

St. Nicholas Catholic School Parent Advisory Council Minutes October 11, 2022

**Attendees** – Peter Rachmistruck, Shawna Molnar, Leanne Doetzel, Carla Kemp, Nina Hart, Nicole Luke, Allison St. Germain, and Ted Paszek

Meeting called to order at 6:13 pm by Shawna Molner

The opening prayer was previously shared in the AGM prior to this PAC meeting

**Approval of June 7, 2022 Meeting Minutes** – Leanne motioned; Nina seconded

**Treasurer Report** – reviewed by Carla

We are nearing the end of the Davidson Orchard Apple Fundraiser, as the last day to order is October 12<sup>th</sup>. To date the total sales raised was \$2400 in comparison of last year's total of \$6700. There is still time for parents to get orders in. It is suspected that many parents have left it to the last minute and with the reminder email sent out by Peter, we are hoping that more funds will flow in before the ordering cut off time.

We have had one complete hot lunch in which we raised \$162, which is a general increase for a hot lunch fundraiser. Nina to comment more on hot lunch initiatives.

Meet the teacher night expenses totaled \$320.21. Leanne motioned to approve the expense: Carla seconded.

Nicole brought up a suggestion for next year in regards to the expense of the grade 4 leadership t-shirts. Would the school be able to vet a business or two (local e.g., Nitzza's Pizza or a parent owned business etc.) to sponsor the t-shirts?

Total bank balance is \$6259.83; however, the October hot lunch fund-raiser has not been closed and completed although funds have been coming in. As well as the Davidson Orchard Apple Fundraiser is still open and taking in sales. Carla will have the totals of the Davidson Orchard Apple Fundraiser for next PAC meeting as well as an updated hot lunch total.

**Hot Lunch Report** – reviewed by Nina

Hot lunch dates have been reviewed and approved by Peter for the fall term, they are as follows:

October 18<sup>th</sup> – Wok Box. November 16<sup>th</sup> – Pasta Pantry, December 13<sup>th</sup> Opa!

Nina discussed how some vendors have stopped doing their hot lunch programs as they cannot either find staffing to accommodate the order or it isn't feasible for the vendor financially to offer a hot lunch program. On the other side, some vendors have become too expensive to offer as a fundraising initiative. New vendors are being looked at for the Spring term (Sal or Bev Facey, Freshii, Acapella Catering)

Nina had asked Peter to send out the hot lunch information in Ukrainian to hopefully bridge the language barrier and offer more opportunities for the students in the Ukrainian program to order. It was a huge success for the October hot lunch.

We touched on the idea of parent council purchasing a few extra lunches to be distributed, however we decided that since there seems to be a number of lunches each hot lunch day that are left due to a student's absence that we would just take the parents lead and distribute those. We had talked about carrying forward the same rule set for this year that if a student is absent for hot lunch but had ordered a hot lunch then they are welcome to pick it up at the office or to donate their lunch!

This year instead of purchasing juice boxes through vendors which is quite costly, PAC would purchase the juice boxes independently from Costco and sell those as the beverage for hot lunch.

Approval of \$51.66 for juice boxes and hot lunch labels was motioned by Leanne and Carla seconded.

#### **Administration Report** – presented by Ted Paszek and Peter

Ted Paszek – touched on some highlights of the September Board meeting. The budgeting process is in a state of stability as well as the staffing which is keeping mostly the same. The Ukrainian families that are coming into the district continue to be a focal point and the council is trying their best to accommodate all their needs. The council is continuously educating and supporting Truth and Reconciliation. The board is also focusing on advocating for Catholic education! Mr. Paszek spoke about the GrAce Committee whose purpose is to move Catholic education awareness. They are hosting an event on Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup> at St. Francis Xavier Parish in Camrose, which is an open event! The June election results for the board are as follows; Board Chair Le-Anne Ewaskiw, and Board Vice Chair Ted Paszek. CPAC meeting is Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>.

Peter -

Meet the teacher night was a huge success! It was great to come together as a community again, while feeding roughly 250 people!

Theme for the school year is, "Better Together!"

New curriculum has been rolled out for this year.

New security system for the school this year. Security cameras have been installed both inside and outside the school. All entrance doors will remain locked during school hours. Students and parents will have to come to the front door and ring the bell to be let in during school hours.

Shumka field trip – students and staff had an amazing time! BUCPS to cover the cost of the bilingual students as well as the bussing cost. English students to be covered by field trip funds. Field trip funds to be revisited if need be.

Halloween – Festivities to take place Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup> in the afternoon. Teachers prefer to do stations, which has already been organized. Letter to parents with volunteer information will be sent out to parents!

Grade 4 Retreat to Camp Van E's - Grade 4's leadership retreat is scheduled for Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. Grade 4 leadership teams have started as well – School Spirit, Young Citizen Team, and Ukrainian.

Upcoming dates:

October 18<sup>th</sup> – Hot lunch

October 19<sup>th</sup> – Picture retakes

October 20<sup>th</sup> – Ukrainian Kindergarten Photos

October 31<sup>st</sup> – Halloween Festivities

**New Business** – reviewed by Shawna

**Yearly Fundraisers**

Davidson Orchard Apple Fundraiser in the fall

Christmas Baskets – in person at our Christmas Concert this year!

West Coast Seeds – An application has been submitted to West Coast Seeds for approval to use them as a fundraiser for the school. Approval will be known by the end of October. If approved we will be provided with a link to be able to shop for seeds on the West Coast Seed website while raising money for our school between February 9<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>. Seeds are packaged by order and will come in March some time.

Salisbury Greenhouse Gift Cards – a possibility this year

Flip Give – discontinued using

**Open for Questions**

Folk Fest Event tabled for the Spring

Donations through Indigo Books for fundraising for the birthday books. Nicole to discuss with Mrs. Nixon.

**Next Meeting** – Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 6pm

Meeting adjourned at 7:17pm