

Governing Board

St. John Fisher Sr. Elementary School

MINUTES OF THE MEETING – MAY 14th 2014

Attendance:

Parents:	Bridget Bagshaw	
	Sandra Gesualdi	Secretary & Vice Chair
	Ken Johnston	Parent Rep.
	Balgovind Pande	Chair
Staff:	Lise Lecompte	Teacher
	Laura Sulano	Daycare
Principal:	Tony Di Vittori	
Commissioner:	Linton Garner	

Regrets:

Mike Vallée
Rachel Ethier, Teacher
Nicole Montcalm, Teacher
Debbie Poirier, Librarian
Gloria Coulter, Community Rep.
Rev. Kenneth Scott, Community Rep.

Public: One

6.1 Call to Order & Welcome

Having attained quorum, the meeting was called to order by B. Pande at 7:07pm.

6.2 Adoption of the Agenda

13-14-42 *It was moved by K. Johnston to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by B. Bagshaw, and was carried unanimously.*

6.3 Adoption of Minutes of April 9th, 2014.

13-14-43 *It was moved by B. Bagshaw to adopt the minutes of the April 2014 meeting with the mentioned correction to be made. The motion was seconded L. Lecompte, and was carried unanimously.*

6.4 Questions from the Public

None.

6.5 Business Arising

5.5.1 Ratification of Approvals by Email

Approval was given, via email, for the rental of the gym to the Pointe Claire Camp from July to mid-August. They will use the gym, nurse's office and the staff room. Caretakers have been consulted to be sure that their schedule to ready the school for the new school year will not be disturbed. No classrooms will be used.

13-14-44 *It was moved by L. Lecompte to ratify these approvals done by email. The motion was seconded by L. Sulano, and was carried unanimously.*

6.5.2 Home Schooling Policy

Question was asked as to who pays for the administration for the Home Schooling body. It is the School Board that pays as it is part of their mandate from MELS (The Ministry of Education). No comment will be sent to the Board.

6.5.3 Emergency Preparedness Policy

This policy is put in place to be sure that all schools have an updated policy (plan of action). Our response to this consultation is as follows:

1. The policy states that the caretaker has an important role but it doesn't specify the tasks of the caretaker's role. What is the caretaker's role?
2. In reference to section 8: Recovery: Who is responsible to drive the recovery? Will auxiliary resources be available to the school in the aftermath of a traumatic event? This should be specified in the policy.

In response to number two, Commissioner Garner clarified that the Board would support the school as need be.

6.6 New Business

6.6.1 Executive Council Meetings (Consult)

No response to the dates and times of Council Meetings.

6.6.2 School Calendar

Governing Board meetings will remain on the second Wednesday of each month; not having meetings in September, January, and March.

The AGM (Junior and Senior together) will take place at the Senior School on Wednesday September 10th. The Junior meeting will begin at 6:30PM and the Senior meeting will begin at 7:30PM.

13-14-45 *It was moved by L. Sulano to approve the 2014/15 school calendar, the date of the AGM and the fixed dates of the GB meetings for the next school year. The motion was seconded by S. Gesualdi and was carried unanimously.*

6.6.3 Rentals (2014 – 15)

The same groups renting our school gymnasium this year are requesting to rent it next year:

1. Lakers Basketball (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday)
2. Tora Karate (Wednesday and Saturday)

13-14-46 *It was moved by L. Lecompte to approve the rental of the school to the above mentioned groups. The motion was seconded by B. Bagshaw and was carried unanimously.*

6.6.4 Community Program with Spiritual Advisor

The intergenerational program with grade six students will continue next year. The students will be carpooled. Drivers sign a document stating that they have a \$2,000,000 liability insurance in order to drive the students.

- 12 students will serve lunch at the Pointe Claire Legion every Wednesday. Parent volunteers and the advisor are with the students.
- On Mondays 12 students do crafts with the seniors at the Bayview Home for seniors.
- The pet show is back by popular demand. It will take place on October 22 at the Bayview Home for seniors.

13-14-47 *It was moved by K. Johnston to approve the Intergenerational program as presented. The motion was seconded by B. Bagshaw and was carried unanimously.*

6.6.5 Year –End Pool Days

Pool days (at Valois pool) will take place from June 11th to June 18th. The grade six classes will have a pool party on their own day. The cost is \$4. The pool will supply the life guards.

13-14-48 *It was moved by S. Gesualdi to approve the pool outings. The motion was seconded by B. Bagshaw and was carried unanimously.*

6.6.6 June 23rd Schedule

The final day of school will be Monday, June 23rd. The change in calendar was due to the schools being closed because of the provincial election, the school year had to be extended by one day; this was done to be within regulation of having 180 school days per school year. The last day of school will be a “fun day”. Report card will be issued June 20th.

6.6.7 AGM 2014

The AGM for the next school year will take place on Wednesday September 10th at the Senior school. The Senior meeting will begin at 7:30 and the Junior meeting (same date and location) will begin at 6:30.

6.7 Reports

6.7.1 Parents' Committee Report

Chartwells (catering company) presented concerning school food (hot lunches and cafeterias).

6.7.2 Council of Commissioners' Report

- The council had a vote concerning the final date of school. The issue was revisited, after the provincial election; the vote was 11-10 to keep the date of June 23rd (compared to the previous vote being 19-4). The school year was to end on Friday June 20th. All due to the students missing one day of school because of the Provincial election called on short notice and having to conform to the law of having 180 school days per school year. It was discussed that there should be more room to maneuver should something unexpected arise.
- Many repairs to schools being done. The Board has never been refused by the Ministry regarding projects. The Board is very accurate concerning what is needed to be done in the schools.
- Former QSBA Executive Director, David Birnbaum, is now the MNA in the D'Arcy-McGee riding for the Liberal Party of Quebec. Part of his portfolio is the Education Department.
- The Liberal party said (before the election), that it will look specifically at regional characteristics (language) in the education department. For example: Our Board spends 5% for administration compared to the French Board that spends 10% for administration. Our Board has a 15% higher success rate than the French Boards. Cuts should be done on a sliding rule (gauge) according to performance. The same cuts should not be done in a grand swipe.

6.7.3 Home & School Report

None.

6.7.4 Teachers' Report

Incorporated in the Principal's Report.

6.7.5 Library Report

- Book fair was successful.
- Authors Marsha Skrypuch and Koyo Maclear visited and were well received.
- A few more library visits for the students before the end of the year.

6.7.6 Daycare Report

1. April 25th the students went to Acrosport Barani. The day was filled with activities such as parallel bars, climbing ropes, and wall climbing.
2. Last week the kids were busy making Mother's Day crafts, cooking, & science activities.
3. This week is Daycare Week. On Monday 'Les 4 Services' came and decorate 3 cupcakes with each child. Tuesday parents were shown appreciation with chocolate covered strawberries. On Wednesday, the kids were treated to smoothies. Thursday Laura S. will surprise them with a photo booth activity.
4. L. Sulano would like to thank the Home & School for hosting a luncheon with raffle prizes for the staff today. The staff was extremely spoiled & appreciative.
5. The school board is also hosting a seminar for daycare educators to celebrate daycare week.
6. On the ped day, Friday, daycare will be going to Sky Venture & Maeva Surf.

6.7.7 Principal's Report

- ✓ Staffing and student enrollment for 2014-15
- ✓ The presentation of the school play "Annie" was a great success. The students and staff out did themselves this year with the performances, costumes, and sets. Bravo!
- ✓ The Grade 5 visit to the airport went very well. Everyone there were very welcoming and the students were engaged in using math in a typical day at the airport.
- ✓ The H&S Spring Fair had a great turnout. Would like to thank the H&S and all the volunteers for their time and effort in making it a great success.
- ✓ The small group of Grade 6 student, called the Canadian Youth Society (CYS), is working hard in getting the SJF-Sr talent show ready. Three auditions have been completed with one more tomorrow (Gr 6 students). Staff members have been helping out with the auditions and have been very impressed with the organizational skills of the students involved.
- ✓ Our portfolio evening was another great success. We had a great turnout and students were engaged in presenting their portfolios to their parents.
- ✓ Met with Grade 2 parents on April 2nd. Mr. DeVincentis (staff assistant) was present to help with the school tour. We had about 50 new parents attend. Parents who have children already at SJF-Sr. did not attend.
- ✓ On May 2nd, homerooms 231 & 322 presented their "poetry café" to their parents. We had a full house in both classes. Parents were treated to excellent poetry with snacks and refreshments.
- ✓ Last week we had a presentation of The Lorax to parents of 323 & 324. The students did a great job and we are looking forward to their school play in Grade 6.
- ✓ The LPHS Rock Band presented to our cycle two students. This is the pit band for the LPHS plays. The music was enjoyed by students and staff.
- ✓ On May 12th, the cycle 3 students were treated to a violin concert presented by Angele Dubeau and "La Pieta" ensemble at LPHS. The comments from students and staff were that it was a concert not to be forgotten. Everyone said that the music was fantastic.
- ✓ Tomorrow is our Grade 4 "Medieval Feast" in the gym. It's a feast fit for kings and queens (and everyone else in the Grade 4 kingdom)!

- ✓ This Friday's ped day: staff will be meeting to review IEPs, supply lists, graduation preparations, and hold grade level meetings to discuss plans for the upcoming school year.
- ✓ Next week the resource teachers from both junior and senior schools will meet to discuss new students going into Grade 3 next year.
- ✓ On May 21st, the Grade 4 students will be receiving their second vaccination for Hep. B.
- ✓ The grad trip will take place on May 22nd.
- ✓ The H&S Community Walk will take place on May 23rd.
- ✓ The Grade 6 Band concert will be presented on May 27th at 7:00 PM.
- ✓ Homerooms 323 & 324 will be presenting their "poetry café" on May 29th.
- ✓ The H&S BBQ has been changed to June 4th (from June 3rd) at the senior school.
- ✓ Media Tech: BYOD to School for Grade 6 students (discuss possibility for 2014-15).

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6.8 Questions from the Public

How many students are chosen to be on the Tech Team and how are they chosen?

- There are 15 grade 5 students and 15 grade 6 students on the team.
- The Grade 5 students join the team in March in order to create continuity.
- This is an extra-curricular activity done on a voluntary basis by the Media Tech teacher.
- Students must write a paper stating why they want to be in the Tech Team and the teacher chooses accordingly.
- As discussion ensued it was recommended that the process to choose students be done randomly. Principal Di Vittori will look into this.

The following was also mentioned at the meeting:

- School fees will be \$55 plus the agenda, \$7 (the cost being \$9, the school subsidizes \$2)) for a total of \$62.
- Mrs. McCulloch's grade 5 class is reading the book Holes. They will hold a mock court and she would like her class to visit a court.
- LBPSB will be involved with the 'Shave to Save' breast cancer campaign. Executive members at the Board will shave their heads for the campaign. Each school will be asked to raise \$500 in October (approx. \$2.50 per student). The Board would like to raise \$50,000.

B. Pande adjourned the meeting at 8:51pm.

13-14-48 *It was moved by B. Bagshaw to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by L. Sulano and was carried unanimously.*

Adjournment and the Next Meeting Date: 6:30 pm, Wednesday June 11th, 2014

The next meeting will be at 6:30 pm on Wednesday June 11th, 2014.