

**PARENT SCHOOL COUNCIL 2021/2022
MEETING MINUTES FROM April 27, 2022**

ATTENDANCE

- **Present:** M. McCann (Principal), A. Litster (Secretary) J. Roy (teacher rep), S. Kelenc (teacher rep), Mrs. Johnson (Non-Teacher Rep); A. Cunanan (Chair), A. Patola (Co-Chair), A. Pronski (Secretary), K. Zelijkovic (parent rep), H. Jagiello (Co-Secretary), J. Rye (Community Rep), S. King (OAPCE Rep), N. Sarin (Treasurer), Vanessa Murray, Tess O'Mara, Amanda, Charlene Essue, Daniel, Maryann, sylvia,
- **Regrets:** n/a

AGENDA ITEMS

1. WELCOME/OPENING REMARKS - M. CLOUTIER MCCANN, A. CUNANAN & A. PATOLA
2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT – Recording
3. OPENING PRAYER - A. CUNANAN
4. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES & ADENDA
 - Meeting Minutes Approved – A. Pronski moved for approval & H. Jagiello seconded motion
 - Agenda Approved – A. Pronski moved for approval & H. Jagiello seconded motion
5. TREASURER REPORT - N. SARIN
 - All commitments (agendas, awards etc.) have now been debited (cheque \$1,517.60 on bank statement)

Bank Balance (as of [] bank statement)	\$8,598.33
Commitments: agendas, grad tree, graduation awards, bank fees (as per February 9 th meeting)	\$1,715.00
Available School Council Funds	\$ 6,883.33

- Bank balance is ~\$80 higher than last meeting final tally due to an additional donation
6. OPACE – S. King
 - If you are interested in running for school trustee there is information online
 - May 1st to 6th – Catholic Education Week
 - Apr 28th – if interested in providing input on how funds are allocated, there is a meeting tomorrow; school will send an email with the virtual link out; you can also send feedback via email
 - May 11th – virtual event with an excellent speaker, all are welcome
 7. COMMUNITY – J. Rye
 - No update

8. CCCSC – A. Cunanan

- STEM presentation for special education educators
- Provided digital tools to students
- There will be a trustee election coming up

9. PREVIOUS BUSINESS – All council members

- Allocation of Funds
 - Agreement during February school council meeting to fund standing commitments outlined in the treasurer report above
 - School Council members met between formal council meetings to review, discuss and align on the allocation of funds, based on the list of items the students & teachers had requested, with a couple additions (first communion event, spirit event and a small pool of funds, ~\$1,000 for next year’s council)
 - Below table was verbally recapped during the meeting, discussed & voted on
 - All council members were supportive of the recommendations as outlined
 - **Allocation of funds Approved** – J. Rye moved for approval & K. Zeljkovic seconded motion
 - **ACTION ITEM** – M. McCann will work with school staff to identify board approved presenters for a School Spirit Event (something like X Movement), see which vendors might be available before the end of the year and communicate with the council via email. \$2,900 has been allocated for this event.

Available School Council Funds	\$8,598.33		
\$ Remaining after below Funded Items	\$1,029.09		
ITEM	Cost	Funded	Notes
Outdoor Soccer net	Grant/ school		
Outdoor volleyball net	Grant/ school		
Ball hockey - painting	175	175	
Pavement painting			
- 4 square	100	100	
Trees	505		
Logs – replacement in Peace Garden	3,340		- Defer to next year, could use more information
- 4-5 logs			
- Logs seats (east & west corners)			
- Paint for logs			
Benches (around trees)	2126.24	2126.24	- Bench around graduation tree, like last year, a little tradition
Benches in pavement area			
Picnic tables			

Soil/mulch for ECO	Grant/ school		
Butterfly Garden (Kiss N Ride)	300	300	
Bird Houses/feeders			
Mural - outdoors			
Hallway Painting - Junior	4032		
- Intermediate – 1 wall mural	987		
- Library – 2 pillars	1536		
Standing Items:			
- Agendas (grade 1-6)	800	800	
- Graduation tree	505	505	
- Graduation awards	350	350	
- Bank fees	60	60	
First Communion event	253	253	
School spirit event		2900	- Allocate funds to school to host a discretionary Spirit event; ideally before the end of this school year; could be more Xfactor or whatever would be best aligned to school spirit
			- Action Item for Ms. McCann: ideas for a spirit event for the council to vote on
TOTAL COST OF WISH LIST	15069.24		

- Spirit Wear
 - M. McCann already reached out to vender to let them know that we will roll this out in September and hope to have some samples for the Fall open-house BBQ
 - This will be communicated to parents during the September newsletter
 - Idea – turn this into a school council fundraiser, with a 20% mark-up (aligned to Mabels Labels mark-up). Would help to fund more projects on behalf of the students & school.
 - **Spirit Wear fundraiser Approved** (8 votes for) – K. Zeljkovic, H. Jagiello, J. Rye A. Cunanan, N. Sarin, S. King, A. Patola, A. Pronski
 - **ACTION ITEM** – M. McCann will reach out to the school council if she needs any help coordinating this, volunteers, etc.

- Mabel's Labels – H. Jagiello
 - New fundraising campaign is off to a great start. Mabel's Labels will mail us a cheque once \$50 has been raised; first cheque was mailed for \$120 (not yet received by the school), and after that we have earned an additional \$20, so \$140 to date
 - Early feedback has been very positive – easy ordering for purchaser & easy administration for running the campaign
 - Extra flyers will be included in the Journey Into Learning packages for JK students and reminders will go out early in the school year

- Sacramental Gifts
 - First Communion:

- Now that school events are allowed, Ms. McCann booked a making of bracelets event for first communion students (22 Grade 2 students).
 - Traditionally council has supported this cost. \$11.50/students (\$253)
 - **Funding first communion event Approved** (7 votes for) – K. Zeljkovic, H. Jagiello, A. Cunanan, N. Sarin, S. King, A. Patola, A. Pronski
- Confirmation:
 - Parent idea – to either fund a cross or an event for confirmation students (~50 students, Grade 7's, 8's, and all students missed in previous years)
 - Traditionally nothing has been funded by the council
 - Discussion about how crosses are already given out to some students depending on what Parish they are connected to and an event similar to the first communion event would cost ~\$621
 - Some council members felt given this was not traditionally something we funded that the \$621 would be better allocated to the school wide Spirit Event
 - **Funding confirmation cross/ event was not approved** (1 vote for) – A. Cunanan
- Graduation
 - June 29th – Booked. In person graduation, beginning at 1:15pm, followed by the awards in the church. Then some power point slides, cake, drinks, etc. will be included in the celebration
 - Grade 8's always get input into their graduation event – they would like to go to Dave & Busters this year. Parents will take them to this event following grad
- Pro Grant
 - Process is a little bit different – money goes to the Board and \$500 is distributed to each school
 - Last year the \$ was used for Journey Into Learning bags
 - The purpose of the money is to encourage participation & family involvement, not just for student engagement, etc. Council is to be involved in the allocation of funds, but the \$ has to be used in-year and \$ will go into schools account, not council's account.
 - Idea – could add \$500 to \$2,900 school spirit event, and consider including family members – may be complicated to arrange so late into the year and funds wouldn't cover the expense of such a cost
 - Idea – could use the \$500 for Journey into Learning bags/ event again – numeracy and literacy skills for new JK students to the school (similar to last year) – efficient use of funds
 - Parent question - is there a way to offer these to kids that get in from the wait list. Order extra so they aren't excluded. Yes. Good idea.
 - **Pro grant funding for Journey into Learning Approved** (7 votes for) – K. Zeljkovic, H. Jagiello, A. Cunanan, N. Sarin, S. King, A. Patola, A. Pronski
 - **ACTION ITEM** – next year, Council should try to talk about how we will allocate this grant much earlier in the year, so we have time to brainstorm ideas and utilize the funds

- Parent idea – a few years ago, brought in Paul Davis as a Tech Safety speaker (board approved)
 - M. McCann informed us that next week there is an event “Tips to help build healthy children” by David Wells, focused on the mental health & wellbeing of students (post pandemic)
- Pizza
 - Parent idea - right now the only options are cheese & pepperoni; could we replace pepperoni with veggie pizza and make the cheese & veggie the same price. Objective is to set a healthy example. Some parents aren't ordering due to 20% of the week is fast-food, but then their kids are left out.
 - M. McCann shared that pepperoni is the best seller. The ministry requires the pizza companies to meet a healthy standard guideline. There must be minimum amounts to meet order guidelines
 - Suggestion – add the veggie option vs. replace the pepperoni
 - St. James used to have “Lunch Lady” a healthy food option
 - The teachers & school ensures that kids are never left out (due to financial reasons) for pizza day, field trips, etc., they are covered
 - **ACTION ITEM** – to either add veggie or survey parents about this

10. NEW BUSINESS – All council members

- 2022-2023 Election Committee & election date (if necessary)
 - If an election is required due to shared interest in roles, we will hold the election during the open house BBQ, which is at the end of September
 - **Election approach Approved** – A. Cunanan moved for approval & J. Rye seconded motion
 - **ACTION ITEM** – council to help support finding someone in September (if an election is required) to help count ballots with M. McCann (that is not on the council)
- Open House & BBQ
 - Will occur at the end of September. There is a lot of excitement for this school community event, after it being cancelled for the last few years due to Covid
 - **ACTION ITEM** – council to help support with the planning, shopping, grilling, etc. at the event. Offers to help from: J. Rye, A. Patola, A. Cunanan, N. Sarin, K. Zelijkovic, A. Pronski, Amanda Bujdos and her husband

11. SCHOOL'S REPORT – Staff

- Catholicity
 - Virtue Certificates
 - Winners are announced over the morning announcements & M. McCann presents them to students in class
 - Lent & Advent Mass
 - Ordered in palms and all students made palm crosses
 - Catholic Education Week – May 1-7
 - May 3rd – Feast Day
 - May 4th – Province wide mass
 - Year-end Mass at 11am on June 23

- Will be held in-person at the Parish. Younger students will be shuttled via bus and older students will walk
- Curriculum
 - Virtual trips – FSL, Power ME Up
 - EQAO – April 26, 27, 30, 31
 - Summer Literacy Camp & Summer School
 - After School Tutors in grades 3-8, began tonight 3:30-5 on Wed & Thur
 - X Movement – on Fridays
 - PYP Exhibition – may 5th
 - MYP community projects are well underway – shared via morning announcements and via school email – thank you to parents for their engagement & support
 - Journey Into Learning – May 12
- PYP Update – Mrs. Roy
 - FDK is focusing on transportation – making airplanes, testing bridges, ramps, etc. The kids are loving this inquiry unit.
 - Grade 1 is focusing on sharing the planet – they made posters; learning about saving electricity
 - Grade 2 is focusing on water – met with an Indigenous storyteller; learned about clean water access around the world
 - Grade 3 is focusing on materials & structures – did center of gravity experiments and put together their own community project on structures around the world
 - Grade 4 is focusing on rocks – learned about different kinds, did a traditional bi-fold project and created a rock museum
 - Grade 5 is focused on exhibition – signage going up around the school about different things they are interested in (e.g. deep breathing, coyotes, buddy bench)
- MYP Update – Mr. Kelenc
 - Grade 7 & 8 students could create videos for the first ever Mississauga East film festival. Teams of students worked together to create these We Videos. In connection with religion and language/ arts. MYP students watched & voted on the top videos. The top team will represent St. James at Mississauga East film festival. All videos will be available to view. On May 13th the winner will be announced
 - Grade 7 focus is lent
 - Grade 8 could choose any topic as long as it focused on catholic graduate expectations
 - Lexia reading program has been going on at the school since November – it is an accelerated reading program designed to build student literacy. Two programs: Core 5 (K-5); Power up (Gr. 6-8). It is a computer based program with a blended learning model, teacher directed and individual based; developed like a video game with built-in engagement and instant feedback to student & teacher. Students get different certificates for modules completed, building up their confidence. This is being used as an intervention tool with approximately 12 to 13 students involved in the program. They can also do this at home and their parents get updated on their progress.

- Co-Curriculum
 - ECO team
 - Sports – Soccer (co-ed this year); maybe Softball (TBC); track & field also scheduled to start this year
 - Photography
 - Choir

- Facilities
 - Graffiti – unfortunately some inappropriate graffiti occurred over the long weekend, it has now been fixed and covered over
 - PA day – date switched to June 2nd, to accommodate the provincial election

- Other
 - Teacher candidates in Gr. 4 & Gr. 5 classes
 - Reporting to Ministry absenteeism
 - At Feb meeting, school absenteeism highest point was 7%, more recently hit 12.5%
 - Above 30% would require M. McCann to be in touch with the health department
 - Upcoming board events for parents /families
 - May 4th – Tips to help raise happy children & young people (7-8pm)
 - Self-register by April 29th
 - Ma7 4th – French as a second language family literacy night (7-8pm)
 - May 10th – BAEE Black Access to Educational Excellence for Elementary students (6:30-7:30)

12. Thank you from M. McCann to the council and thank you from chairs to the council

13. Motion to Close the Meeting (8:10pm)

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