

St. Matthew School Council Meeting

Date: Tuesday October 16, 2018, 6:30 – 8:00

Location: Learning Commons

Present: Gilda Johnstone (Principal), Heidi Gaiser (co-chair), Kim Chabot (co-chair), Pat Poulin (teacher rep), Lisa Bruce (CUPE rep), Renny, Lisa, Jessica, Patti-Jo, Patrick, Diana, Andreas, Brenda, Adriana, Monica

Regrets: Denise

Agenda Items

Prayer lead by Gilda Johnstone.

Agenda approved by Kim, seconded by Heidi.

Minutes of September 18th meeting approved.

Budget Update

- Council account balance just under \$12,000
- \$6800 is earmarked for items previously approved by Council, so effective balance of just over \$5000
- Waiting to hear about PRO Grant (\$1,000) and PIC Grant (\$500)
- \$800 approved as budget for dance-a-thon prizes.

Principal's Update

- Youth faith ambassadors are starting their projects in the school
- The entire school will be going to St. Agnes church for Advent mass on Dec. 15. Time to be determined. The cost is \$1500 for busing, paid by school funds.
- Progress reports going home November 6, parent-teacher interviews will take place on November 8.
- Umbrella Project is going well. Two assemblies have been held. Students will be recognized for demonstrating the trait highlighted during the preceding month.
- My Blueprint will be starting for grade 7 and 8 students. It gets students thinking early about potential careers and how to get there. Younger grades will be introduced to the program in future years.
- Terry Fox Run a great success. About \$800 was raised.
- Playground structure update: The park was partially insured -somewhat by the board, somewhat by the city. Planning process will begin in January/February, jointly undertaken by City, WCDSB. Mrs. Johnstone will have a seat at the table in planning and decisions. City and WCDSB will disclose in February what amounts they will contribute. School Council may also contribute to the project, if funds available to do so. The City/WCDSB hope to have the new

structure installed by June. Future agreement would look similar to old one -city would maintain the structure, but the school would own it. Mrs. Johnstone will report back to Council on discussions and planning once it is underway, to get feedback from Council.

- Mrs. Johnstone has arranged for a climbing and ropes course will come to the school during the first week of February. Council to look at offering a family evening in conjunction.

2018/2019 Fundraising priorities

Speaker system – total cost approximately \$8,000. \$3,000 was earmarked by Council in 2017. Mrs. Johnstone to arrange for work with Sherwood with intention of having the new system operational prior to the school Christmas concert in December. Funding for the balance (\$5,000) was approved by Council.

Teacher reimbursement –Funding of \$100 per teacher and \$50 per ECE for classroom expenses, with submission of receipts by teachers/ECEs. Motion was approved by Council.

Start to compile a “wish list” of items needed for the school. Once fundraiser totals are known decisions can be made by Council as to funding. Items to be considered for funding by Council at future meetings include:

- iPads for use spec. ed. Program – amount TBD
- Handwriting Without Tears materials – amount TBD
- Stand-alone fans for hot spring assemblies/masses – amount TBD
- Standing work stations for grade 6, 7, 8 classrooms, 2 per class – estimate \$3,600 for 7 classrooms
- Contribution toward play structure replacement – amount TBD once planning begins with Board and City.

Dance-a-thon

- Following the same approach/format as last year.
- Lots of people have been getting prizes for raffle - we'll have over 50 prizes
- Raffle tables will be set up Oct 29. Tickets will be distributed Nov 2. Draws to take place the following week.
- Glow accessories will be sold, information to be sent out prior with items and amounts
- Carlos is ready to DJ, classes are submitting requests in advance (no requests at the dance)
- We have enough volunteers to run the event, but we can always use more

Council Events for 2018-2019

- Fundraising barbeque – 91.5 The Beat / Pillers provide a fundraiser BBQ for our school, as a follow up to the radio station visit in September. Look at scheduling this for an evening (Thursday) in June so families can attend. This would be instead of the lunch hour BBQ that is

traditionally held in June. Suggested with the evening event to also have inflatables, games, popcorn, icecream, etc available (sell tickets).

- Family Christmas Movie Night – Friday November 30th – families invited to wear Christmas PJ's, sweaters, etc. Movies will include classic Grinch, Frosty, etc before feature movie "The Star". Popcorn, cookies, hot chocolate, coffee, etc will be sold.
- Zumba Night – look to schedule for January, Diana to coordinate with a Zumba instructor for a Wednesday night.
- Pancakes - Shrove Tuesday – need lots of volunteers to be able to run this event.
- Family Fitness Night – Mr. McKinnon has contacted Council about organizing this event again with variety of vendors and instructors offering short sessions for families to try. Potentially May so some exhibits can be set up outdoors. Heidi to follow up with Mr. McKinnon to schedule.
- High ropes / climbing exhibit – Council to offer family evening during first week of February while program is set up in the gym. Mrs. Johnstone to ask program provider about cost to add an evening for families.

New Business

- No items brought forward

Next Meeting to be held Tuesday, December 4th, 6:30 – 8:00, Learning Commons. All welcome.

Adjournment by Kim & Heidi