

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 19, 2019

Attendees

Cynthia Blair, Matthew Blayney, Tressa Brown, Ann Clarke, Dana Heno, Judy Hubbard, Rob Kardas, Erin Moffat Sharpe, Christine Monteiro, Norman Monteiro, Aliesha Murphy, Amanda Pascavage, Carter Winch

Welcome, Introductions (R. Kardas)

Prayer (A. Clarke)

Call to Order

Motion to Accept Agenda by: D. Heno; Motion Seconded by: A. Clarke

Motion to Accept Minutes by: Not available

Irish Moments

- Back to the beach day was a very positive and good event.
- Pancake Tues lunch was a nice event.

Student Council Update (M. Blayney, C. Winch)

- Recent elections had low sign ups. Online process may have hindered some from running. All people were appointed.
- Back to the beach was a fun school event.
- May look to get spirit wear for council members.
- Looking into ideas for spring events - more to come.
- Jean day \$2 to support religion class funding Easter dinner.

Chaplain Update (A. Clarke)

- Prayer – today is Feast of St. Joseph
- Ash Wednesday two services held, good respect and participation of students.
- April 4 reconciliation coming up.
- Working on video to promote disciples in the hallway.
- Grade 12 retreats underway. Grade 10s next.
- Have had situations of bereavement recently with some students.
- April 25 Easter mass.

Committee Reports

Board Liaison (T. Brown)

- Meeting in February, dual credit options discussed. St. Pats has many options on specialist high school majors.
- May 21 next meeting – WE program focus.
- New trustee rep on council – David Argenti

Wellness Committee (C. Blair)

- Giving information on stages and pathways. Doesn't need to be 'traditional' path. Options are available.
- Committee had \$2k speak up grant. Brought indigenous leadership group and committee together. Brainstorm event; incorporate safe and inclusive schools. Feedback was great to have the support and engagement of all students.
- Safe place suggested in school, nice zone to have wellness/rest area to unplug and detach, balance to the day.
- Wellness Wednesday to continue in announcements. This Thursday is crazy sock day for Down Syndrome awareness. Students will pay \$2 to wear jeans with crazy socks.
- Still gauging impact of September law regarding cell phone use.

Uniform Committee (E. Moffat Sharpe)

- Planning summer fit show; McCarthy is asking for one longer day vs two consecutive days. Will setup in cafeteria. No news on cost changing. Shorts will be allowed again soon. Clothing assistance program continues.
- Sometime around 3rd week in July, maybe Friday to schedule the fit show. McCarthy is trying to run package deals.
- Did receive positive feedback on jean day. Students earned the opportunity.

Pro Grant Committee (C. Monteiro)

- Grant received.
- Open house with ~ 20 families indicating participation. Parents of grade 7/8. April 11, 5:30-8pm. Registration generally closed given the size but will confirm attendance prior to event.
- Grant breakdown was \$100 handouts, \$200 dinner, \$200 speaker fees, \$500 technology. Considering technology to loan out to parents as library system to access My Blueprint.
- Rob K. to email Chris K to indicate support for purchase of Chrome book.

Vice-Principal's Reports – included in committee updates above.

Literacy Report (E. Moffat Sharpe)

- March 27 literacy test date, graduation requirement. Large group grade 10. All students can have up to double the time slotted for the test if required.

Numeracy Report (J. Majeski) – no update

Student Success Update

- Progress reports come out Thursday. Will be done a bit differently. More formalized report will eventually be available.

Student Services Update (J. Hubbard)

- Working on course selection for next year.

Indigenous Support (C. Blair)

- C. Blair will be at Lambton College tomorrow to learn more of the programming. This Thursday group and students and teachers are spending day to meet Chief David Plaine, stop and tour the reserve, grounds and to connect stories with elders. Will then have lunch, talk and team build, finally to return to school.
- April 4 – 27th annual Pow Wow. Approx. 40 students at St. Pat's self-identify as part of the community.

Principal's Report (C. Blair / E. Moffat Sharpe)

TAC talks – Lambton College professor and professional photographer Richard Beland was interviewed by Mr. Walicki in front of a packed theatre to share his stories of perseverance and brushes with rock legends. Mr. Beland has been at Lambton College about 4 years now. Hosted a Q&A period, students could form a real life connection.

Tech Day Pilot with Liuna – Students from Holy Rosary and St. Philip had hands-on tech classes at St. Pat's and spent the afternoon exploring career options in the tech fields.

Special Olympics – First ever held this year at St. Pat's, basketball tournament. Had great turnout, event was hands-on and inclusive.

Coffee House – Students shared their musical and theatrical talents. Great showcase of talent. Will have spring music show coming up.

Elementary School visit – Drama department. Hands-on, high-energy activities with grade 8 students.

Thought Exchange – tried for first time, responses to questions. Data will be collated to form board improvement plan with rankings from teachers, parents and student response rankings.

Muskoka Woods – coming up; ongoing training sessions, gaining momentum. Great teacher support, study sessions are included in rotations so students can still access work M-F, 5 days away.

Travel for Credit French Immersion – Meeting March 27 at 7 pm; EF Tours meeting to help expand grade 8/9 students for summer 2020; Civics class to be done like current program. DELF assessment is a certificate of French fluency. Test is an option for Grade 12 and French immersion students.

Lent Confessions – April 4; four priests will be in attendance.

Deanery Meeting – April 3; meeting with school board and Sarnia Deanery. Will need parent representative.

Request was made for someone to consider taking over Pro Grant submission; also seeking ideas for future programs, perhaps around wellness.

Motion to Adjourn by: Group

Future Meeting Dates 2018-2019: May 28 (5:30 PM start with dinner)