

Our Lady of the Assumption School Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 16th, 2020 at 5:30pm

Attendees: Denise Kobza, Rhonda Norris, Cindy Clewes, Gaylene Duke, Megan, Michelle Dormer, Deena MacWilliam

1. **Call to Order:** 5:30pm
2. **Opening Prayer:** Led by Mrs. Kobza
3. **Welcome and Introductions**
4. **Review of the Agenda**
 - Add to the agenda that there will be a Wellness Day on February 27th for the school.
5. **Approval of November Minutes**
 - Approved.
6. **Old Business**
 - No old business.
7. **Trustee's Report**
 - Ken Tratch was unable to attend but forwarded the Trustees Report
 - a. Busing: Discussions with city officials continue. Likely a transition to School Board operating system. Study of transition needs, timelines and costs continue. Hope is that if we go this route, Boards have an extra year for the transition.
 - b. Our Board is not looking or budgeting for ANY layoffs. Any need to limit staff numbers have been forecast to be attended to through attrition.
 - c. K of C Council 10547 Annual Fundraiser held on Feb 22, 2020. Tickets \$40 PP. Limited to 124. Silent Auction. Live Auction. Dance. Roast beef dinner. Theme: Feed The Hungry. Partnered with Holy Spirit Schools.
 - o Discussion: Every school needs a minimum of 5 donations. Mrs. Kobza will be sending out some information and asking for donations. It sounds like we already have 2-3 donations.
 - d. Next Board Meeting Jan. 24, 2020.
 - e. Staff Appreciation Luncheons held in every school once every year. Sponsored by the Board of Trustees.
 - f. Present state of Provincial Education funding, policies, communications seem to promote uncertainty and unsettling. Appear to be more about creating chaos then positive directions. Appearance that this is a planned and deliberate attempt to create discord between – Board v Superintendent and Board v Board.
 - g. ASBA direction will be to promote PRIDE rather than FEAR.
 - h. Is it time for parents to consider inviting their local MLA to discuss today's trends in Education?
 - i. Is it time to invite the local city councillor to discuss bussing?

Our Lady of the Assumption School Council Meeting Minutes

8. Financial Report

- Handout was given. Report prepared by Marina.
- Overview of Finances to date for the year. Includes transfer of the remaining PFRC funds into the school account.
- Discussion about where remaining money should go.
- Discussed the possibility of having an additional fundraiser to help bring in some extra cash.

9. School Reports

Principal:

a) Information Items:

i. School Improvement Plan. Handout passed around.

- Priority One: Working on being more mindful of God's Presence. One area of improvement has been the rotation of OLA classes attending Friday Mass.
- Act like Mary. Staff continuing their book study on "Walking with Mary". Students continue with Acts like Mary coupons.
- Priority Two: Students developing literacy/numeracy skills. Goal that by the end of the year 80% of students meet the F&P grade level standard of literacy and 87% of students meet the grade level standard for Common Math Assessment.
- Some exciting progress. Some students have already moved up as much as 4 levels.
- Students continuing to work on math facts and strategies.
- Possibility of doing literacy and numeracy Parent Night. Teach parents games and activities that can be done at home to help students improve their skills.
- Priority Three: Working with First Nations, Metis and Inuit students to achieve equitable educational outcomes.
- By the end of the year achieve attendance rate of 90% or higher.
- Started a Blackfoot Culture Class to help students increase their knowledge of Indigenous Culture.

ii. Annual Education Results Report (AERR) from last year (2018-2019). Handout passed around.

- Exam results are excellent. School results in general are very good and the goal is to continue to maintain these results.

iii. New School Website

- The entire Holy Spirit School division has changed to this new website.
- Reasons for the change:
 1. Make it more parents focused and easy to use
 2. Make it consistent for all schools in the division. All school websites in the division will be similar making it easy for parents

Our Lady of the Assumption School Council Meeting Minutes

to find what they need, especially when they have multiple children who attend different schools.

3. It is now mobile friendly. Many parents are accessing school websites on their phones.
4. It is web accessible
5. The school is now doing online registration and this new website supports the new process.

b) Discussion Items:

i. Accountability Pillar:

- Parents with children in grades 4-6 are randomly selected to complete an Accountability Pillar Survey.
- Mrs. Kobza put together documents to help parents better understand and answer the questions. This information was sent out with the School Council Meeting Package on January 15th. Please be aware that answering a question with “don’t know” counts as a 0 and can negatively affect school results.
- Not very many parents are currently completing the surveys. What can the school do to increase parent participation?
 1. Would it help if surveys could be dropped off at the office and the school would mail it out?
 2. Parents could come into the school and be assisted with filling out the survey. A computer would be available for parents to use.
 3. Parents may not even understand what the Accountability Pillar Survey is and why they are asked to fill it out. School could provide clarification. Clear and simple explanation of what it is and how the school uses that information.

ii. Act Like Mary:

- School Wide Audit Survey questions were given to staff members to complete.
- Handout given with results of the survey.
 1. Behavioral expectations – focus on defining clearly stated expectations
 2. Teach Expectations – focus on behavioral expectations being directly taught, school wide lesson plans developed and expectations posted around the school.
 3. Teach Staff and Students to handle challenging situations – this is an area that school is really going to focus on this year. Staff identified this as a high priority. Focus on developing specific steps, actions and language that all staff will use. Staff will all be on the same page and use the same methods for how conflicts are handled. Develop procedure for On the Spot Interventions by staff. Teach Students social skills to help manage conflicts.

Our Lady of the Assumption School Council Meeting Minutes

Teach students self-regulation strategies. Teaching kids steps to prevent situations from escalating.

4. Acknowledge and Reinforce Positive Behaviour – Currently have the Acts Like Mary Coupons. Will focus on positive behavioural referral form and informing parents about positive behaviours.
5. Fair and Consistent consequences for Neg. Behaviour – focus on distinction between office and classroom managed problem behaviour. Informing parents about their child's negative behaviour.
6. Monitor Patterns of Positive and Negative Behaviour – Reporting procedure is already in place. Focus on providing staff regular feedback about the behavioral patterns in the school.
 - a. There have been 128 responses in the Conduct Forms since the beginning of the year. 66% were Level 1 and dealt with in the classroom. 32% were Level 2 and dealt with in the office and 2% were Level 3 where additional Support was required.
 - b. Feedback – Top 5 times in the day when Negative Behaviours occur.
 1. Nutrition Break 2
 2. Period 1
 3. Period 6 (12pm-12:30pm)
 4. Period 8 (follows Nutrition break 2)
 5. Nutrition break 1/Period 4
 - c. Top 5 locations for Neg. Behaviours
 1. Classroom
 2. Playground
 3. Field
 4. Hallway
 5. Gym
 - d. Top 4 types of behaviours
 1. Classroom disruption
 2. Noncompliance or defiance
 3. Physical aggression
 4. Insulting comments

Associate Principal: Mr. New was unable to attend. Mrs. Kobza discussed his items.

- a) Shrove Tuesday – Can we use fundraising money to buy sausages for Shrove Tuesday Pancake lunch? Sausages will cost \$90. The Wholesale Club may be donating \$50 to for sausages. There should be enough money to cover the

Our Lady of the Assumption School Council Meeting Minutes

remaining cost of these. Is there money to buy juice boxes for the kids? Yes we should be able to cover these as well.

- b) Basketball - basketball has started

Teacher:

- Calendar Review by Cindy Clewes
 - o Review of Calendar Handout
 - o Upcoming events of note for January/February:
 - ATB Grand Opening Assembly on Jan.22nd
 - Past Lunch on Jan.28th
 - Afterschool skating on Jan.29th
 - Banana Split / Pajama Day on Jan.30th
 - No School Jan.31st
 - Winter Walk Day Feb.5th
 - No school Feb.17th – Feb. 21st
 - Shrove Tuesday – Pancake Lunch Feb.25th
 - Ash Wednesday Mass, Pink Shirt Day and last afterschool skating Feb.26th
 - Wear Purple on Feb.27th for the beginning of Lent.
 - Wellness Day on Feb.27th

10. New Business

- a. CCH is doing Matilda for their school production this year. They are looking for schools to help sponsor them. Can OLA afford to give a donation? If we do some additional fundraising and have some extra cash we could possibly donate \$50.
- b. GRACE: Grateful Advocates for Catholic Education
 - i. This is a group that has been put together to promote and fight for Catholic Education.
 - ii. A great PowerPoint presentation was put together explaining what GRACE is, what their goals are and highlights why Catholic Education is valuable and important.
 - iii. We will send this out to our OLA school community.
 - iv. Staff are able to attend an information session about GRACE on January 29th
- c. Hot Lunch Update – Going forward we will only be doing Pizza Hot Lunch. This works the best for OLA lunch times and we make a good profit from this. No Hot Lunch or Pasta Tuesday in February. In March Rhonda is busy and we need volunteers to pick up Pizza from Pizza Hut, sort and deliver pizza to classrooms.

11. Next Meeting

- Thursday, February 13th @ 3:45pm in the Music Room Upstairs.

12. Adjourn

- Meeting adjourned @ 7:18pm