St John the Apostle School council March 7 2017

Attendance : Paula Wilson, Steve McGarrity, Denise Corbett, Gord Fitzgerald, Louise Hennessy, Geeta Gera, Sandra Hodgins

Meeting was opened in prayer by Principal Steve McGarrity At 7PM

PRINCIPAL UPDATE by Steve McGarrity  
MARCH 7,2017  
**Recent Events**  
**Pulse Retreat**- Friday March 3, the Pulse group came to SJA to lead a school-wide retreat  
using music, song, gospel stories, interactive games and prayer to celebrate Jesus and our  
service to God. Well documented on Twitter by a number of different sources. Very positive  
feedback from teaching staff and students.

Request for Council to help support the cost of the Retreat. Should be $1500.00 (awaiting  
final calculation of our share of expenses form Mason Normand, Pulse leader). $750.00

**Liturgy of the Word on Ash Wednesday** Thanks to Mr McEnery, Ms Faloon, Ms Bourassa,  
the choir and many of our student leaders from their excellent work bringing together a very  
special start to Lent. Father Lindsay lead the celebration.

**Lenten Social Justice Projects**

1. We are working together with the Knights of Columbus  
and three other elementary schools to raise canned food donations for the local Food Banks.  
(Morrison Gardens and Pinecrest Terrace) Collections are every Tuesday during Lent

2. We are raising money for the Ottawa Kumbo Clean Water Project through a number of fun  
days and event. Hat and Jersey Day, Mile of Coins day, and PJ Day. Carmel Horan from  
the OK CLean Water Project will be presenting information about the initiative to the school  
on Wednesday, March 8th.

**FSL Program Evening** Target Group Gr 3 Parents. Mlle Hughes, Mlle Carullo, Mme  
Melissa, and Mme Yvette lead an informative evening utilizing the particular linguistic talents  
of junior students from the French program who addressed many of the parent’s questions  
and concerns about the program and the transition from grade 3 to 4. Well attended event.

**Winter Spirit Week** lt was a fun week of Canada Trivia, special events, theme days and a  
culminating winter movie afternoon. Activity Day was rained out and then iced out and is  
going to be rescheduled as a Spring Activity Day when our field greens a little. St Paul Rec  
Leaders will still lead events.  
**Grade 6 Visit to St Paul** Part of the orientation and transition of our grade 6 students to  
high school and life on a big campus. Students participated in classes, visited the many  
specialized spaces in the HS (caf, gyms, shops etc) and met in the auditorium for a brief  
dramatic performance.

**Staffing/ Projections for 2017- 2018**  
Ms Moragh Brawley completed her contract with our grade 3/+ and 5s working with Ms Wren.  
Ms Brittany Jones has started with the afternoon grade 3/o group.  
Latest projections are in line with current school population of 395 + our language class (18).

**Math Night at SJA**Being set up with the remainder of the PIC Money from last year's coordinated effort  
amongst the six schools. First Term, the presentation at Frank Ryan with Dr Clinton was the  
first of the presentations. St Daniels is having a math night as are we later in April. Dates to  
be set and shared.

**Clothing**  
Working with a new supplier with our new line of Dolphin Wear. Very reasonably priced  
clothing. T-shirts will be available at approx $9.00. Hoodies $27.00

Chairs report – Paula Wilson

Paula spoke of a possible presentation regarding “where are all the bees” . She will do more info and follow up.

St Luke’s in Barrhaven is having an online safety presentation by Paul Davis on May 3 7pm

A call was placed for the next PRO grant. Do we want to work together again with other schools to bring in a big speaker?

Treasures report – Gord Fitzgerald

Budget is on track at this time. See Gord for a specific breakdown of finances . Approx funds in bank at present are 4200$

Upon hearing the budget status a motion was raised to put funds towards helping cover the cost of the Pulse retreat as requested by Mr McGarrity (approx 750$). As well a motion was put forward to put funds toward helping with new furniture for one classroom (approx 1800$)

These motions were not voted on as not enough members were present .An email vote will be conducted.

CSPA – Denise Corbett

The last CSPA meeting was held Feb 22, 2017

A safe school presentation was held. The notes and the slides from this presentation are on the CSPA website. http://www.ottawacspa.ca/

A draft calendar for the school year 2017-2018 is now available online

**Workshops for Parents of Children with Special Needs**OCSB Student Services, in partnership with the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), PIC and CSPA, present an evening of workshops for families of children with special needs.  These 4 workshops will be offered twice (Assistive Technology, Positive Advocacy, Mental Health Supports at the OCSB, On My Way - Transitions). Participants can attend two sessions of their choice.

**Monday, March 27, 2017, 6:30 - 9:00 PM**  
**St. Patrick's Catholic High School**,  2525 Alta Vista Drive

Register Now: <http://bit.ly/CSPA17SpecEd>

Focus items

* Movie night booked for May 5
* Walk a thon info ( Robynn was unable to attend meeting so no new info at this time)
* Email vote will be called for funds to be allocated to furnishing
* Volunteer needs for spring walk a thon and spring grade 6 grad June 2017

Meeting adjourned 7:50pm