

St. Elizabeth School Council Minutes - Monday, October 21st, 2019

In Attendance

EXECUTIVE	MEMBERS AT LARGE
Chair/Co Chairs - No Co-Chair Secretary - Sabrina Saltarelli Treasurer(s) - Danielle Thiebeault(Absent) and Leigh Anne Bradbury Community Representative - Spirit - Sheri Urquhart (Absent), Jennifer Russle (Absent) Parish/Staff Representative - Mrs. Venditti Fundraiser – Leighanne Bradbury and Katrina Arevalo	Alison Wills Nelly Osmar Kim Myatt Leslie Tavares Lindsay Schuller Michelle Bowman

Welcome and Prayer - Meeting called to order at 6:30pm and Jo led us in prayer.

Old Business:

Minutes were not reviewed. Unable to vote on pass minutes.

Treasurer Report –

**There was no Treasurer Report at tonight's meeting

First Order of Business: Electing of a New Chair

Mark Hatt has had to step down as chair due to unforeseen circumstances. Jo would like to officially thank him for stepping up and it is regrettable that he has had to step away from his roles. We needed 11 voting members at this meeting in order to elect a new chair. Alison counted and we did not have enough in attendance to conduct a vote tonight. Alison (previous Chair for the past 3 years) reviewed the roles/responsibilities of the Chair with the group. Examples: Coordinating with the other executives, leading meetings, creating agenda for meetings, staying in close contact with fundraising team.

*Cecila Von Toonk and Leslie Tavares have volunteered to take over the co-chair role. Unfortunately, there were not enough voting members at tonight's meeting to conduct a vote. **Action:** Jo is going to send an email to all potential members to get a final and accurate number of members so we can vote soon.*

New Business:

Dance-a-thon - Jo said that the dance-a-thon looks like it will need to be postponed. She postponed it due to the CUPE Work-to-Rule and the board mandate to postpone fundraisers. **There will be no fundraiser this Fall.** Jo has chosen to replace the fundraiser with a fun dance since the students were looking forward to a dance. We are unable to go ahead with further planning of the Dance-a-thon fundraiser (e.g., set a new date, etc) today due to the inability to vote on anything (low number in attendance who were voting members). Therefore, Jo will cover costs through SGF, until council is able to vote at the next meeting on covering the cost of the Halloween Fun Dance.

Alison wondering if any money had been spent yet on the Dance-a-thon. The fundraising executives explained what money was spent so far:

-Chromebook (approx 200.00)

-Glow Sticks (approx 50.00)

Alison (Past Co-Chair) - 2 Fundraisers explained that typically, we 2 fundraisers per year been done here at the school. Typically, at this time in the year, School Council would create a budget for the year (E.g., Guest speaker, Gr 8 Graduation Costs, etc). Alison brought up concerns about where our budget stands. Joe mentioned that the balance is sitting quite high. We have approximately \$5000.00 sitting as a balance at this moment. The balance is high because we overallocated and underspent on Spirit activities, the exercise bike, guest speaker costs and landscaping last school year.

Appropriate Costumes - Concerns raised about appropriate Halloween costumes. **Action:** Jo will send a note on NewsWire about appropriate costumes.

Jenn Vendetti - Eco School Update

Waste Reduction Week Update

- We have to complete 4 major campaigns throughout the year as part of our “Eco Schools” Initiative
- **Monday** - teams of students went to present to classes ways to reduce food waste. Students will reflect on their pledges to reduce waste in the school
- **Tuesday** - school will be collecting clothing to go to St. Andrew’s Church. We are hoping to teach the students the importance of reusing
- **E-Waste Wednesday** - Asking students to bring in used batteries with the intention that none of these batteries end up in the garbage
- **Thursday** - Push towards bringing reusable water bottles. Every student who brings in a reusable water bottle with get a ballot to enter a draw for a pizza party.
- **Next Monday** - Boomerang Lunches (Litterless Lunches). Trying to promote the importance of reducing waste.
- Last year, we received a “Gold Standing” from the Eco School Organization

- We are hoping to promote positive action within our student body. What can we do to make a difference?
- We are hoping to begin composting here at St. Elizabeth this year or next. Possibly piloting this program in a couple of classes.

Principal Report:

EQAO Results

Grade 3

Math Scores - decrease from 90% to 72% (Board 62%; Province 58%)

Reading scores- decrease from 86% to 77% (Board 75; Province 74%)

Writing Scores - decrease from 88% to 72% (Board 71; Province 69%)

Grade 6

Math 63 to 61 (Board 49%; Province 48%)

Reading 96 to 88 (Board 81%; Province 81%)

Writing 88 to 76

Math

- Struggles in Measurement (units of measurement, comparison of units, visualisation of units, manipulation of units) as well as in connecting measurement to real life. This would explain the struggle to master proportional reasoning.
- IIRS also show that students struggle with fractions, decimals and place value
- Students also continue to struggle with complex multi-step problems

Reading

- Analysis of Reading score in EQAO and BLAM shows that students struggle with: determining important and relevant info, supporting opinions with information from the text, inferencing, making connections with the world around them
- In writing, students struggle with writing strong paragraphs and with moving from general to more detailed expression

Attitudinal Survey on EQAO Results Showed:

- **Based on the student response**, most Gr 3 and 6 students rarely or never write outside of school
- **Based on the student response**, very few Gr 6 students read books outside of school
- **Based on the student response**, very few parents read together with or stories their children

EQAO School Next Steps

- The high impact strategies of descriptive feedback, scaffolding, use of graphic organizers, use of exemplar and small group learning will be used
- Focus on ensuring that students master the basic skills in Measurement
- Work on understanding of fractions or place value

- Continued focus on daily number strings and number talks where feasible in order to improve understanding of and automaticity in calculations
- Continue to give students practice in multi step complex problems, entailing more than one strand of math
- The use of rich hands-on tasks will aid in the understanding of unit of measure

Catholic Community, Culture and Sharing

- Continue to develop umbrella skills (school has purchased more resources for classes to support umbrella skill development)
- Eco schools
- Healthy Schools
- Christian Meditation
- ME to We
- Greater Involvement in the Parish and the local community
- Have requested to learn more about restorative practices
- Members of council brought up an interest in getting the “Seeds of Empathy” program in our school. Joe said as of right now, we will hold off and focus on the goals already set out.

Joe presented the ways she and the teaching staff will monitor student success:

- Classroom principal walk-throughs
- Purposeful principal classroom visits during number routines
- Keeping division meeting focused on planning and moderation of work and looking at the student work on the table
- Keep doing the running records and BLAM and be informed by the results for teachers next actions
- Using ENCompass to monitor progress of marker students
- Regular CCCR on staff meeting agenda
- Triangulation of data and logging progress
- Teacher class review with principal and spec ed teacher (Fall and Spring)
- Continued use of technology
- Participation in skills Canada and in Lego League (21st Century Learning Skills)
- Some teachers providing training on SCRATCH

Portable

Portable Has Been built! Hooray!

Joe has the keys and the Grade 8's will hopefully be in there very soon and the library will be back to normal!

- **Upcoming School Council Meeting Dates**

Here are the dates of our meetings throughout the year

Monday, November 18th, 2019

Monday, January 13, 2020

Monday, February 10, 2020

Monday, April 6, 2020

- **Upcoming School Events**

- October 21st- October 25th (Waste Reduction Week)
- October 21st - Pumpkin Decoration Contest for St. Vincent De Paul
- October 31st – Halloween Fun Dance
- November 4th- 6th - Camp Brebeuf
- November 5th - Progress Reports
- November 7th - Parent Teacher Interviews
- November 11th - Remembrance Day Ceremony
- Monday November 18th - Parent Council Meeting
- November 29th - Hep B and HPV Immunizations

Chair's Update – No Chair Update

For role info – refer to [Catholic_School_Council_Handbook.pdf](#) on the Board Website, or in summary:

CHAIR The chair is elected by members of the Catholic school council and, with the exception of the principal or other staff member, any Catholic parent member of the Catholic school council can be elected as chair. The chair, in collaboration with the principal, sets the Catholic school council meeting agenda (i.e., determines items suitable for council discussion). The Catholic school council chair must be very clear on the functions and responsibilities of the Catholic school council and must constantly ensure that Catholic school council discussions focus on improving the teaching and learning environment for all students rather than focusing on the specific or isolated issues of any one individual.

The responsibility of the chair is most evident when non-council members are in attendance and have requested to speak on an issue. In such instances, the chair must be prepared to tactfully focus discussion on issues rather than on individuals. The chair may choose to allot a specific period of time for discussion of an issue.

As a member of a Catholic school council, the chair:

- chairs the council meetings;
- in collaboration with the principal, schedules Catholic school council meetings and sets agenda items (see sample agenda in Appendix D);
- facilitates collaborative decision-making, seeks consensus, and resolves conflict;
- ensures council minutes are prepared and made available to the school community (e.g., posted on the school website);
- prepares the annual activity report of the Catholic school council for inclusion in the annual school report; and
- has voting privileges. Page 5.6 Catholic school council A Guide for Members (2002)
- reports a system level initiatives (e.g. Catholic Parent Involvement Committee, Accommodation Review Committee, Board of Trustees and Council of Chairs) Catholic school council chairpersons may also be responsible for compiling correspondence and communicating with others on behalf of the Catholic school council

VACANCIES A vacancy in the membership of a Catholic school council shall be filled by election or appointment in accordance with the by-laws of the council.

A vacancy in the membership of a Catholic school council does not prevent the council from exercising its authority.

Officers

- A Catholic school council must have a chair or if the bylaws of the Catholic school council so provide, two chairs. A chair must be a parent member who is and must be elected by the other members of the Catholic school council. A Catholic school council may have such other officers as are provided for in the by-laws of the council.

- A person who is employed by the board cannot be the chair or co-chair of the council.

TERM OF OFFICE The term of office for Catholic school council members is one year. The term of office runs from the later of:

- a. the date of the members election or appointment; and
- b. the date of the first Catholic school council meeting after the election, until the date of the first Catholic school council meeting after the elections in the following year.

A member of Catholic school council may be re-elected or re-appointed, unless otherwise provided by the by-laws of the council. There is no restriction as to the amount of time that a member can be re-elected.

**Next Council Meeting: November 20th, 2019 @ 6:30pm in the Learning Commons
(School library)**