

Georges Vanier Catholic School Council Meeting Minutes
Monday October 16, 2023

Staff: Daniel Birkenbergs, Julie Esposito

Parent Present: Sandra Salvino, Nicole Colp, Marcello Farrace, Andrea Payne, Michael Burns,
Alexis Commander

Regrets : Donna Sisneth, Sonia Mastrantoni, Rime Boulos, Gillian Fraites

Approval of Minutes:

- Moved by Michael Burns and seconded by Marcello Farrace
- Minutes from September 25, 2023, approved.

Treasurer's Report:

- Parent Involvement Grant has been deposited-\$500.
- The money for the fence has been allocated-\$1500.
- The money for Graduation has been allocated-\$500.
- Balance as of September 30th, 2023 is \$4631.69.

Chairs Report:

Terra Cotta Fundraiser: Update, our fundraiser is currently active, we have so far made \$152.00, but I know a lot of families still have not placed their orders. Orders will be accepted until Thursday October 26th at 4:00pm. Please help spread the word. A printed flyer/letter is going home to students this week as a reminder. We need volunteers to sort the order on Nov 9. Please let me know if you are available to help. Prizes – Top 3 Indigo Gift Cards

-Suggested we think about doing McMillans VS Terra Cotta next year as they have a bigger selection. We will look into this suggestion for next year.

Christmas Cookie Giveaway: Terra Cotta Cookies Seasonal Wrap Cookie – Vanilla Snowman 72 cookies in a case for \$54.80 (2022 \$49.80) I'm good to order them. Need a Date, I'm thinking the Tuesday December 19th after second recess. Did we want to do this with hot chocolate or just the cookies? If we do hot chocolate, we will need volunteers. We need to order 4 cases.

Lunch Program: Last year we did the Lunch Lady Program, I know there were a lot of complaints about portion size. Do we want to do this again or see for something else. There is a company called Food for Good, I've been in touch with them about how their program works. They seem great, the meals are from actual restaurants, however we need a min of 80 students to run the program. Based on our lunch lady numbers there is no way we would get this off the ground. I'm asking if we try to run it and don't get the number of kids required, how would returns and notifications work from their end to people who have already ordered.

Subway: Last year I checked out Subway as a lunch program. The problem is, we would have to do school cash online, submit the order and then have someone here at the school to receive the order and hand everything out. I don't think this is a good option unless someone wants to committee to running and overseeing it.

-We will discuss all our options at the next meeting

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Shrove Tuesday, Feb 13th: We need a pancake vendor? Cost and can the order be delivered to the school? Does anyone know anyone?

-Mr. Birkenbergs is looking into finding a new vendor

Parent Engagement Grant: We have received a Parent Engagement Grant of \$500.00 this year. We can use like we have in the past for refreshments for family events like we did at Christmas last year. Or we can use it for an actual parent event?

-Discussed using the Parent Engagement Grant on the evening of the Christmas Open House

Christmas Market: Only 2 people responded to the request of creating a sub-committee. Market date would be beginning of Dec. Is there enough time to pull this together? Do we want to try a spring market? Do we want to post-poner for next year?

-Council has decided to wait for next year to host a Christmas Market

Kids Concerns: Halloween Dance? As per student council decision and they would like to try something new.

-The kids will be doing a movie in the gym; students will be attending with each division. They have created Will a bundle with popcorn, juice box and glow stick.

Hot Chocolate Day: When can School Council could have another hot chocolate day?

-Mr. Birkenbergs thought maybe we could have the hot chocolate day in February and coordinate it with the Winter Walk to School. Mr. Birkenbergs will look into the date.

Other: Fire Alarm Letter

-A younger sibling of the school pulled the fire alarm. The fire stations are much lower than before, and the alarm is quite loud.

Parish

Catholic Women's League Christmas Bazaar – Sat Nov. 25th they are accepting donations.

Fundraising:

OAPCE:

-All updates will be emailed out to council

-Andrea will ask at the next meeting regarding how to get reimbursed faster if Chair puts out the money to purchase items for the school. She will inquire with other schools how they do it.

-Any questions, please ask Andrea.

Principal's Report:

School Generated Funds

- SGF Plan 2023-2024

School Communication with Trustee

CCCCAT Committee Recruitment

- Inaugural Meeting: November 7th @ 3:45. Any parent can participate.

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Pastoral Plan/Liturgies/Virtues Assemblies

- Pastoral Plan
- Virtues Assembly: Conscience-October 25th @ 11:21am
- Remembrance Day Liturgy- November 10th @ 10:45am

Progress Reports (REVISED DATES)

- Progress Reports distributed November 14th.
- Progress Report Interviews (as requested) November 16th.

Events Update

- Opening of School & St. Vincent de Paul Feast Day Mass
- Open House
- Orange Shirt Day
- Terry Fox Walk-Raised \$935.00
- Thanksgiving Food Drive
- BRAVE Workshop
- Picture Day
- Athletics: Cross Country & Junior Volleyball

Upcoming School Events

- CCAT Testing (Gr. 4 Students) October 26th & 27th
- Rosary Apostolate Visit- October 27th
- Halloween Spirit Week- October 30th – November 3rd
- Halloween Events- October 31st
- Grade 7 & 8 Immunizations (PPH) November 15th
- Picture Retake Day- November 17th

Other Business:

Next Meeting Dates:

- November 20th
- January 15th
- February 12th
- April 15th
- May 13th
- June 17th

Adjournment:

- Moved by Marcello Farrace and seconded by Andrea Payne to adjourn. Approved.