

Good Shepherd Catholic Elementary School
Catholic School Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 17, 2011
7:00pm

In Attendance

Gerard van den Wildenberg, Arlene Robinson, Nora Tyll, Tracey Fyfe, Heather Howard, Pat McNeil, Tammy Shiel, Karen Sullivan, Sandra Cagan, Rhonda Daley, Nicole O'Sullivan, Jacqueline Muccio, Brent Madore, Beau Richards

Regrets

Tim Kellar, Jennifer Sherlock, Ersi Longo, Nicholle Stanisz

1. Opening Prayer

Heather Woods

2. Approval of Agenda

motion: Sandra Cagan second: Jacqueline Muccio carried: YES

3. Approval of Minutes

motion: Nora Tyll second: Tammy Shiel carried: YES

4. Business Arising from Minutes

a) Terracycle Program: Sandra presented updated information regarding the program including informing Council that once collected, the shipping of the wrappers is free of charge and we can use photocopy paper boxes to ship in. There are now many items that can be collected and she has taken the liberty to sign us up for all as we could opt out as needed. To start with, sandwich bags, Kool Aid jammer style packages and certain foil-type wrappers can be collected. Sandra and Jacqueline are willing to oversee the program but wondered if some of the Grade 8 Leadership Students could get involved. Arlene mentioned that sign-ups for various jobs have already taken place and she believes that this was on the list. She will check to see which students signed up and will be in touch with Sandra to follow up. Gerard suggested that when she is ready to start the program, Sandra could use one of the Team Shepherd Assemblies to present to students. Council members suggested that parents do need to be informed in specific detail about the program and what items can be collected. Families could even collect at home and bring in to school at a later date. As a reminder, Terracycle will pay the school 2 cents for each item collected and will issue cheques twice within the school year.

b) Extreme Pita Menu: Sandra reminded Council that Extreme Pita in Bowmanville had donated towards prizes for our magazine fundraiser and in speaking with the owner, she learned that he does a school lunch program. The children's menu is comprised of four different types of pita and each would cost \$3.50 or \$4.00 for a combo (drink and side). The pitas would be delivered to the school individually wrapped in class-specific bags. Karen wanted to mention that upon looking at the menu, she noticed that some of their sides (cookies) did contain nuts. Sandra will follow up with the owner as he expressed to her that he is completely nut free. Council members expressed concern that we already have pizza lunch, hot dog lunch and Lunch Lady lunches at the school and wondered where this would fit into the mix. Gerard suggested that perhaps it could be tried a few times throughout the year to gauge the response. Conversation turned to the fact that pizza and hot dog monies may

be decreasing due to changes made in the menu. Parents weren't informed that the hot dogs changed to whole wheat buns (last year) but many children have opted out of purchasing because they don't like the new buns. Many children (and in turn parents) were disappointed to note that this year's pizza has been changed to whole wheat crust and cheese only...no pepperoni. Gerard said that these changes come from Board recommendations and are not school specific. The suggestion has been made to speak to the Hot Lunch Committee about the Extreme Pita offer and see where it could fit in. Nora reminded Council that our Pizza lunches raise enough money during the year to purchase a Smartboard. It was further suggested that perhaps occasionally a member of the Hot Lunch Committee could come to a Council meeting to share changes and to ensure that these changes get communicated to parents.

- c) Safe Schools Program: Jacqueline followed up on an email that she sent to Council Members regarding the Safe Schools Program which is run through our Board. The program offers an outline of policies surrounding a wide variety of issues that fall under the overall subject of school safety (bullying, code of conduct, lockdown, progressive discipline etc.). Jacqueline brought to Council's attention the fact that our school council or a separate committee that reports to Council are to review the policy at least once a year but also that there is to be a Safe School Committee in place. The options are to have the existing Council become that committee or create a committee that would meet at different times but report back to Council regularly. Positive feedback for the latter option included that more time could be spent with a separate committee as our regular Council meetings are already inundated with many topics. Gerard mentioned that many schools use the existing Council and felt that it might expedite matters to keep it as such. While Council was unanimous regarding the importance of reviewing this material and of the overall concerns about bullying, there was a general air of concern stemming from a lack of comprehension about the parameters of what elements this committee would be responsible for as well as what sort of time commitment would be required. Council concluded that they required more information about the program prior to voting on this important decision and Arlene suggested that she would try to find full and abridged versions of the policy for interested Council members. In the interim, there are some policies available on the Board site (<http://www.pvnccdsb.on.ca/board/policies-procedures.asp#P803>), scroll down to Safe Schools. In the interim, Gerard stated that the school does indeed follow these policies and will continue to do so. There is a school resource team in place which consists of internal and external experts (as needed for each case) to deal with serious or ongoing issues.

5. Treasurer's Report

- a) Nora started off by informing Council that money that was supposed to be spent, has been. Agendas were paid for since the last meeting, Cafe Shepherd money was transferred, money to the Fundraising Committee was transferred and the Pizza account has already added monies earned.
- b) As per Gerard's suggestion at the last meeting, the \$3900 that was sitting in the Environment Club account (#2012) to pay for the sun shelter has been absorbed into the general surplus.
- c) Council's budget is currently sitting at just over \$14,000. Motion to accept Treasurer's Report.

motion: Nora Tyll

second: Rhonda Daley

carried: YES

- d) Rhonda Daley is overseeing the Spending Priorities Committee and presented Council with a Spending Priorities Proposal which is a recommendation based on the committee's October 6 meeting. Item number 2 (4 iPads) was new this year and came as a special request from Gerard. He has had great success using iPads for special needs groups and individuals within the school and has a greater demand to expand this program. There was a question around item number 3,

two new Smartboards for the school and why the cost had increased when usually technological devices tend to reduce their cost. The Smartboards are estimated at \$4500 each (versus \$4000 each last year) and Gerard explained that these ones are all permanent and include more all-inclusive features such as built-in speakers. Rhonda and Nora clarified that the Spending Priorities Committee had added Lego to the list because even though Council has not yet made a decision on whether to start a Lego club, if we are even thinking of it, it should be on the list or it will be difficult to add after the fact. Nora cautioned however that if Council approves the list as is, the outlined spending should be followed. At this point, Tammy interjected with an early update from the Fundraising Committee. Although there are still a few days left to our magazine fundraising drive, it appears that we are far short of previous years totals. She wanted to caution that we may not meet the estimates as they are outlined on the Spending Priorities Proposal. The suggestion was put forward that Council could postpone the approval of Spending Priorities until the next meeting when we will have definite fundraising totals. The motion was put forth to agree with this statement but also to transfer the much needed \$500 to the Allergy Awareness Committee immediately.

motion: Nora Tyll

second: Sandra Cagan

carried: YES

6. Committee Reports

- a) Chair/Co-Chair - nothing to report.
- b) Teacher Representative - nothing to report.
- c) Community Representative - report was emailed to Council earlier in the week.
- d) Student Representative - n/a
- e) Fundraising Representative - Tammy has nothing to report except that we are still in the middle of the magazine fundraiser drive and as came up earlier during the Treasurer's Report, it looks as though monies raised will be down substantially this year. There are still four days to go though so fingers crossed.
- f) Allergy Awareness Representative - nothing new to report except that she hopes a meeting will be taking place soon.
- g) Parish Representative - Heather's parish report was sent to Council members earlier in the week. She wanted to remind Council that she needed assistance with setting up refreshments for our school masses on the Weekend of October 29/30.
- h) OAPCE Representative -Pat will follow up regarding C.P.E.C. Individual and how the process works.
- i) Communication Committee - Confirmation took place that the Committee has been formed and consists of Rhonda Daley, Jennifer Sherlock, Beau Richards, Gerard van den Wildenberg and Tracey Fyfe. There will be updates for the next meeting.

7. Principal's Report - nothing new to add.

8. Next Meeting Date

Monday, November 14, 2011 at 6:45pm

9. Closing Prayer

Heather Howard

Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- a) Continue our discussion on Nutrition Bins in the classroom.
- b) Continue our discussion on Safe Schools Program and Committee.
- c) Consider idea and parameters around Good Shepherd Lego Club.
- d) Follow up with Sandra regarding Terracycle project.