St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic School Council

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

Monday November 12, 2018; 7:00pm

**Attendees:**

Maria Clunis (Principal) Stephanie Wood (Secretary) Paula Ambra

Veronica Boyden (Vice Principal) Tamiko Pfeiffer (Parish Rep) Linda Dodson Trchala

Kim Watson (Teaching Rep) Trevor Aitcheson Andrea Gagliardi

Anna-Lisa Athaide (Co-Chair) Irena Kropman Angela Garofalo

Gina Bruni (Co-Chair) Stacey Sainte-Marie Sophia Rossini

**Regrets:** Karen Minacs (OAPCE), Camille Cendana, Jodie Rowland, Morgan St. Marie.

**1. Opening Prayer:** Said by those present.

**2. Introductions:** Those present introduced themselves for persons attending for the first time.

**3. Approval of Minutes:**

Motion

To approve minutes of meeting for Oct 15, 2018.

Moved: Gina Seconded: Irena

**4. Current Business:**

(a) Dance-a-thon:

(i) Recap: Raised $24 133. Congratulations and thanks to all.

(ii) Improvement ideas for next year:

- Launch Letter:

- Rebranding? Name change – All Hallows? Include Faith based information.

- JK “New parent” info.

- Teacher introduction letter with instructions, clarify “how it works”.

- Tax Receipts lower denomination? Linda to follow up.

- Prize Patrol:

- Start collecting prizes earlier (towards end of current school year). - Letter to businesses to be available earlier for that purpose.

- Use some donated gift cards (ie. Canadian Tire) to purchase toys.

- Hold a top item for future draw to include charitable component (Durham Catholic Children’s Foundation, Family sponsorship).

- Further pursue prizes from parent community.

- Pumpkin Carving Contest:

- Have parents attending dance vote for winners through ballot system.

- Each class to raffle off their own pumpkin so they are taken home.

- Counting Crew:

- Statistics emailed by Karen.

- Daily counting more encouraging and exciting for students.

- Discussed confusion between being highest fundraisers of the day but also being asked to bring in multiple days.

(b) Budget – draft review:

- Distributed and reviewed.

- Distribute roughly $5000 for IVP, $5000 for Chromebooks, $5000 for iPads, $5000 for library improvements, $2300 for two Water bottle/hydration stations.

- Pursue external grants for further technology funding. Linda to follow up with information re: Best Buy Grant.

- Include amount (aprox. $500) for Faith Based Community Building night.

- Consider Kindergarten playground materials as well as gym equipment.

**5. Old Business:**

(a) Parent Volunteer List:

- Linda has been working on inputting information.

- Continue to have Council members attend Kindergarten information night.

- Have parents come to gym for brief Council presentation before going to classes at Meet the Teacher night in the fall.

- Attend French Immersion Parent Night for recruiting.

- Volunteer form on-line?

(b) Date for Teacher Appreciation:

- Staff meeting on December 17, 2018. Have food ready for 3:45-4:45pm.

**6. New Business**

(a) Letter to MPP re: PRO Grant:

- Anna Lisa read email from Camille.

- Discussed broadening scope of letter to advocate for parental rights.

Motion:

Be it resolved that the St. Mark School Council send a letter to the local MPP and the Minister of Education advocating for parental rights including PRO grant restoration.

Moved: Anna Lisa Second: Gina

**7. Principal and Parish Reports**

(a) Principal’s Report:

**-** Distributed and Reviewed

- Students to help adult volunteers at Social following Christmas Family Mass

- Linda to pursue donations of cookies, juice boxes from No Frills (Laura Conroy).

- Host a DCPIC Math Café?

(b) Parish Report:

- Parish Collecting gently used sleeping bags; New shoes, scarfs, socks, boots for homeless. To be dropped off after Masses on Nov 17, 18.

- Parent Alpha program on Thursday evenings.

- Jr Edge and Edge groups continuing.

- Holy Family Candlelit Choir Concert: Dec 1 after 5pm Mass. Everyone welcome.

- Looking for Mother’s Group leader (training and resources provided).

**8. Next Meeting:**

- Winter Social: January 24, 2019, 7pm. Evite To Follow. Location: Tuscan Wolf Pizzeria.

**9. Adjournment:** 9pm