

September 11, 2014

St. Charles Catholic School Parent Advisory Committee Meeting

Start 6:33 P.M.

Prayer

REPORTS

REPORT from Dr. Penny

SCCS has 260 students registered for the 2014-2015 school year!!

The welcome to St. Charles Kinder BBQ was well received.

Meet the Teacher is scheduled for Wednesday, September 17th. There will be a change in format this year. We will start with a short presentation in the gym, followed by group presentations. The groups will consist of Grades K-2, 3-5, 6-8. There will be a pizza party for the class with the most parents attending. Make sure to sign up at the front door! Comments from the parents on this format:

- If you have more than one child in the school in different groups, you will have to choose which group to attend. Parents were concerned information would not be received on class grouping not attended. It was suggested an email be sent to the teacher for the class you are not able to attend and request the information be passed along (if any). A video recording for each group presentation will also be available on the website.
- The goal is to get more parents (both parents) of each family to attend Meet the Teacher night. Concerns were expressed by a few parents on who would watch their children if both parents were to attend.
- Parents inquired if child care would be provided. Child care would not be available as the school staff would then not be able to mingle with the parents
- No alcohol will be served – just a cheese and appetizer event for the parents – this was well received.

It is the school's goal this year to go paperless. All information/notes/etc will be posted online as opposed to being sent home. Please ensure your email address is accurate with the school office.

Volunteers are needed for the following: donors of silent auction prizes, organization of silent auction prizes, annual golf event, hotdog days (not only cooking the hot dogs but handing out to the students).

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

The school board met two weeks ago. Robyn Powell was re-elected as Chair of the School Board.

Parents are reminded not to park in the Retreat Centre parking lot. SCCS staff are allowed to park in the Retreat parking lot in designated parking stalls. The Retreat parking lot is private property. There is ample parking on the other side of the Church. If the SCCS staff lose the Retreat parking stalls, they would be required to move back into the Church parking lot, therefore, further reducing parking available to the parents. Also, a reminder to parents to not drop off students in the bus loop or on St. Charles Street. Tickets will be issued for any violations. It is a gentle reminder that we need to consider the safety of our students and school patrols

The new city by-law concerning reduced speeds around school zones is well received.

FUNDRAISING REPORT

There will no longer be a Gold Card Fundraising event. In lieu of the Gold Card, families will now be asked to sell 4 boxes of chocolates. Families are encouraged to sell at their parishes. The parishioner's love to see our students – also serves as great PR!!

Volunteers are needed for the fund raising committee – more than one volunteer would be ideal. The Fundraising Committee would report to ONE person. The Fund Raising committee would work with the School Board as all fundraising events are required to have Board approval.

GIFT CARDS

Jodi Gale discussed the various options available concerning the gift cards:

- Have the gift card order form available at form and chocolate pick up time (beginning of school year)
- Would families be interested in monthly orders

- Should the order forms be available online on the school website?
- Include grocery stores, gas, gift cards, restaurants – places where we are already spending money
- Option to pay by credit card – use a company that allows parents to order online and that would possibly ship the cards direct
- There is a 3% give back to the school (last year)
- The percentage of kickbacks to the school is store dependent. Sobeys' gives a larger kickback based on volume orders, but they do not allow the use of a credit card as payment. Walmart only gives a 1% kickback.

Of the 170 families (260 students), approximately 47 families participated in the gift card fundraiser last year. The Christmas orders totaled \$1,700.

REVIEW OF COMMUNITY EVENTS

SPRUCE UP THE SCHOOL

Spruce Up the School Weekend is scheduled for September 26th and 27th. Construction projects are planned for the spruce up the school weekend – “heavy lifting” body volunteers would be greatly appreciated. Dave Wyllie, our building and Grounds coordinator, has painting, cleaning, de-cluttering events planned! If anyone has access to scaffolding, please contact Dave Wyllie or the school office. Spruce up the School will run in the Fall and the Spring!

The Building and Ground Committee has been busy installing a new door on the play ground side of the building. This door is now FOB accessible. Sound panels have now been installed in the new gym!

CLASS REPS AND UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

The following is a listing of the 2014-2015 class representatives and the respective community events.

Class	Community Event & Date	Class Representative(s)
KG	<u>Founder's Day Celebration refreshments</u> June 12 th	Kim Kebalo
KB	<u>Founder's Day Celebration refreshments</u> June 12 th	Coral Doherty/ Darraugh Sichewski
1	<u>Welcome to School Picnic</u> Sunday, August 24 th 6:30 pm	Michele Ashe & Darcie Munday
1/2	<u>Grade 4 Bible Celebration refreshments</u> Thursday, October 9 th 6:30 pm	Nadia De Luca
2	<u>Grade 4 Bible Celebration refreshments</u> Thursday, October 9 th 6:30 pm	Janice Compton & Naomi Redl
3	<u>Grade 4 Bible Celebration refreshments</u> Thursday, October 9 th 6:30 pm	Michelle Ashe & Jennie Deutscher
3/4	<u>Fall Staff Appreciation Day (Potluck)</u> Thursday, October 30 th	Vanessa Keryluk & Pam & Gord Currie
4	<u>Fall Staff Appreciation Day (Potluck)</u> Thursday, October 30 th	Janet Antoshko & Anna Karlinski
5	<u>Grade 4 Bible Celebration refreshments</u> Thursday, October 9 th 6:30 pm	Heather Smart & Doris-Anne Hildebrand
6	<u>Spring Staff Appreciation Day (Potluck)</u> Thursday, March 26 th	Toni Bond / Denise Quick/Jill Patterson
7	<u>Grade 8 Farewell Celebration</u> Monday, June 29 th 7 pm	Bill Ivey
8	<u>Grade 8 Farewell Celebration</u> Monday, June 29 th 7 pm	Fiona O'Hara / Kathy Everard

*Please note that in the event of a school closure or emergency evacuation of the school that these names shall also serve as the classroom phone fan out contacts for the administration (phone lists to be provided by the office in September).

If any class reps have letters that need to be sent out, an option is to email Dr. Penny so it can be added to the weekly update to parents. All letters going out to the classes should be approved by the office.

It was discussed how the class reps can get their respective parent information. Parents inquired on why a phone directory can be published but not email addresses – reasoning: new anti-spam legislation.

For the Meet the Teacher next week, Nadia De Luca will organize the sign up sheet for the PAC parents.

The welcome to St. Charles Kinder BBQ (potluck) was a new event this year. The former Kinders (2014-2015 Grade Ones) hosted. The goal of this event is for the students to meet and help their comfort level on the first day of classes when it is time to say goodbye to mom and dad! Michele Ashe has a file to help next year's hosting class.

NEW BUSINESS

Toni Bond inquired on the possibility of community school supplies. Ben Ashe had sent an email inquiring on interest but it was found the teachers preferred the school supply lists.

Parents also expressed concerns on the amount of supplies on the school supply lists, for example:

- Items being sent home first week as not needed – then why on list?
- If Grades 7 – 8 need an ipad, why do they need so many school supplies?

It was suggested the class reps approach their respective teachers to discuss for next years planning.

A few parents expressed concerns about the fitting of the uniform pants. For students that are tall and thin, alterations on the pants can be costly. As it has been awhile, should the suppliers be re-visited? Quality is always an equal concern. Top Marks is not considered an option as a supplier. Can those students who do not fit the current supplier's pants be given an "approved" alternative supplier?

Questions were asked if PAC letterhead has ever been considered. All letters going out to families should be approved by Dr. Penny and/or the office. The school is also starting to implement a paperless communication process and an increased usage of the school website.

St. Paul's and St. Mary's students are coming to the school on Saturday mornings to run a sports camp. Information will be available on the school website and also sent out on the weekly update.

A hard copy of the school calendar will no longer be dispersed. All events will be updated and displayed on the school website. It was suggested that this be better communicated as most were not aware.

Meeting adjourned 7:47 PM