

PARENT SCHOOL COUNCIL 2022/2023
MEETING MINUTES FROM Nov 15, 2022

In attendance:

- **Staff:** M. McCann (Principal), A. Litster (Secretary), J. Roy (teacher rep), S. Kelenc (teacher rep), R. Johnson (non-teacher rep)
- **Council:** A. Cunanan (Chair), A. Patola (Co-Chair), A. Pronski (Secretary), K. Zeljkovic (Treasurer), T. Morris (OAPCE), N. Sarin (Parent Rep), H. Jagiello (Parent Rep), L. Ozurigo (Parent Rep)
- **Parents:** Amanda

AGENDA ITEMS

1. WELCOME – M. CLOUTIER MCCANN
2. OPENING PRAYER – S. KELENC
3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT – A. ROY
4. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES
 - Approved – A. Pronski moved for approval & A. Cunanan seconded motion
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5. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER AGENDA
 - Approved – A. Cunanan moved for approval & A. Pronski seconded motion
6. FUNDRAISER UPDATE
 - Current funds raised = \$2,350; still a long way to go to achieve our fundraising goal
 - Objective was \$50 per student
 - Confirmed that family members & friends can donate and they do get a tax receipt
 - There is always student voice in how we use the funds
 - Strategies to increase participation:
 - Labels went out in everyone's agendas (JK – Grade 6) today
 - **Action: Ms. McCann** to send reminder email out
 - Thank you to Heather for sharing draft content
 - **Action: Neil** to create a digital thermometer to include in the email (with photos) to attract more attention
 - Thermometer (physical image) at Kiss & Ride
 - **Action: Student Council** will make it and bring it in and out due to the weather and so that the students can also see it and be motivated
 - To include pictures of what the School Council can purchase at each amount raised
 - Class engagement / friendly competition
 - **Action: St. James Staff** will create a little friendly competition between the classrooms/ grades. With equity in mind, it will not be based on \$ raised, but rather % participation. Students can get participation credit by either having their guardian/ friend/ family member donate (even \$1 counts) OR contributing an idea for how we can use school funds raised in future years. Each child can get 1 entry. Therefore in a class of 24, if

each child donates \$1 or contributes an idea their participation rate would be 100%. The class with the highest % participation wins (or the first class to reach 100% participation, if more than one class hits this target). The winning class gets to vote one pre-selected idea to the top of the list to be funded by School Council.

7. FINANCIAL REPORT – K. Zeljkovic

Balance Reported Oct 31 Spirit Wear	\$11,965.11 (incl \$3,472.92)
X Movement - cheque	\$ 2,900
Commitments – Awards (cheque) - Student Agendas, line painting, tree, buddy bench (cheque)	\$ 315.27 \$2,679.24
Available Funds + fundraising donation	\$ 2,598.28 <u>2,350</u> \$4,948.28

- Spirit Wear – approximately \$3,000 will be paid back out and \$500 will be “fundraising profit”

8. PREVIOUS BUSINESS

- OAPCE – School Council Rep is T. Morris
- Parish Representative – still available for interested Council members
- The Lunch Lady
 - Thank you to Kristin for getting all the relevant information
 - This healthy lunch option (sometimes hot) will be available to order on Thursdays
 - Orders are coordinated through the company
 - If child gets sick you can cancel morning of and get a credit
 - Set-up to begin December 22nd as the kick-off event (last Thursday of the year). Then every Thursday weekly going forward thereafter
 - **Action: School** will send email with information to parents
- Spirit Wear – Update coming soon
- Family Skate Night
 - Adam called the city, but they don't yet know available ice time due to hockey convening period
 - **Action: Adam** to follow-up with city
 - Approximately \$250 + insurance if Council books it OR if booked through the school then the School's insurance will cover it
 - Ideal date is the Thursday of Carnival (in January). Or a week before or after, depending on ice time/ rink availability
 - Council voted to pre-approve the school using Council funds to pay for Family Skating Night.
 - Approved – A. Cunanan moved for approval & A. Pronski seconded motion

- **Action: Council** to discuss offline and coordinate with School to notify school community of event details
 - Parent Engagement X Movement
 - All set for Thursday, November 24th from 6-7pm
 - Event will be indoors. Due to fire capacity, only 1 adult per family.
 - **Action: Ms. McCann** will send a reminder email (will include approximate length of time; 1 parent per family, what to wear, etc.)
 - Messages will be reinforced at school
 - Advent Mass
 - Parish community event on December 13th
 - **Action: Council** to organize post-mass social / snacks
9. SCHOOL'S REPORT - M. CLOUTIER MCCANN
- Catholicity
 - School Liturgy of the Word – Oct 19
 - Rosary Apostolate
 - Advent begins – Nov 27
 - Family Advent Mass – Dec 13
 - Samantha – Youth Minister
 - She will come visit the students at school
 - There will also be monthly events for certain grades; first one will be held in February 6-8pm at the Church. Event information will be going
 - Curriculum
 - Progress Reports – sent home today
 - Bullying Awareness & Prevention – Nov 21-25, students are leading great ideas
 - EQAO Results
 - 1st time students ever did tests digitally (vs. pen & paper)
 - Individual students results are still to come
 - School results have been reported and St. James Primary & Junior students scored far above Dufferin Peel School Board average & the province of Ontario average in all categories
 - Primary (% scored level 3 or 4):
 - Mathematics: 83%
 - Reading: 100%
 - Writing: 87%
 - Junior (% scored level 3 or 4):
 - Mathematics: 82%
 - Reading: 100%
 - Writing: 95%
 - PYP – J. Roy & R. Johnson
 - FDK – 'human body' inquiry: Lots of hands on experiments & learning. Helping students understand what is also inside their bodies, healthy living, increasing abilities, growing stories (e.g. getting rid of training wheels), etc.
 - Primary (Grades 1, 2 3) are all focusing on where we are in place & time. They have combined science and social studies with unit.
 - Grade 2s: graphing where their family is from, cultural traditions, etc.
 - Grade 3's are doing a timeline of important historical dates, family dates, etc. 'See, Think, Wonder' was a fun activity where kids had to look at

items and identify what period of time they might have been from (e.g. an old fashioned wooden desk)

- Grade 4 – ‘sharing the planet’ inquiry: Focusing on rocks, minerals, soils, etc.
- Grade 5 – ‘how we organize ourselves’ inquiry. Focusing on government. Went on a trip to Queen’s Park. Some wonder wall questions were answered, others they will continue to explore. Studied the affect the Queen’s passing has on our government, etc.
- MYP – S. Kelenc
 - MYP grades are focusing on design, language, drama & history
 - Grade 6 – Designing their dream bedroom: working on process journal and visual drafts of their dream bedroom. They are also writing proposals for language, as well as starting second novels focused on intellectual diversity
 - Grade 7 – Creating board games: learning history of board games, rules, strategies. Created visual drafts. Some are making them physically, others digitally. Goal is to have these completed before Christmas so they can play them in class. They are also practicing drama skits to re-enact the Fall of St. Louisberg
 - Grade 8 – Creating the next Kool shoes: learning importance of different types of shoes, how they are promoted, how they function, billion dollar industry, etc. Process Journal Excerpts. Visuals. Students are creating an entire marketing campaign including costing, marketing, and social media/ commercial strategy
- Co-curriculum
 - Student Council – active in the school
 - Volleyball
 - ECO team – meets weekly
 - Choir – sang O Canada at Remembrance Day assembly
 - Waterloo Math Contest – next week
 - Camp Muskoka – occurs at the end of the Month
- Facilities
 - Air Filters – are in every classroom
 - Fire Plan – revised and sent off to Fire Department
 - ShareLife Campaign – staff make contributions to dress down on Fridays
- Other
 - Picture Retake & Sibling picture day – was today
 - Teacher candidate
 - Parent/ Teacher Conferences – is occurring on Thursday
 - St. Paul’s SS Open House – was rescheduled, now occurring on Nov 23rd. Visited Grade 8 classroom on Monday
 - Catholic School Annual report
 - Writing a summary of School Councils achievements and/or activities being planned. For example: family engagement activities (skating, Xmovement, Mass); beautification projects (benches, trees); standing items (agenda’s, awards), etc.
 - Writing a summary of School Councils future goals – we will continue to support the recommendations of the teachers and students
- Upcoming Events:
 - November 22-24 – X Movement & Family Engagement Event
 - November 23 – St. Paul’s SS Open House

- December 13 – Advent Mass
 - **Action: Council** to connect with St. Luke’s council offline to coordinate
 - Will try to get Tim Hortons donations. Council purchased coffee + juice boxes
- December 15th – Christmas Concert
 - Students will perform the same concert twice, one show during the day & one show at night. Parents who can attend during the day are encouraged to do so, to manage Fire Code capacity at night
 - All grades & students participate in both concerts
 - 2 adults are allowed to attend one of the two shows
 - A fundraiser to “get the best seat in the house” is being considered
 - Mitten & Hat Tree donations at entrance
- December 16th – Santa Visits
- Christmas break begins Friday December 23rd – January 6th

10. MOTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING (@ 7:45pm)

- Approved – A. Cunanan moved for approval & A. pronski seconded motion

Future meetings (St. James School Library & Virtually via Zoom):

Thursday February 9, 2023

Thursday April 13, 2023