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