

Katherine Therrien School Advisory Council (SAC)- Meeting Minutes

Location: Katherine Therrien Catholic Elementary School (Held remotely- via Zoom)

Wednesday, October 21, 2021

Meeting Called to Order 7:00 pm Minutes

Attendance:

Jody Hertlein – Principal KT

Annarita Chiesa – Chair PAC

Grace Salaysay – Vice Chair PAC

Susana Monteiro – Teacher KT

Erica Peacock – Secretary PAC

Aaron Gregson – Treasurer PAC

Christine Letwin – Guest

Lia - Guest

Luis Paolo Pulido - Guest

Maria Vazquez - Guest

Jennifer - Guest

Matty - Guest

Agenda: Contained in Chat Function

Motion: No motion for approval of Agenda

Opening Prayer: Jody

[Administration Notes – Wednesday, October 20, 2021](#)

- We are excited to be back at school in a near normal capacity. While we continue many of the precautions that we were practicing last year (i.e., cohorts, cleaning, routine washing hands with sanitization in-between, etc.), we no longer doing a hybrid approach. This means that students who want to be only online are with the division school. Students can still access work from their Google Classroom, but we are not doing regular Microsoft Teams presentations every day.

We do continue to practice the skills with both the Google Classroom and in-school practice with Microsoft Teams if we have an outbreak and must pivot to online learning. This is decided by the division, Alberta Education and Alberta Health Services. As with fire and other practice drills, we will continue to practice accessing and using these programs in case we must shift.

- Our enrollment was confirmed on September 30th. Funding for this year will be based on the following numbers:
 - Kindergarten - 23
 - Grade 1 - 25
 - Grade 2 - 20
 - Grade 3 - 17
 - Grade 4 - 23
 - Grade 5 - 19
 - Grade 6 - 17

For a total of 144 students.

The division has been gracious to extend supportive funding to allow us to hire another full-time teacher so that we are able to keep students in cohort groups as well as individual grades (rather than forming split classes part of the time).

- Students were happy to have Flex back again this year! This first round of Flex will be based upon the principles of physical literacy. The elements of physical literacy are motivation and confidence, physical development, knowledge and understanding and engagement.

Each of our grades 1-6 teachers have planned an activity for students. These activities have been made into a "kit". Students then get to try two kits each of our flex days. This ensures students remain in their cohort and we can ensure proper cleaning in-between usage.

Flex generally occurs one Thursday per month.

- Our first student-led general assembly was today. Our grade 4 class shared with us how to properly make the sign of the cross, why it is a part of our Catholic tradition and why it is important.

We will be focusing on different signs of our faith this year in our assemblies. Each class has chosen one symbol/sign and will share with the school. Students will then be asked

to reflect on it and those reflections shared at the front of the school for all to see. We will also try to remember to share them on our website as FOIP allows.

- Field Trips for the near future will look a little different due to the pandemic. As a staff, we want to be practicing care for our students as they are currently the most vulnerable to the pandemic. Therefore, we have set out to have guests who have proof of full vaccination come to do in-class presentations, will look for venues outside the school where we are outside or the only cohort within the facility, or will arrange to do our own in-class presentations. The latter is based on the experiences of our teachers to replicate some of the experiences we may have once hired out.

Field trips and in-class presentations for Grades 1 through 6, when all added together, will not exceed the amount of \$75 for the entire year. Kindergarten field trips and in-class presentations will not exceed \$45 for the entire year.

- Late September and this October is time where we have been taking base-line measures of students' skills in literacy and numeracy. Students completed a Whole-School Write-On to measure beginning writing skills. Students are being assessed on their reading skills. Over the course of this month, students will also be completing a Math Assessment that will see where student strengths are based on the previous year's math curriculum. These base line measures will allow us to see where students' strengths are and what we may need to focus on or support more to ensure student learning.
- We are still discussing as a staff what we would like to focus our social justice towards for the 2021-2022 school year. We have Catholic Social Services visiting us next Thursday (Oct. 28) as well as our division ECS Foundation. Parental suggestions are also welcome.
- We will be creating a chapel! With one of our empty classrooms, we will be morphing it into a chapel area. Students have created their drawings and/or lists of what they believe should be included in our chapel. Ms. Letwin and Ms. Hertlein will be looking at these ideas in the next week and coming up with a plan to share with students.

General Questions concerning school activities

- One parent asked what the social justice project was – Jody answer that the school looks to the community to get the children to do activities such as a craft project to create cards for Dickensfield Senior Association. Can be grade specific or for the entire school. Everyone working towards the common good. One group wanted to send letters to soliders for Remembrance Day. Parent mention that there were lots of homeless and panhandling that that would be a good direction for the children to help such as donation of clothing.
- Another parent asked if there was anything planned for Halloween. Jody answered that the Teachers had already planned Halloween activities for the children. Each class was having it's own party. Kids are able to dress up. On Halloween children are asked to bring their costume

after lunch. Kindergarten in the morning can come dressed. Candy should be individually wrapped and it will be sent home.

- A parent asked about Christmas lunch. Jody indicated that it needed to be looked into.

Treasure Report: Aaron

General Account: ~\$4200.00 (fundraising such as Purdy's should help to bolster this account)

New Business:

The Parent Council needs to fill positions in order to continue to operate. A Chair and Co-Chair are required by AGLC to hold a casino that raises funds for the children such as purchasing technology and gym equipment for the classrooms. There is also the possibility of a grant to help support the parents in the form of \$500. Jody will lead the meetings. The annual tax report also needs to be signed by the President/Vice-president. Annarita Chiesa volunteer for Chair and Grace Salaysay volunteered for Vice Chair.

Jody asked what the school council would like to focus on this year:

Grace stated that she supported the parents as she thinks the children are doing well in school.

Erica would like a greater focus on St.Edmunds

Jody was wondering about playground upgrades for the social, emotional and mental health of the children. Recess kits to include skipping ropes, basketball, football, frisbees. Jody would like to see some paint on the tar mat for additional activities.

Does Wednesday meeting work for everyone?

Adjourned: 7:42 pm (Next meeting November 17, 2021)