

Georges Vanier Catholic School Council Meeting Minutes
Monday November 20, 2023

Staff: Daniel Birkenbergs, Julie Esposito

Present: Sandra Salvino, Michael Burns, Nicole Colp, Marcello Farrace, Andrea Payne, Sonia Mastrantoni, Rime Boulos, Alexis Commander, Gillian Fraites

Regrets : Donna Sisneth

Mr. Birkenbergs Addressed Issues regarding Halloween and Issues with Grades 6-8

- Halloween-Student Council met with Mr. Laporte prior to Halloween. Students voted to have a movie day this year at Halloween instead of a dance. This idea was then brought to Mr. Birkenbergs and was then approved.
- Grades 6-8-Three teachers expressed concerns within the Grade 6-8 classes. These were increased amounts of cell phone use, academics and the conduct and respect that the students were showing the now lunch monitor in the school therefore Mr. Birkenbergs canceled all extra-curricular activities for these students. This was addressed as well as certain individuals were addressed accordingly.

Approval of Minutes:

- Moved by Alexis Commander and seconded by Gillian Fraites
- Minutes from October 16, 2023, approved.

Treasurer's Report:

- Balance as of November 20, 2023, is 6310.74
- \$500 for the Parent Involvement Grant has been deposited
- \$1834 was deposited from the Terra Cotta Cookies
- Graduation and Fencing has been ear marked for a later date.

Chairs Report:

- **Terra Cotta Cookies** – Fundraiser went so well. Thank you to everyone who participated. Thank you to Michael who helped me sort and hand out the orders, also to Andrea who came early to help. All the orders were handed without a hitch. We made \$1834 in profit which is great considering we had just done the same fundraiser in the Spring. In the spring we made \$1582.00 so we did very well. We had 5 winners as there was a 3-way tie for 3rd. All the kids received their prizes and Mrs. Rigsby's class won the giant cookie for having the most participants.
- **Future fundraising** – Spring Donation Drive through School Cash Online
- **Domino's Pizza** – Michael reached out to Domino's Pizza and has sent up our first pizza day for Friday December 1st, A 3 topping large pizza will be \$12 the school will make \$5.00 from each pizza sold. This year there will be 2 locations to purchase from, Williams Parkway and Peel Centre. Once we see how Friday does, we can either do it monthly on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday or do 2 other Fridays throughout the school year. They have offered to print up flyers for each child and bring them to the school to hand out. How many flyers do we need? Each kid or Youngest and Only? Thanks for setting this all up, I look forward to not cooking on December 1st.
- **Christmas Open House** – Hot Chocolate – Williams has quoted us \$3.00 a cup last year I ordered 120 cups, so it came out to \$341.26 (\$2.84 per cup). Can we use parent engagement grant for this event?
- **Snacks for Christmas Open House**-Do we want to give out anything else with the Hot Chocolate? Mini Candy Canes? Cookies? If anyone would like to donate anything that would be great.

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- **Snowman cookies**-Just waiting on Confirmation from Terra Cotta Cookies for delivery, I ordered 4 cases which is 288 cookies
- **Shrove Tuesday** – Still looking for a caterer. I've contacted a few but they don't do just pancakes, they do an entire spread. I'll keep looking but if anyone has any suggestions, please let me know. We cannot have on site food preparation, but Gillian said she continue to look for a catering company. We also think it would be nice to have the students eat in the gym, so we don't lose the fact of what Shrove Tuesday actually is. Mr. Birkenbergs will also see about having a small liturgy.
- **Hot Chocolate Day** – We had mentioned to do a hot chocolate day for the kids, I think we should tie it in with another day where the kids are doing fun activities. It was mentioned maybe to do it on the winter walk to school day but not everyone does that. I was thinking if there was a winter playday or Carnival Day. Mr. Birkenbergs mentioned Rings and Rocks so maybe we can piggyback off that day as well. Those dates are Feb. 5th and 6th.
- **CSC Executive Member Training**-Flyer was sent by email today. Thursday Nov 30 from 7-8pm virtually, please see flyer for your zoom meeting links.

Parish

- First Communion and Confirmation Registration Forms available at the back of the church. Need to be collected by December 2 & 3.
- CWL Christmas Bazaar – Saturday November 25th 9am-1pm
- Breakfast with Santa is back – Saturday December 16th 9am-12 pm \$5.00 each ages 4+, Under 3 free

Fundraising:

OAPCE:

- All updates will be emailed out to council
- Training dates have been sent out. It isn't just a training day but also networking.
- There is a new website with all the meetings listed and they really promote Catholic education.
- Next meeting will be the beginning of December.

Principal's Report:

- A. Bus Cancellations & School Closure Information
- B. CCAT Testing Update (Grade 4 students)
- C. Liturgies/Virtues Assemblies/Social Justice Initiatives
 - a. Angel Giving Tree-November 23rd
 - b. Virtues Assembly: Hope-November 30th @ 2:45
 - c. Advent Mass-December 8th @ 10:30am, St John Fisher Church
- D. Events Update
 - a. Rosary Apostolate Visits
 - b. Halloween Events and Spirit Week
 - c. CCCCAT Meeting
 - d. Remembrance Day Liturgy
 - e. PPH Immunization Clinic
 - f. Picture Retake Day
- E. Upcoming School Events

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- a. Bullying Prevention & Awareness Week-Nov 20th to 23rd
- b. MTC Life Workshops-Nov 22nd
- c. Intermediate Volleyball Tournaments-Nov 23rd
- d. P.A. Day-Nov 24th
- e. Dairy Farmers of Ontario presentations-Dec 4th and 5th
- f. PPH Dental Screening-Dec 5th to 7th
- g. Christmas Open House-Dec 6th, 6-8pm
- h. Rosary Apostolate Visit-Dec 15th
- i. Christmas Spirit Week-Dec 18th to 22nd
- j. Last Day of Classes for 2023-Dec 22nd
- k. Classes Resume-Jan 8th, 2024

Other Business:

School Pictures:

-Some families have not received their school photos that they have ordered even though it has been within the deadline. Some families also thought they were a little expensive as well. If we aren't happy, we can look into a different board approved vendor for next year.

Spirit Wear:

-Some parents are asking for Spirit Wear. Previously we dealt with Game Time but we did have a few issues with delivery and about 40-50 items were on back order.

-Sonia and Rime are going to look into other companies and will send the contact information.

Illness Protocol:

-There is no isolation or reporting protocol. Parents should still be doing a basic screening on their children daily. If a child is sent home, they must be symptom free before returning to school.

Presenter:

-Chris Vollum is a Social Media presenter. He does a child and parent presentation and discusses how to create an online presence as well as talks about mental health and well-being.

Cover for Fire Alarm:

-A cover for the fire alarm cover has been installed at the front entrance and another one will be installed in the kinder room.

Staff Report:

- Report Cards are complete however it isn't a good system
- Equity Workshop on Thursday.

Next Meeting Dates:

- February 12th
- April 15th
- May 13th
- June 17th

Adjournment:

- Moved by Sonia Mastrantoni and seconded by Andrea Payne to adjourn. Approved.

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