

Present: Anita Fegan, Monica Hurley, Sheran Rush-Jeanes, Wendy Skan, Laura Pomfret, Diane Renaud, Stephen Smith, Marie-Claude Charette, Marty Cole, Mrs. Cole, Sheila Mercier, Laurene Livesey Park, Joanne Bibby.

Regrets: Suzie Drever

1. Call to Order 7:00 pm

a) Welcome - Laura welcomed everyone to the meeting, said it was nice to see some new faces.

b) Opening prayer: Laura Pomfret

2. 2008 - 2009 Council

a) Identification of Council Member

Everyone introduced themselves.

b) Elections of New Council Members

Chair Person: Susan Drever

Secretary: Diane Renaud

Treasurer: Anita Fegan

Parent Reps: Wendy Skan, Valerie McCormick, Shannon Everest and Laura Pomfret.

Staff Rep: Monica Hurley

Student Reps: Amy Crawford and Kayleen Peters

Parish Rep: Jackie Freeman

OAPCE Rep: Michelle Cryderman

Future Meeting Dates

November 4th, 2008

December 2nd 2008

February 3rd, 2009

March 3rd, 2009 (Tentative)

April 7th, 2009

May 5th, 2009

June 2nd, 2009

- Approval of June 10th 2008 minutes: - Some corrections made - Wendy Skan was marked regrets, but was present.

- Anita motioned for approval of minutes and 2nd by Diane Renaud.

3. Guest Presenter:

a) Laurene Livesey-Park, a professional organizer, presented to council member's ways to help students be organized in completing their homework & assignments. She showed various organizers that are available for purchase.

b) Safe School Presentation - Stephen Smith/Marie Charette

- Discussed Safe Schools: Promoting and encouraging safe schools for our students.
- Everyone is responsible for the safe school environment.
- Focus on Bullying.
- Educating the community to report when bullying is taking place.
- Code of Conduct applies to everyone coming into the school building.
- Seeking parent volunteers to join St. Stephen's Safe Schools Committee from the council members or members of our school community. Those interested please see Mr. Smith.
- Some new strategies to aid in the Safe School were discussed such as Red Cross- Beyond the Hurt and Restorative Justice Practices- (Implementing Catholic Values to restore and settle disputes.

4. Principal's Report - Sheeran Rush-Jeanes

- Sheeran welcomed all the parents for attending this evenings meeting.
- Progress reports to go out to parents next week.
- Principal welcomed some new staff to the school such as the new Religion chair person Blair Sawa and new Science/Math teacher Dana Bidgood.
- Christine Marshall's math classroom will be a demonstration classroom to promote teacher development. Teachers are able to witness first hand curriculum strategies to implement. Teachers will be able to book time to visit this classroom to witness classroom procedures.
- Board has developed 5 strategic priorities: 1) spiritual growth 2) enhanced relationships 3) Effective communication 4) Improved student learning 5) Staff learning.
- School will craft and promote these themes within the school community.
- Some adjustment to the new school year due to portables in the parking lot.
- Porta Packs were re-located to assist in the construction of the new addition happening to the school.
- School community saddened by the death of a former student and many paid their last respects.
- Father Peter gave his first liturgy for the school year.
- The Terry Fox day was discussed and the many new initiatives taking place for this day.
- Grade 9 parent night took place September 25th.

- September 26th was faith development day- Jack Miller (OISE Professor shared the day instructing teachers on "Education the Soul" followed by a presentation done by Doug Finbow. Presentation involved the future of our Catholic Education System.

5. Staff Report - Monica Hurley

- Jan Ethier is working with clergy to provide students and teachers in grade nine with teaching masses.
- Special Education Teacher Joe Palmer – looking to accommodate 9 students with work experience. Anyone who may have some ideas is asked to bring them to the attention of Joe Palmer.

6. Student Report - No report at this time

7. Chair Person Report

- Chair acknowledged all the Thank you's that had been received. (Brad Fegan - recipient of the Encouragement and Development of Youth Award).
- School Council year at a glance is available on the St. Stephen's school website. Minutes from meetings will also be available.
- EQAO results were shared with all attending meeting.
- Any ideas for goal setting for the 2008-2009 school year are asked to bring their ideas forth.
- Chair also asked principal to have teachers submit a teacher wish list.

8. Treasurer's Report:

- School Committee balance is \$632.85
- Parent Involvement account balance is \$797.21
- Will decide at the next meeting where the funds will be dispersed.

9. CPF Report: - No report.

10. Parish report: Chris Buhagiar has retired. No report at this time.

11. New Business: Mr. and Mrs. Cole discussed the backpack policy and the issues surrounding them. Principal explained the reasons for implementation of such policy and how the transit company has extended the pick up time by 3 minutes. Due to time constraints this will be added to next months agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m. Motion by Anita and 2nd by Wendy.

Minutes prepared by: Diane Renaud.