

SJB Parent Council Meeting
Tuesday October 24, 2017

Attendees:

Bea Garacia	Manuela Michelin
Beverley Saptel-John	Mariah O'Reilly
Bhavana Nelliparamil	Marisa Generoso
Brenda McGinnis	Marisa Nuckchahee
Colleen Pawelek	Mary Hanna
David Cendeno	Mignonne Dalmaridis
Denise Samson	Nancy Delima
Ettsa Capizzano	Nermine Mikhail
Ingrid Eleosida	Rita Speziale-Nacci
Jessica Di Benigno	Sharmila Sharma
Joanne Pagazani	Shelley Pereira-Ferron
Lancelot Lambret	Sherrie Carvalho
Jovie Cajindos	Tracy Brown
Laurie Lyn-Diebel	

Opening Prayer

Updates:

Budgets:

- Funds collected that will be donated - \$800 for Terry Fox and \$400 to hurricane relief.
- Technology equipment – seven more classrooms have presentation boards, four are promethean boards, and three more will be purchased this year. More chrome books and iPads will be purchased.
- Sports equipment has been beefed up.
- Students with special needs will have access to mini iPads
- Earphones were ordered for all classrooms. Each class will receive three. These will be used for kids that struggle with noise.
- Rainbow club – teachers lead these
- Classroom resources towards math
- We've been discouraged to drive kids to events due to insurance so we book buses.
- Fans for classrooms – they need to be replaced annually.

Mrs. O'Reilly thanked the group for all their work.

Field:

- The field was not done properly from the beginning. We're one of three schools where the field was redone. Drainage was done and the field will be closed at least until the Spring.

The plan for the kids at recess:

- Grade 7-8 students go to the gym – play basketball, etc.
- Grade 5-6 – play on the field at the basketball court
- Grade 1-4 – stay in the yard
- Winter tryout – we added a second recess so that all the kids have an opportunity to be outdoors. All portables came out for the second recess. Two recesses in the AM, two at lunch and two in the PM
- There may be an issue to ensure that the amount of duty that a teacher spends covering outdoor duty complies with the Board.
- Someone from Facilities will be coming to look at the Kindergarten area. There may be some modifications made.

Daycare:

- The Daycare was supposed to be completed earlier than it was. Parking lot was expanded as much as possible. Day care staff also need parking.

Kiss and Ride:

- We want to make it convenient for the parents.
- There are some safety issues. We all need to be patient and we have to stay in the queues.
- Walking through it is not safe either.
- Please don't jump in front of anyone.
- Reminders will be sent in the newsletter.
- Parents should budget time to drop off the kids
- Kiss and Ride is at the front of the school, not on the bus side.
- We could really use parent volunteers. Not sure if we can get people from our community to volunteer?
- We can get more signage, more pylons.
- Please send any suggestions to Mrs. O'Reilly or Mrs. Michelin.
- Suggestions:
 - Kiss and Ride / Staff only – block off the parking lot so that people can't get out if they drive in. This might cause further congestion
 - Parking pass for teachers/volunteers so that people know that they can come in.
 - Suggestion Steering Committee? Can we send out an email asking people to ask if they'd like to join to make suggestion for various items. They will then give the Parent Council an update monthly.
- Crossing guards – call the city to have them moved to a better location. Create a petition.
- Community officer can meet with us once a committee is formed.

EQAO results:

- Bakhita was well-over the board and provincial results. Math scores are great, but much better than the other numbers. We're well-ahead of them. The staff has a lot to be proud of and they worked as a team.
- Attitude scores around math have been very positive and high. Attitude and achievement go together

Christmas Fair and Math Night:

- This should not be considered a fund-raiser. It should be faith and community based.
- Suggestions: games, self-sufficient games, craft stations, games that incorporate math, Skittle roulette (probability). Other suggestions are very welcome from this group.
- We need a Committee – meet once, get ideas going and assign jobs to people, and then have a final committee – sign up on the sheet if you're interested in joining. We can use as many as possible.
- Early in the month – Dec 1 – will follow up on timing and date
- We will send a flyer out to the neighbours letting them know that there will be an event at the school so that they can make any necessary arrangement as there have been issues with parking around the school.
- Reminder to parents about the parking by-laws as well-being courteous about the home-owners
- Ask Davinci PS if we could use their parking lot.

Fundraising:

- Popcorn sales – We spent \$140 but made back \$410. We offered only one flavor. It's easier to manage. We had parent volunteers to bag them. We can't offer many flavours if we plan to bag our own. We're going to look at offering this once per month. We can alternate flavours. White cheddar is popular, maybe caramel, but not sure if it's available.
- Please let us know if your kids have any comments about the popcorn.
- Improve technology in library – iPad and Chrome books – **Fundscrip Program** allows you to purchase gift cards from on-line and a percentage of the sales go to the school. For example – Indigo will give a 5% rebate back. Each person will get an invitation code to sign up. Minimum of four cards with a maximum of \$500. There's a shipping fee of \$0.96. There will be an additional fee if you require the package to be delivered and signed for. There are various

ways of paying for the cards. Credit card payments are charged a 2% fee which is then deducted from the school proceeds.

- The program can run all year if we want. There is no fee for the school to run it. There are many options for gift cards.
- We need to make this easy for people to use. We have to allow credit card payments even if they take a percentage. It's better that we get something rather than nothing. It may be too inconvenient for people to have to set up their banking through the program.
- Delivery of cards will take approximately one week. It will take three days to clear banking before they will send them out.
- You can also purchase e-cards and small denomination gift cards (but very few options)
- There is no fee to sign up.
- You can give the code to anyone for people to sign up so that our school can benefit.
- **FlipGive** is another option. This allows for online shopping and e-cards. It's a lot easier than Fundscrip. There is a selection of stores. You would pay for shipping of whatever the store you're buying from.
- We should consider the magazines as well.
- Is anyone opposed to any of these? Both might be too much? We can give the parents a choice and they can decide which option they find more convenient for them. It was decided that we will pilot both options.
- We should set this up for Christmas and then send reminders throughout the year.

Night out:

- There are restaurants, for example Boston Pizza where they will allow a portion of their sales will come to the school. It is a scheduled event. The school can receive 10-15% of the sales. They encourage school staff to be servers as volunteers. We would have a scheduled time of 5:30 – 9:30 pm. We can also ask other people in the restaurant to leave their receipts so that the proceeds can come to our school. They would require a minimum of 4, maximum of 8 people to volunteer.
- *Chocolate sales* will start November 16. There are a lot of prizes being offered.
- *Social* is scheduled for December 12
- *Family Bowling night NEBS* – it was decided that this might be too costly for families.

Chapters fundraiser:

- Chapters would open the store for our school for two hours. Anything that is purchased by us during this time, 20% comes back to the school in the form of gift certificates.
- It takes about four weeks to set this up. The best time to do this is in the new year. This group was not opposed to doing this.

RBC Initiative:

- This came from Ms. Nash. Does anyone here work at RBC, or know someone who works there? It asks for RBC employees to volunteer at our school for an event that they create for us. We can get up to \$1000 from the event. It has to be between April – June, so maybe we do a Spring Fair.
- Marisa mentioned that Telus does something similar and will look into it and report back.

Parish Rep Announcements:

- First Reconciliation & First Communion registration is now closed.
- Confirmation Registration is now closed
- Youth Group "Edge" starts on October 27. This group is for children in grades 6-8. The church is looking for youth to take part in the program. They can contact Jeannine Henry at 905-683-1403 x100 or youth.sfds@gmail.com

Other:

- Mrs. Michelin mentioned that the Edge Imaging sales person came in. Parents are concerned about poses and backgrounds that couldn't be changed. The sales rep mentioned that the quality of the photo is not as sharp when you change the background colours. We are now also missing collage options as well.
- We have a 3-year contract with them. They used the blue screen again this year even though we asked to use the green screen. If there are issues, please let Mrs. Michelin know so that she can voice our concerns.

Next Parent Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday November 28 at 7:00 pm.

Closing Prayer