Minutes from St John the Apostle School Council Meeting of January 17, 2017

 Attendance : Louise Hennessy, Paula Wilson, Gordon Fitzpatrick, Nicole Gallant-Daigle, Steve McGarrity, Kerri Courville, Sara Stenson, Janice Rupert, Lillian Poon, Robynn Kearns

-Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm and was opened with prayer by Steve McGarrity SJA principal . Pricipal McGarrity the proceeded to give his principal’s report

 PRINCIPAL REPORT
DECEMBER/ January 13 2016-2017
Fraser Report
- Ranks SJA as number two in the OCSB and top ten in Eastern Ontario
- Based on EQAO data and trends over the past five years.
Learning Commons and Maker Space Changes.
- balanced use of space between collaborative group work areas, vertical, non
permanent work spaces, book collection and Maker Space
- will be adding to the Maker Space- basic robotics, Knex, motors and a transfer of all
materials from current maker space
NPDL Update- focus has been on examining and improving learning spaces (Learning
Commons is a good example of this)
- Use of both vertical and horizontal non-permanent learning spaces for collaborative
group work
- Flexible learning spaces that allow for student mobility
- Integration of social emotional learning concepts into practice and learning space
- Example: Zones of Feeling and Safe Space
- Jan staff meeting we have the OCSB SEL Team in to present to staff
- Exploring accentuated learning environments
- Introduction into Restorative Practices with staff
- Next step is to delve deeper into pedagogical practices that support deeper learning
Anti-Bullying Week
- Classes and peacebuilders organized a lot of learning around the role of the
bystander in preventing and stopping bullying (book studies, poster and
announcement campaigns, workshops)
- Assembly focused on the good Samaritan and dramatic presentations of the many
types of bullying and solutions to problems (again highlighting the role of the
bystander)
Winter Activity Week
Committee meets tomorrow morning. Target Week: 13-17 Feb.
Build in the 150 theme.
Communication of Learning- K report
New report based on the 4 Frames that has been implemented this year (Sept 16)
All overall and specific expectations fall into 1 or more of the frames
Belonging and Contributing; Self Regulation and Well Being; Demonstrating Literacy and
Numeracy Behaviours; Problem Solving and lnnovating
New report will include comments on each frame as well as religion and will include content
that speaks to key learning, growth, and next steps with an emphasis on the next steps for
the educator teams

Chair’s report – Paula Wilson

 Gift of Reading was very successful and well received by families and staff of SJA. Over $1000.00 was raised to add new materials to our learning commons (school library)

The December movie night was a great success. It was well attended and $200.00 was raised.

The council had detailed further discussions regarding the goals and directions of school council. One theme that kept recurring was the need for a focused effort to get a new outdoor play structure for the yard. A separate bank account needs to be made to saving for this endeavor. As well we need to spread the word that this item is of importance to our school community. Talk of a subcommittee was started; further discussion will be had.

Janice Rupert – parent member- raised the question of a book donation/sale to improve access to books for our students

Discussion of a need for improved advertising of SJA council/school activities was had. Signs in the nearby neighbourhoods would help improve foot traffic for the craft sale A call is out for anyone who is on the neighbourhood councils please get in touch with SJA council to improve future communication.

Craft sale was a growing success. Council has decided to proceed with the event again next year. Possible dates are November 18 or 25 2017 .

A decision on the hot lunch program was made. SJA will be offering “Mazzola” as an option for families to purchase hot lunches to be delivered to the students on Fridays. Information has gone home. Lillian Poon is in charge of this initiative

<http://www.mazzola.ca/>

Kerri Courville motioned for SJA council to again provide the teachers of SJA with an “allowance” $100.00 per teacher in the form of gift cards. Robynn Kearns seconded the motion.

Louise Hennessy raised the motion for SJA council to provide funds for one school bus per class, as in past years. Robynn Kearns seconded it.

June 23, 2017 will be the leaving ceremony ( aka grade 6 graduation) Louise Hennessy will be organizing it again this year. This will be the last year Louise will be organizing it as her son is in grade 6 next year. Please speak with Louise if you would like to help out.

Walk a thon – Robynn Kearns

May 25 or May 26(rain day) SJA will be having a walk a thon. This will be the kick off event to start the fund raising for the new play structure. This event will also tie in to the 150 celebration the Canada is having this year. Council is looking for parents to contribute prizes for winners in this event. Please Robynn Kearns for more info.

School BBQ is booked for June 8 2017

CSPA – Denise Corbett was absent at the meeting. Please see the CSPA website for more info.

Gord Fitzpatrick is treasurer please contact him for information on council’s current budget (finances are proceeding well)

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm