**St. John the Apostle School Council Meeting Minutes – October 13th**

Attended by: Joanne Cheng; Denise Corbett; Kerri Courville; Mari Dressler; Gordon Fitzpatrick; Geeta Gera; Rose Hunt; Robynn Kearns; Sara Stenson; Victoria White; Paula Wilson

**Principal’s Report:**

Events to date:

* Boys and Girls Soccer, Cross country, Bus evacuation practice, 3 fire drill practices, 1 lockdown practice with our SRO, Rock the Arts puppetry Jk-3, Program Evening, Father Lindsay visited classrooms, Thanksgiving mass with Father Lindsay, Crazy Socks for Terry Fox.

Staffing:

* New to SJA in September Lisa Langsford Gr 3, Elizabeth Vesterfelt Resource, Theresa Matheson Resource/P and P, KerryAnn Miles French.
* Gillian Werthner replacing Mrs.Faloon (maternity)
* Alyssa Montuoro replacing Mrs.Langsford (maternity)

  Dates for your calendars: (All dates are on the website calendar)

* October 16th School photos
* November 10th We Day
* November 12th Christmas Market
* November 15-19 Bullying awareness and prevention week
* November 17 and 18 Rocks and Rings
* November 19 Photo retakes
* November 20 PD day

**Chair’s Report:**

* Kerri is going to step down as chair next year - we need to find someone who would like to fill this role.
* Ideas for the winter and spring fundraisers were tossed around.  A favorite seemed to be a “Dance-a-thon”
* Spring fundraiser could also be a “cake raffle”

**CSPA Report:**

* Parent Workshops – FREE, but we do ask that you register, *[www.ottawacspa.ca](http://www.ottawacspa.ca" \t "_blank)*

Please go online to see the descriptions for our events:

* **Dr. Maggie Mamen - Raising Resilient Children,** Wed. Oct. 21 7-9pm  St. Luck, 2485 Dwight Crescent.
* **Dr. Tracy Vaillancourt, Ph. D. Professor & CDN Research Chair, Children’s Mental Health :& Violence Prevention,** Wed. Oct. 21   7-9pm  St. Mary School, 5536 Bank St, Gloucester
* **The Gift of Reading,** Thursday Oct. 22          7- 8:30pm  St. Patrick’s High School, 2525 Alta Vista Dr.
* **Concussion Awareness,** Thursday Oct. 29   7-8:30pm   St. Pius X High School, 1481 Fisher Ave.
* **Strong, Not tough,** Monday Nov. 9               7-9pm         Holy Trinity High School, 180 Katimavik Rd.
* **Restorative Practices,** Monday Nov. 16       7-8pm         Mother Teresa High School, 180 Katimavik Rd.
* **Barbara Coloroso,** Monday Nov. 18       7-8pm             Frank Ryan School, 128 Chesterton Drive

* The School Council Annual Financial Report for the reporting period September 1, 2014 to August 31, 2015, is due by Wednesday, October 14th.  Refer to the Memo from Superintendent David Leach for complete details.

* Electronic parent/parenting resource books have been purchased by CSPA, PIC and some school councils. These electronic or e-books are available online for all parents to read.  You'll also find some lovely children's books to read with your child or have them read to you.

* Parents Reaching Out Grants for School Councils  2015-2016    Approved for PIC - 804126     St John the Apostle Elementary School   Parent Engagement Workshops    $ 1,000

* CSPA will gladly accept a $50 donation from our Council if it the council sees fit.

* CSPA Executive elections will take place at our October 28th CSPA meeting. If you would like to share your skills and are interested in specific education issues, or in getting a broader board-wide perspective of Catholic education, consider joining our team.  We meet at 5:30 PM before our general CSPA meetings.  or contact [cspachair@gmail.com](mailto:cspachair@gmail.com" \t "_blank)

* Grant Reporting PIC and PRO grants  - The reports & receipts for last school year were due in June 2015.

* Financial Reporting for School Councils  - The OCSB school council annual financial report for the period September 1, 2014 to August 31, 2015 is due by October 14, 2015.

**Parish Report:**

Click on this link to view the weekly bulletin on the church's website: [http://www.stjohntheapostleparish.ca/](http://www.stjohntheapostleparish.ca/" \t "_blank)

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|  | **Focus Items** | **Speaker** | **Motion** |
| 1 | Still need a Secretary on Council – a voting position, duties include: to take notes at each meeting, and to email minutes to Council, Principal, and interested parents within one week of meeting | Co-Chair | Denise has taken the position of Jr. Grade Representative  Geeta has taken the position of Secretary on Council |
| 2 | Fundraising Goals – Teachers’ Allowance, Field Trip Buses, & saving for a new outdoor play structure? | Co-Chair | We have about $6000 as of today without counting pizza/sub money.  **Motion to vote**:  put aside $2500 aside for field trip buses ($185/10 homerooms + 3 French classes) – **Motion passed**  We also want to work towards putting money aside for new outdoor play structures |
| 3 | SJA Christmas Market – November 12, 2015 | Paula Wilson | We have 8 vendors firmed up – we’re hoping to have over 20  Everyone is encouraged to find vendors or even pickup business cards for next year  Paula will book the gym for November 12th  We’d like to book the grade 6 ambassadors |
| 4 | Movie Nights – need a new coordinator – set 2-3 dates during this school year (late fall, winter, early spring) | Co-Chair | Co-Chairs will send out an email to ask if one of the parents would like to be the new movie night coordinator |
| 5 | Joint PRO Grant Application Approved! - Barbara Colorosso to speak at Frank Ryan School, Wed. November 18, 2015 | Co-Chair | Everyone encouraged to come out to listen to Barbara Colorosso speak. |
| 6 | Parent Volunteer Roster sign-up sheet to be sent home | Co-Chair | Co-Chairs will send out an email much like the one sent out last year to ask if parents are interested in volunteering and if yes, what events they prefer to volunteer at |
| 7 | Christmas Gift of “????” | Co-Chair/Shari Scott | We’re thinking this year it could be called Christmas Gift of Recess Play” |
| 8 | Advent Mass Date: Tuesday, December 1, 2015, 7pm – need to form a committee of a few volunteers to set up and take down reception | Kerri Courville (Coordinator) | Victoria would like to get money to buy bells to form a “bell choir” to (hopefully) play at Advent Mass.  **Motion to vote**: give $150 to buy the bells – **Motion passed** |
| 9 | Christmas Mitten, Sock, Hat Tree | Co-Chair/Louise Hennessy | We’ll put up a big tree again this year in the Common Room for donations from families |