

**MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING
ST. CATHERINE SCHOOL COUNCIL
Held on Monday, December 6, 2010**

School Website: <http://schools.pvnccdsb.on.ca/stcat03/>

1. Meeting Called to Order @ 6:30 p.m.

- a) Catherine Voros led us in the opening prayer.
- b) MOTION: Approval of October 4, 2010 minutes
Moved by Tracy Leigh, seconded by Becky Beavis
CARRIED

2. Treasurer's Report (see attached breakdown)

MOTION: Approval of Treasurer's Report
Moved by Catherine Voros, seconded by Peggy Elmhirst
CARRIED

3. Principal's Report

- a) Apology made to My Shopping Genie for being missed in the school newsletter.
- b) Technology:
 - i. Grades 3-8 are working on a paperless project that was started in October.
 - ii. St. Catherine is embracing technology and feels what is good for some kids is also good for many kids.
 - iii. Goal is to increase teacher confidence and comfort level in using technology in the classroom. The same goal applies to students.
 - iv. Another goal is to have every child on a computer every day working on a curriculum-based project.
- c) Making Connections:
 - i. Sent home with children from kindergarten to grade 8.
 - ii. Teachers came up with a cold task (no teaching before task presented to students) in order to look at what students can do without instruction.
 - iii. 83% K-grade 1 could make a connection. Teaching will be focused on any gaps. Parents can see their own child's growth compared to the cohort.
 - iv. All SK and grade 1-2 French immersion are using questioning words.
 - v. Grade 7-8 English and 5-6 French are following Literacy Thinking Continuum. Critical literacy is rated on a continuum.
 - vi. Goal: when you ask a good question, children will make a connection and/or reflect on a personal opinion. This helps children become critical thinkers.
 - vii. Not rushing to introduce Literacy Thinking Continuum to younger grades.
 - viii. Next report will be sent home in January.
- d) School Spirit Clothing:
 - i. A grade 4 student designed the clothing.
 - ii. It was done as a service to students.

- e) Christmas Windows will be held on Tuesday December 21, 2010.
- f) Lockdown practice:
 - i. First one to be held Friday December 20, 2010. There will be another one in 2011 so kindergarten children who missed it will have an opportunity to practice.
 - ii. There are three different levels of threat. Hold and secure – which was used during the recent gas leak. Shelter and place – when there is danger outside the building. Lockdown – when danger exists within the building. Signs will be put up in the hallway to detail what areas are locked and opened.
 - iii. This needs to be practiced. Will be calm for younger children.
 - iv. Emergency site if required is Canterbury Gardens.
 - v. When it is a city emergency the city decides where and when the school is evacuated.
 - vi. All classroom doors lock, they were all re-keyed last year.
 - vii. School board has a list of all parents to call if an emergency occurs.
- g) Laptop Trolley:
 - i. Board has suggested a mid level laptop cart that would cost approx \$16,100. The laptops would have software loaded and have network capabilities.
 - ii. Board approval is important because they would service the laptops.
 - iii. Currently 10 in use at school that are on loan from the Board office.
 - iv. Any money left over in the school budget would be put towards computers.
 - v. Now that each classroom has Smart Boards, future fundraising would be asked to go into computer purchases.
 - vi. LR Brown maintains the Smart Boards for 3 years.
 - vii. There are 12 laptops on one trolley (rolling cart).

MOTION: Acceptance of Principal's Report

Moved by Evangelina Rodriguez, seconded by Catherine Voros

CARRIED

4. Student Council Events for 2010/2011 School Year

- a) QSP Fundraiser - \$12,500 to date and there could be more.
- b) Pizza Days – run by Francisca Eckstein. \$3200 to date. Dates for Jan-Mar were sent home to students. Francisca running the program efficiently. In September there will be a push to move towards whole wheat crust due to a Government of Ontario nutrition policy change. There is a need to recruit new parent volunteers so a few parents do not run the entire program. Having backup volunteers is a good thing.
- c) Turkey Lunch: Thursday December 9 – run by Lynn Smith and Becky Beavis. Several volunteer forms were returned. Starting set up around 9 am. Tables to be set up by volunteers. First seating will start at 11 am and the second one at noon. Could end up approximately \$200 more than last year.

- d) Skating Day - Friday December 17: Need volunteers to tie skates. Mandatory helmet use (bike helmet included). School is prepared to have reduced numbers due to helmet enforcement in grades 7 and 8.
- e) Staff Appreciation Lunch – Thursday January 13: Need volunteers to bring something in for lunch. Drop-offs can be made at school in the morning or sent in with kids.
- f) Poinsettia fundraiser: Started slow but we raised \$591 with a short turnaround time. Previous years the money raised was donated to St. Alphonsus to be used for St. Vincent de Paul.

MOTION: Send the money raised from current Poinsettia fundraiser to St. Alphonsus.

Moved by Sue Dafoe, and seconded by Catherine Voros

CARRIED

- g) ZapAttack Laser Tag: Event hosted on November 10 raised \$104. Propose a new date be set during the holiday period. Tracy Leigh to contact ZapAttack about two nights Jan 3-4 2011. The school will send out information if events are arranged.

5. New Business

- a) Outdoor Sign: Caroline Grady would like someone to take over the responsibility of the outdoor sign. It was decided that students would be responsible for changing the sign.
- b) Bereavement Process: Sue Dafoe has purchased some cards to have on hand when the need arises. Also it was decided that a \$25 donation could be made on behalf of School Council when a bereavement event occurs.
- c) Premier Awards for Teaching Excellence: deadline is January 31, 2011
- d) Other: Catherine Voros brought up the new parent-teacher interview process. She felt there needed to be a more streamlined process, especially for parents with children in multiple grades. Mrs. Piggott mentioned this year has been difficult due to the introduction of the new progress reports. They are trying a new system of having the interview scheduling process go through teachers and not the main office. With 620 students it is difficult for the office to handle load of scheduling. They are considering handing out a survey for parent feedback. Will see how the new changes work out and make future decisions at that time.

Tracy Leigh asked about Lunch Lady money. Sue reported it has been busier this year and the money is paid to council quarterly.

6. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting

Moved by Evangelina Rodriguez, and seconded by Francisca Eckstein

CARRIED

Date of next meeting – Monday February 7th, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.

Treasurer's Report

Balance as of Sep 16th, 2010 \$ **6,509.70**

Deposit of

BBQ reimbursement 500.00

Fundraisers

Pizza Day	\$ 3,245.25	
My Shopping Genie	50.00	
Laser Tag	104.00	
Poinsettia	591.50	
<i>QSP carryover</i>	1,786.00	
<i>Approx. QSP 2010</i>	10,802.23	
	<hr/>	16,578.98

Payments made

Pavement painting for School yard	\$ 1,000.00	
Bereavement Card & Donation	31.90	
	<hr/>	1,031.90

Budgeted items approved/not paid yet

Scientist in the Classroom	\$ 5,250.00	
Trips	1,238.00	
Classroom Libraries	1,500.00	
Lacrosse Materials	700.00	
Turkey Lunch	2,200.00	
Skating days	1,200.00	
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Expected Balance \$ 10,468.78