

Georges Vanier Catholic School Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday May 24, 2023

Staff: Daniel Birkenbergs

Present: Sandra Salvino, Nicole Colp, Mara Schiavello, Marcello Farrace, Leela Paltoo, Shantel Farrar

Regrets : Andrea Payne, Sonia Mastrantoni, Donna Sisneth

Approval of Minutes:

- Moved by Mara Schiavello and seconded by Marcello Farrace
- Minutes from April 19, 2023, approved.

Treasurer's Report:

- Balance as of April 19, 2023, is \$3536.27
- Money has been deposited from the Spring Fundraiser
- Parent Involvement money has been spent.

Chairs Report:

50th Anniversary

- Great turn out at the 50th Anniversary. We had the perfect amount of coffee and cake.
- Was a little disappointing that no one from the board showed up.

Sacramental Celebration

- Should we do a cake to celebrate the students that are receiving their sacraments? All agreed to purchase cake.
- Mr. Birkenbergs will try to get some numbers as to how many students are receiving their sacraments as well as the students who have already received it at a different church.

Play Day

- Sandra looked into getting an ice cream truck for play day. The cost is \$1200 plus tax.
- We decided not to do freezies because of the upcoming freezie days coming
- All agreed to do ice dogs as a different treat.
- Asking for a \$2 donation and all monies collected will go to Share Life

Celebration of Learning

- We have enough cookies already for the celebration
- Need to get juice boxes. Inquired about ordering through the breakfast program.

Air Conditioning

- Students were finding it too hot upstairs. Parents were complaining that some students were coming home with headaches and nose bleeds.
- Sandra contacted the board regarding this issue. Mr. Birkenbergs suggested we always go through him first to eliminate the amount of phone calls back and forth. This issue was already being investigated at this time, it was not extreme and has been rectified.
- Set point is 25.5 C for cooling and 18.5 C for heating.

2024 Council Meeting Days

- Sandra wondered if there were any other day during the week that we could hold council for 2024.
- Mr. Birkenbergs is only available for Wednesdays so the future meeting days will remain on Wednesdays.

Fundraising:

- Looking for ideas for next year's fundraising. We are up for any idea but if it is anything that requires a lot of work, we would need more volunteers.
- Big thank you to all the parents that helped with the Anniversary and for all the volunteering throughout the year.

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Parish Update:

- Communion will take place this Saturday
- Confession for Confirmation candidates will be this Saturday
- Confirmation will be Tuesday May 30th and Wednesday May 31st at 7pm. Rehearsals will be the mornings of Confirmation.
- As of right now, there will be no gowns for Confirmation

OAPCE:

- All updates will be emailed out to council

Principal's Report :

Liturgies/Virtue Assemblies

- Sacrament of First Holy Communion – May 27th at 5:30pm (St. John Fisher Parish)
- Sacrament of Confirmation – May 30th & May 31st at 7:00pm (St. John Fisher Parish)
- Virtues Assembly: Fairness – May 31st at 2:45pm
- Year-end Mass – June 9th at 10:30am

EQAO Update (Grade 3 & Grade 6)

Biannual Catholic Community Culture & Caring Climate Survey

- Parent/Guardian Survey
- Student Survey (Grade 4-8)

Events Update:

- 50th Anniversary Celebration
- Crowning of Mary Liturgies / Rosary Apostolate
- BFES Presentations

Upcoming School Events

- Grade 4-8 Track & Field Day – May 29th @ Chinguacousy Park
- Term 2 Emergency Procedure Drills
- Intermediate Boys Soccer Tourney - June 8th
- P.A. Day – June 12th
- Family of Schools Track and Field Meet – June 13th
- Junior Boys Soccer Tourney – June 15th
- Play Day for ShareLife – June 21st.
- Kindergarten Celebration of Learning – June 22nd at 1:30pm
- Grade 8 Graduation
 - Graduation Ceremony – June 27th @ 7:00pm; St. Thomas Aquinas Secondary School.
 - Luncheon & Dance – June 28th (daytime)

Other Business:

Beach Volleyball:

- We are fundraising for that now and are trying to send two teams

School Cameras:

- Parent witnesses person walking through school yard and inquired about the camera system
- Currently we only have a front door camera but if anyone sees anything suspicious, they are to report it to the principal

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Outdoor Classroom

- The board is ok with the spot we requested in the front of the school if it is fenced in.
- Maybe Council can split the cost of fencing? More info hopefully next meeting
- The board will cover the entire cost of landscaping and do seating areas. We will discuss the fence later.
- There will be open access to all teachers
- We already have quite a bit of outdoor teaching supplies

Ice Cream Truck

- Shantel has a contact for an ice cream truck and she said she would look into a cost. Must guarantee nut free.

Fundraiser Prizes

- All agreed to do top 3 or top 5 sellers for fundraiser prizes. That would give us a bigger profit.

Purchasing Stuff for Council

- Council was asking if there was a way prizes and miscellaneous stuff could be purchased directly through council banking as some parents are putting out a lot of money and having to wait a few weeks before getting it back.
- Unfortunately, no one can access council funds.
- Suggestion is to ask other parents to purchase if they are willing to wait as everything must be paid by cheque.
- We will also check OAPCE to see if there is a solution.

Adjournment:

- Moved by Mara Schiavello and seconded by Sandra Salvino to adjourn. Approved.