will be an evening session next Tuesday
- There have been approx. 50 parents that have come in and made belts, and about 30 more have been made in anticipation of parents who won't have an opportunity to come in
- Barb is present at the sessions to help as much as needed.
- Was suggested to re send an email explaining the background of the tradition of Ceinture Fleche

IV. Reports from Council

a. Administrative Report -Mme Gravelle

- Thank you to all parents who attended and volunteered at conference, presentations, Halloween, class photos, hot lunch, book fair, milk program, and in library.
- A French cuisine dinner with entertainment has been scheduled for March 11/17 at ABJ to celebrate our French culture. This is a ticketed event.
- Would like to create a Catholic French Immersion float for Canada Day parade. Taking volunteers for this.
- Recent survey on kindergarten format yielded having a morning program every day, a progressive program, and a full day kindergarten two/three days per week –every second Friday, plus two other days. Suggestions for which days would be best; Attendees, based on a vote, suggested Monday and Wednesdays.
- Plan to maintain the preschool, kinder-care, and before/after school care programs
- Thank you to everyone being positive ambassadors of EPK; have heard lots of positive feedback in community about EPK.
- Advent Celebration (Christmas concert) tickets going home this week. Every family gets 4 tickets for each celebration that their children are performing in. Parents are asked to return any tickets that they are not planning to use, to allow others to have up to two extra tickets as needed and available. Each grade will have their own celebration.
- Progress Reports (report cards) will be available on Feb 8/17. They will be all online in Power School Website, and will now be called Progress Reports. There will be new language in the content, coming from Inspired Education.
- For academic achievement, they will be changing to a numeral system (1-4). This format will be the same for all subjects, and there will be simply one comment box for the whole report. At end of year report, both semesters will be shown to compare progress

b. Executive Report – Natalie Wallace

- Saffron Centre Presentation (Tammy Start): this was a very informative presentation, discussing parental controls, various apps, which ones to use or not use. Also mentioned books on bullying, games (good and bad ones). Handout was included; Tammy will scan it and add to web page and meeting summary. Plan to have more of these presentations.
- Financial Report (Barb Crowley): see attached handout from dispersed at meeting. Largest source of income thus far is from hot lunch (but also has the largest expenses)
- Volunteer update: thank you to the many parents who signed up for various activities at the three way conferences.
- Dictee-a-thon: the student leadership Team wants to run this for a social justice project. Parents will be needed to assist with this event.

- They are also making bracelets to sell for Free the Children.

c. Report of Upcoming Events and Celebrations – Karen Bohaychuk

- Nov 30 – ERLC Webinar (two part series) for parents on competencies.
- Dec. 7 – Early Dismissal and Crazy Hair Day
- Dec. 13 – Advent Celebration for Grades 1 and 2
- Dec. 14 – Advent Celebration for Grades 3 and 4
- Dec 15 – Advent Celebration for ECS
- Dec 14 – Perogy and Sausage pick up (4:00-6:00)
- Dec. 20 – Last School Council meeting of 2016; there will be a learning session on fitness

V. New business

- No new business

VI. Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 9:14 pm by Natalie Wallace