

Guardian Angels Catholic School Council  
Tuesday, March 6, 2018  
**MEETING MINUTES**

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**1. Welcome**

School council chair, P. Vukovic, welcomed everyone to the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

**2. Previous Minutes**

Minutes of the school council meeting dated Tuesday, February 6, 2018 were distributed to the members and approved with the following changes:

- Edit Guest speaker date to September 2018.
- Edit to read **St.** Joseph's House
- Edit ski date is **February 22**

**CARRIED**

**3. Parish Report**

- Deacon John was thankful for positive feedback based on conversations, appreciated dialogue, also very interested in engaging with parents, families, wants to come to the schools open house during Catholic education week, maybe set up table in gym, so people can drop by to see him
- Deacon John will be ordained on April 6 at Notre Dame, a bus will be organized to take those attending downtown
- CWL – this Friday is the Way of the Cross
- Holy Week, mass on Holy Thurs., Lord's Supper, bring bells (kids, shakers, etc.) - no collection basket, bring food bank items or cash donations instead, kids present items at Good Friday mass
- 8:00 pm March 31 Easter vigil
- 9:00 and 11:00 – Easter mass time changes

**4. Chair's Report**

No report

**5. Treasurer's Report**

- Balance: end of Feb.: \$80,617.88
- PayPal fees to date: \$2,196.73
- January McDonald's: \$650
- Fun Dance: \$66.60 in cash donations for St. Rose of Lima  
\$51.55 in face painting offsets costs of Dance – will break even

**6. Communications Report**

- Wordpress kinks to work through (error messages, possible permission issues)
- Everything has been posted to Twitter and FaceBook

- Missing minutes from January, will speak with Cheryl
- Trying to keep content current.

## 7. Parent Representative Report

- Still receives comments from parents about not knowing about the activities are at the school. Along with not knowing much about school council and about it's importance
- Council usually speaks at Welcome to Kindergarten Night, good opportunity to engage parents in advance, about activities (May 31) they can work on with their kids.
- Thurs. May 10 – Cath Education Week open house, in tandem with the Art Show (Kate)
- Intramurals (Gr. 2-4) too many kids for intramurals, they would play only once, can it be limited to grade 4? Grade 3-4 has started a running club now. Will continue to look at options
- Squirmyies: vote on 1 or 2 to run, or choose 3 or 4 options, post on parents group for voting by parents? Look at game pack with Squirmyies.
- Basketball would have to wait until May for outdoors, 1 day a wk might work in gym. Open to all grades, parents would pay for this. Grouped by ages.
- Drama would be interesting, could do in Commons. Drama and Game Pack – to look into, parents pay the cost.
- Opportunity to sponsor another family if they can't afford to do the activity? Some lunch programs are sponsored. Explored options on how to set up some sort of fund to help families who cannot afford certain programs?
- 2 yrs since balls, jump ropes have been provided – maybe spend more \$ on equipment? A bucket of supplies for outdoor use? Buy for springtime? Consult Kat for info on ordering, as per past year, catalogues? Items in mesh bags were great, different for each grade, colour coded balls went over well. Krystal will reach out to Kat to get prices, poll the teachers also to see the need for outdoor sporting stuff. Hula hoops, skipping ropes, balls, chalk, check with teachers about any easy-breaking toys (sand toys?), check for durability. Bags great, can hang up in cubbies. 2-3 yrs prior, Shelley and Kat found a bunch of old things, fairly durable.

## 8. Food Program

Deferred

## 9. Teacher's Report

- Tchoukball this week
- Basketball after March Break.
- Artist Kate in junior, Amy Talbot in senior, well received, incredible projects emerging.
- Monday, 2 gr 6 classes presented in Commons, choose FR book, display it in some form of art, clay, watercolour, incredible what they presented.
- Primary classes went to visit these, saw mini-exhibits, very proud of work.
- After Break, Holy Stations of Cross will take place, in a.m. primary, junior block 2, 29<sup>th</sup> March

## 10. Vice Principal's Report

- After March break, running takes place 2 times a week. Grade 3 & 4 on Tuesday and Thursday. Other grades on Monday and Wednesday. By May 27, they will have done 40 km. On May 27<sup>th</sup>, run last km and finish the marathon with Ottawa Race Weekend.

## 11. Principal's Report

- Deacon John visited almost all classrooms, kids enjoyed this, coming each Tuesday. Kids recognize him now, 20 min. In classrooms, talking about Lent, what's going on now in church. Appears successful.
- If bus available, GUA choir to sing at City Hall, on March 28<sup>th</sup> at Council mtg, to sing Oh Canada.
- Winter playday postponed due to snow day; since then, yard has been in poor condition for this activity, too icy or mud, or water. Very limited on the yard. Trying to limit injuries.
- Bingo – Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup>.
- \$15,000 funding for flexible furniture in classrooms to be given to each school from the Board. Need student and staff input for this. Items that can be moved into hallways. Waiting room chairs – free, the top flexes back. Mr. Laurin got a great deal on this. Some students like desks, others like flexible options.
- Mrs. Corbett received email from Shad in late Jan. To discuss traffic flow around school. Not getting better, concerns by neighbours, illegal parking, bylaw has been here frequently. Shad suggested a pledge to run by Council. 80% of kids go on the bus. Same 10-20 cars parked where they are not supposed to. Delicate issue. He sent a safety pledge but hard to get people to change their mindset. Cars blocking parked cars. Bylaw needs to be invoked more. Kiss and Drop does not work. Issues with blocking bus in and out. Good idea to get Shad to add to his column? Warnings do not do much, parents will do same thing the next day. Traffic cones? Ms. Corbett will speak to Shad, then give parents a heads up that after Break, bylaw has come, Shad has come, tickets will be sent out, to put in Shad's weekly newsletter.

## 12. CSPA Report

- Meeting held on Feb. 28, presentation on experiential learning, through doing, 2 steps further from activity. Students reflect on activity, HS level, now geared to K and up, different ways to do learning at elementary levels, different forms, field trips, work site, fire station, field studies, field, pond, analyze, musical showcases, artist Kate, Amy Talbot at Elementary level. Board in 2011 developed learning guide to develop for HS; the framework exists for K up now. Co-op, older grades are target for this on CSPA.
- Construction zone, how to get council members to step up and lead groups. 1. Some parents on council with students in Gr. 6 are leaving, good source of knowledge base, good to get insight from them. 2. Sharing, mentoring, shadowing to lead an event for succession. 3. If all going well, parents do not attend mtgs, but if things go "wrong," people show up to voice. Council needs to engage new blood before school year ends. Roles need to be filled, interest in roles to continue. Look ahead to fill gaps before they arise.
- MISC: bootcamp, 1. Fundraising equity and parent involvement. More \$ to spend on extras, less \$ to support nutrition programs, etc. Not technology. Do NOT let fundraising take over the school, lower income parents might not feel they have something to contribute, hence create a committee to talk about details at the mtg then bring to Council. 2. We are fortunate with incomes in this area, but not always clear when people are struggling, hard to ask for help. Important to include free activities as all events. Fundraiser label scares people off. Could it be called "Fun-raiser events" sometimes? Do not want to exclude kids. All the info is on CSPA website. Good to use FB, but sometimes an "invite a friend" to council mtg is good. Bring a friend night. Why are they not coming out? Inside scoop on school information. Good to have new, diff voices.

- Beginning of year, presentation on school council liability insurance, some confusion, questions, not clear to people when activities fell under school or need to purchase own. Board has purchased insurance for all school councils. If school-approved event, then school covers, will now apply to Parade of Lights Float too. Parents cannot waive liability for children in Ontario
- Upcoming Apr. 3 – workshop: Anxiety in school children at St. Paul’s and March 22, St. Paul HS, no CSPA mtg in March, next Apr. 25 at 7:30

### 13. Outdoor Classroom

- Surveys being given out, list of staff wish lists. Costco has shelving, storage containers, bins, estimate about \$5000 more or less once measurements are done. Will work on proposal and put online so they are ready for spring for use. Thus, end of Phase 1 for the year.
- Committee meeting challenging to schedule. Committee of teachers ready to go. K will post online in greater community to see if parents want to join, hoping for March 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Display out front, fundraising goals, tree of what is raised. Table was put out at dance, visibility very good. People visited, it was unmanned. Need to fill out Evergreen survey about where GUA is going, get them involved.
- Board has allocated \$ for outdoor classrooms, can apply through Ms. Corbett, will likely favour schools with less money, but it is an option.

### 14. Family Fun Dance

- Peter thanked all for the work around this. Fun night. Do not do “no tickets” next time, like Carnival, better with tickets.
- Colour-coded or highlight tickets.
- Probably broke even, chips need to be sold. All invoices submitted. St. Rose of Lima, principal thrilled to get mitts and donations. About \$66 in mitten donations to be converted to gift card for St. Rose of Lima.

### 15. Carnival

- Letter to be done, not much to report.
- Brown’s is booked, Circus Delights booked.
- Costco has big sound speaker for \$199. We usually pay each year \$100 for a loud speaker. Tent 13 x 13 is \$150. We rent it for \$125 each year and are anchored.

### 16. Lunch Program

- Added people who missed the deadline.
- Maybe send people letter to remind them.
- Some hiccups with how it’s presented online perhaps. Need to talk to Hot Lunches to get reports but an easy way to order. Keep it as simple as possible.

### 17. New Business

- Proud to be me has been sent in as per Krystal, she worked with Kate, sent early Feb.
- For the paint night, Kate needs a parent volunteer to help. Need to update flyer from last year. Shannon to email Melanie to get volunteers, create sign-up sheet. Funding through Pro Grant, accountable to Ministry of education, about 40 families can fit. More paper towels, plates, Jan volunteered to reach out to Kate to offer same help as last year. Funding request is to support mental health and wellbeing. Perhaps open to new families first, Shannon to draft blurb based

on last year. Online system to register to connect with Kate, first come, first served; supply costs covers 40 families, keep a wait list, set up at 5:00, 5 or more people to set up, 5:45 – 6:15 need someone to meet families, check them off and check in. Need student volunteers and maybe parent volunteers from 6:00 to 8:00 to oversee, 4-6 to resupply during the activity, and to help clean up.

- Gator Spirit Wear: should we bring this back? Suppliers – check into who? Maybe students could vote on a Gator logo? Make/design a logo? Former RinkPro owner might be an option. Style of logo important, i.e., embroidery, printed, various formats, etc. Suggestion to check with Sacred Heart about which supplier they use.

#### **18. Next Meeting**

Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

#### **19. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned.