Minutes of SJA school council meeting November 8, 2016

Attendance : Louise Hennessy, Lillian Poon, Robynn Kearns, Kerri Courville, Paula Wilson, Denise Corbett, Gordon Fitzpatrick, Geeta Gera, Steve McGarrity, Danielle D’Amico

Meeting opened at 6:30 pm with prayer by Principal Steve McGarrity

1. -School council is entertaining new lunch ideas for the winter term

- Two companies made presentations at the meeting and provided samples of their cooking, [www.mazzola.ca](http://www.mazzola.ca) and [www.thethelunchlady.ca](http://www.thethelunchlady.ca)

-Both companies provide hot meal options, both companies are allergy aware and meet ministry guidelines for healthy foods in the school, both companies provide online and paper ordering options (although online seemed to be the preferred route)

-both companies provide a fundraising option to be added to the food prices.

-Meals from each company are in the five dollar range give or take.

-council will have further discussion on this issue at our Dec meeting. Please check out both websites and feel free to share your thoughts with council

2. Chair’s report – Paula Wilson

-DR. JEAN CLINTON Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2016 6:30 - 8:30 PM at Frank Ryan Intermediate School

“Why is it important to connect with our children? ”

See link for more info <http://www.ottawacspa.ca/images/announcement_flyers/2016-17/J.Clinton_Nov_2016.pdf>

-SJA Christmas Market Sat Nov 12 ,10-2 at the school

It will filled with fun and goodies and a great chance to shop and support your school

3. CSPA report – Denise Corbett . The italic, bolded notes are directly taken from Denise’s notes when she attended the meeting.

<http://www.ottawacspa.ca/> Check out their great website for further info

Notes from CSPA Meeting held Oct. 28

***General – send any event notices to CSPA (presentations etc.) and they will post on the SPA website***

1. ***Jan Bentham:*** 
   1. ***briefed all on new spiritual theme: Sent To Be The Good News***
   2. ***Spoke about new religious program: Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ***
      * ***Pedagogically sound: inquiry based learning, mindfulness, social/emotional learning; mirrors curriculum, integrates other subjects (arts, language etc.)***
   3. ***Sacraments in the schools***
2. ***Elaine McMahon (Chair, SJA Trustee)***
   1. ***Happy to go to any events in any of her schools, including council meetings if they don’t conflict with board meetings (which they do for SJA) just let her know***
   2. ***Encourages parents to go to a board meeting to see what happens***
3. ***Denise Andre***
   1. ***OCDSB school area review – OCSB \*not\* undertaking same; was done at time of amalgamation; schools were rationalized and right-sized; no sense that it is required*** 
      * ***Reason for review is that up until this year, ministry provided top-up funding for empty spaces, making it feasible to keep schools open; no longer doing that***
   2. ***In OCSB enrolment is up +-1000 students., coming out of several years of decline, secondary is steady***
   3. ***United Way campaign: being opened up t parents for contributions on Nov 15. No info re: how/what this means; encouraged donations to CEFO, but understands that many already give; parents have asked, so simply responding***
      * ***Over 200K given out in emergency funding (food, utilities etc to families in need)***
      * ***Target is 350K 9same as last year)***
   4. ***Board meeting Oct. 25 – looking for independent outside auditors; no relation to employee of board, cannot have kid in board; voluntary***
   5. ***Renewed Math Strategy***
      * ***Mr. McGarrity spoke about this at the last council meeting***
      * ***Results above prov’l avg but declining; Br received 800K to support math learning; focus on Gr 6, 9 but working with all grades***
      * ***Schools will be encouraged to host math nights for parents***
   6. ***Deep learning Framework***
      * ***What should learning look for a globally connected world***
      * ***Global competencies: critical thinking, communications etc***
      * ***Based in solid pedagogy, leveraging digital assets, learning partnerships, involving parents in learning process***
4. ***Elections: Co chairs: Cathy Philpott (last year with kid in Bd) Mark Savankoff***
5. ***PIC/PRO money – CSPA asks that it all be spent at school level because anything unused gets returned to Ministry and they don’t want to deal with little cheques of $35/$50 etc.***
6. ***CSPA will ask for a donation form councils that can afford it $20; goes to offset admin costs (comm. Products/newsletter, website dev/mgmt)***
7. ***PIC $ now goes directly to events rather than to CPA; CSPA has a balance of $2900 being carried over and they want to reduce it but will still ask for the donation***
8. ***PIC Committee: mandated by Ministry; minimum 4 parents, can have lots – next meeting is Nov 29 at noon at bd office***
   1. ***Includes Director, Trustee, Principal design, admin staff (note, budget)***
   2. ***PIC $ to be spent by June 23 on anything to get parents involved in the school***
   3. ***Money sent out end mid-Oct (Mrs. G should have received it?)***
   4. ***If council cant spend, let the PIC committee know and they will give us ideas to spend***
9. ***minutes available on CSPA website; next mtg is Nov. 23***

4. Treasurer’s report – Gord Fitzpatrick

Nothing new to report, budget is on track at this point in the year.

5. Principal’s report - Steve McGarrity

-Peace Builders have been trained and are out in the yards

-Anti bullying week is coming up soon Nov 21-25

-Nov 18 is a PD day and the teachers will be working on “Math expectations” and “Number talks”

<https://self-reg.ca/self-reg/books/calm-alert-learning/>

Principal McGarrity spoke about the self reg ideas of Stuart Shanker and how these ideas are being looked at as valuable tools for helping in our chlidren’s education. The above link talks of Stuart Shanker’s books and ideas. Check it out for further info.

6. Focus items – Paula Wilson

-Tree of giving will run in advent again. It will be a tree that is decorated by donations of children’s socks, scarves, neckers mitts etc . The donations will benefit <http://smi.ocsb.ca/> St Micheal’s elementary school on Donald street. ( Tory’s new school)

-The tree will be set up for the start of advent Nov 28. See Louise Hennessy for info

-Advent Mass at St John the Apostle Church Dec 8 in the evening (7pm) see Kerri courville for info

-Gift of Reading program will occur this year as a Christmas gift giving alternative info to go out

-Possible SJA movie night Dec 16 volunteers needed

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm