



St. André Bessette Catholic Elementary School Council

APPROVED Meeting Minutes

Date | Time 10/4/2023 6:30 PM | Meeting called to order by Melissa Galluzzo

In Attendance

Christine Zeni, Juliet Lugtu, Melissa Galluzzo, Sabrina Schiralli, Antonietta Moniz, Miranda Loberto, Michelle DeMedeiros, Reva Sulaka, Dina Odish, Erin Rosart, Imma Vitale, Tania Dell'Erario

1. Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge that we are on the sacred Indigenous territory and thank the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation for being stewards of this land.

2. Opening Prayer

Council Prayer

O Holy Spirit, source of truth and grace for those entrusted with Christian development of children, enlighten our minds, strengthen our wills, and fill our hearts with generosity so that our homes, our parishes and our schools may co-operate effectively with you, and with one another in the exalted mission of catholic education.

We make our prayer through Christ, Our Lord.

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, pray for us. We ask this through Jesus Christ the Light of the World.

Amen

3. Approval of Agenda

Motioned by: Michelle DeMedeiros; Seconded by Melissa Galluzzo; Approved

4. Approval of Minutes

Motioned by: Michelle DeMedeiros; Seconded by Sabrina Schiralli; Approved

5. Treasurer Update – Miranda Loberto

- Balance in account is \$2156.68
- Changes since last meeting include \$596.76 profit from movie night and \$1,059 profit from beef patty sales
- Sound system has been paid for - \$10,095

- C. Zeni update: school was over budget last year by \$7000 – came out of SGF. SGF left with approx. \$3000 (belongs to grade 8s – snack shack)
 - first pizza day was successful – approx. \$700 in cash and \$1000 school cash online
 - eventually money will be taken from SGF to put back into council fund
 - pavement painting – trying to get half paid through a grant

6. Voting

Co-chairs: Antonietta Moniz, Sabrina Schiralli, Melissa Galluzzo

Secretary: Erin Rosart

Treasurer: Miranda Loberto

OAPCE Rep:

Parish Rep:

Member at large: Reva Sulaka

Voting Members: Michelle DeMedeiros, Dina Odish

Teacher Reps: Tania Dell'Erario, Imma Vitale

7. OAPCE Update

- First meeting – October 19 @ 6:30pm, St. Francis Xavier Highschool

8. Parish Update

- October 27 – Loaves & Fishes Fundraiser (\$50/ticket, proceeds go towards building of new church)
- Dates for communion and confirmation have been send out
 - Offering a second set of information dates as enrollment has been low – email sent out to parents
- Revamp of website – resources for taking courses through the diocese

9. Teacher Updates

September

- On September 15th, students participated in International Dot Day. This day was established to lay the foundations to inspire creativity and imagination in whatever form it takes. Many students created wonderful pieces of artwork that are being showcased in our hallways.
- Students attended a Well being Conference on September 19th: 4 Intermediate students attended a Conference at Amorizicon Mental Health and Well Being. These students learned about strategies to help other students deal

with stress, anxiety etc. Our Bessette Wellness Team Champions will train 4 more students to join the Champion team where they will have regular weekly activities for students that need a safe/ quiet place to be in school.

- The YFL is working on finalizing their group members. There was a high interest this year making it difficult to finalize the group. A decision will be made in a few weeks.
- Grade 8 classes held Bessettes first school year opening mass
- On September 29th, staff and students wore orange shirts to commemorate The National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. We continue to have ongoing discussions embedded in our daily teaching practices to bring awareness.

October

- On October 2nd, we had our Terry Fox walk- donations were collected, we wore red and walked in our neighbourhood to support this cause.
- We have been collecting non-perishable food items for our Thanksgiving Food Drive- All donations will be given to the Knights Table
- Yesterday we participated in Blue Jays Day . Students and staff wore their jerseys, hats, etc. to cheer our team on for their first playoff game.
- November 1, Dairy Farmers of Canada will be visiting the intermediate classes as part our Health programming
- Junior Boys and Girls Volleyball tournament is being held at our school next week
- Cross Country meet is October 18th for grades 4 to 8. The team has been picked and will continue to train this week and next.
- Grade 7/8s are going to watch Hamlet at the Rose Theater on October 17th as part of our literacy program
- Swim to Survive is no longer running out of Riverstone this year. Gore Meadows will be our next option. Hopefully I will have an update at our November meeting.
- Mr. Cioffi is in the process of looking into purchasing new jerseys with the school logo.

10. Principal Updates

- Our school population increased from the projected numbers in June and so we were able to recall Mrs. Vitale and Mr. Cioffi
- We welcome our new VP Ms. Lugtu. Mr. McCallen is now principal at St. Monica
- We had a massive re-organization that moved approximately 100 students
- Our lunch times have changed back to a regular lunch hour. The kids play outside for 40 min and then eat for 20 min.
- We celebrated our first school mass with Fr. Abraham and had a wonderful time singing our hearts out at the end.
- We had our open house that had a good turn out. We also had our community partners present.
- We continue to have pizza Tuesdays with Ginos and that starts in October.

11. Lunch Discussion

- Express BBQ – Portuguese chicken
 - \$8 meal, kids get chicken, rice & potatoes
 - Charge \$10, make \$2 profit – payment on school cash online only
 - Weekly, every Wednesday
- Healthy Hunger – order from restaurants in the area, online ordering
 - S. Schiralli to look into further

- Mr. Sub – 6 inch sub, choice of ham, turkey, assorted or veggie, + toppings
 - Order online through cash online only
 - \$6 for 6 inch sub, \$6.50 with drink
 - Orders come labelled and sorted by class
- Beef patties – would have to run as a preorder instead of going class to class
 - Only one lunch period, kids only get 20 minutes to eat

12. Fundraising Discussion

- First Aid Kits – may be better for spring
- Dieleman Fundraising Sales – gift wrap, cards, holiday décor, kitchen gadgets, gift items
 - 2 catalogues to choose from – Joy & Noel
 - Online ordering
 - A. Moniz to look into further, will vote via Microsoft vote prior to next meeting

13. New Business

- Lunch period – concerns that the lunch eating period has been cut short, not enough time for students to finish
 - 60 minute lunch period – 40 min. outside, 20 min. inside
 - This is how most schools do it
 - Has to do with logistics of teacher duties (lunch broken into three 20 minute segments, teachers have 20 minute duty shifts)
 - Reasoning for eating after going outside – during outdoor time, kids get hungry and come in and eat their lunch faster. Allows for extra time to finish eating once bell rings because kids are not rushing to get outside.
- Class field trips – specifically junior grades
 - For juniors, Silver Creek trip has already been booked
 - There will likely be other trips as well
 - Primary grades will also likely have trips this year
 - In past years, there has been a shortage of parent volunteers due to police check

14. Adjournment

10/4/2023 8:04 PM

Meeting adjourned – Motioned by Michelle DeMedeiros; seconded by Reva Sulaka

Next meeting – Wednesday, November 15, 6:30pm