

Our Lady of the Assumption School Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday October 9, 2019 at 6:30pm

Attendees: Matthew New, Ken Tratch, Gaylene Duke, Cindy Clewes, Michelle Dormer, Deena MacWilliam, Tanya Sera, Angela Court, Michelle Tyslau, Angela Sheen, Jamie Puchinger

1. **Call to Order:** 6:30pm
2. **Opening Prayer:** Led by Mr. New
3. **Welcome and Introductions**
4. **Review of the Agenda**
5. **Approval of June Minutes**
 - Approved by Gaylene and seconded by Tanya.
6. **Old Business**
 - Position Vacancies:
 - Tanya Sera was not approved to be secretary due to a conflict of interest.
 - There were no volunteers for this position. Secretary position is still vacant.
 - Treasurer and secretary positions for the PFRC are also still vacant. There were no volunteers.
7. **School Reports**

Principal:

 - Mrs. Kobza was unable to attend. Mr. New gave the principle update.
 - September 27th PD Day
 - o Review of previous year and begin to look at vision for the current year. School division is placing a large focus on data. Look at data from previous 3 years at OLA and compare it to data from school division and the province.
 - Parent Involvement
 - o How involved do parents want to be in the review and analysis of school/student data? Do parents want to look through data and see where the school is doing well and highlight areas of concern? After reviewing data parents would have the opportunity to bring topics of discussion to the School Council Meetings.
 - o Ken Tratch pointed out that when reviewing data a lot depends on how you read it and the understanding of how that data is used. He advised that it may still be beneficial for parents to review the data with the staff.
 - o Would parents like the opportunity to submit questions that could potentially be used in the next “Tell Them From Me” Data survey?
 - School Communication
 - o How do parents like the new School Messenger App? How many messages would parents like to receive? What is too little or too much? The parents present at the

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meeting were all in favour of using School Messenger and felt the more information and reminders being sent out, the better.

- Data Summary -
 - o Review of “Tell Them From Me” Data handout from January 2019. Includes a small sample of what types of questions are asked and the corresponding results. Feedback was given that parents would like to have these Data surveys posted and available on the school website not only from the current year but also previous years.

Associate Principal:

- Faith Plan:
 - o Review of handout. Staff looked at the faith plan for the year. They looked at where the school is at, areas of growth and plans of action. Staff identified what they wanted to focus on and what areas are of greatest need in the school. Being mindful of God’s presence was highlighted as a main focus. 2 Plans of action were identified. First, the school will implement a rotation where every class will attend mass with the community once every two months. Second, we will pick a Sunday where the Staff will all attend mass together and invite the kids and families from school to come to that Mass as well.

Teacher:

- Calendar Review by Cindy Clewes
 - o Review of Calendar Handout
 - o Upcoming events of note for October/November:
 - Thanksgiving
 - Pizza Lunch and Pasta Lunch
 - Halloween
 - Picture retakes Nov. 6
 - Sleeping Beauty Opera Nov 7
 - Remembrance Day
 - Hamburger hot Lunch
 - Poinsettia Fundraiser pending parents input
 - Report Cards Nov.22
 - Parent Teacher interviews Nov.28

8. Trustee’s Report – Ken Tratch

- Thought Exchange
 - o What are some actions we can take this year and beyond to address environmental issues in individual schools and as a whole division?
 - o What do you believe trustees need to do to be most effective in fulfilling their roles?
- Joint School Committee topics of discussion
 - o Supervised Consumption site - Continuing to ensure schools are safe and clear of debris.

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- School Capital Planning Process - discussion with Minister of Education Adriana LeGrange. Hoping to see St. Francis remodelled or rebuilt.
- Staff appreciation lunches
- Knights of Columbus Council 10547 Annual Charity Event
 - Looking for donations
 - Money's collected over \$3500 go to HSCS to be used as needed
- Bishops Dinner Oct. 11
- Education Sunday Nov. 3rd

9. New Business

- Room Representatives
 - Should every classroom have a room rep and what would be their responsibilities?
 - General consensus that yes, every room should have a rep.
 - Suggestion that Teachers should ask for a rep at beginning of year.
 - Follow-up - Need to discuss and define what responsibilities are. Will they be different for every grade/class?
- Discussion on School Culture
 - Mr. New noted that there is a current trend towards violence for students when dealing with conflict.
 - How does the school deal with violence and bullying? Are there inconsistencies in punishment?
 - Do students have a voice? Are students afraid to speak up? Should there be classroom meetings?
 - Several parents present shared experiences and voiced concerns. After a lengthy discussion it was decided that this issue needs to be discussed further.
 - Mr. New agreed to take the information, discuss with Principle and staff and follow up with the parents involved.
 - What will the next step be? Will this be carried over to the next School Council meeting? Will there be a separate meeting?
 - More information to come

10. Miscellaneous

- Due to the School Council meeting running late, the Parent Fundraising Committee meeting was cancelled. The next PFRC meeting will run as scheduled for Wednesday November 13th directly following the School Council meeting.

11. Next Meeting

- Wednesday November 13th @ 6:30pm

12. Adjourn

- Meeting adjourned @ 8:33pm