

ST. BONIFACE School Advisory Council MINUTES – February 4nd 2021

Executive Council Members Present	Teri Kantor, Julia Peters, Lahni Nielsen, John Edwards, Leana Perri
Parent Council Members Present	Tina Garrison
Teachers Present	Courtney Repchuk, Matthew Charois
Guests	
Regrets	Kelly Cyre

Circumstances

- during the COVID-19 Pandemic, our meetings are being conducted remotely via Microsoft Teams video-conferencing to ensure we are not gathering closely together in an indoor environment

Opening

- Call to Order: Teri Kantor: 6:12 pm
- Opening Prayer: John Edwards,
- Treaty 6 Acknowledgement: Video of Gr. 6 students
- House-keeping: how to make motions and vote in our online format

Approval

MOTION: Lahni moves that we approve agenda. Julia seconds. All in favour; passed.

MOTION: Lahni moves that we approve the St. Boniface Fundraising Society minutes from the last meetings (Dec. 2nd, 2020). Teri seconds. All in favour; passed.

Treasurer's Report – Lahni Nielsen

Current Balances:

- **Casino Account: \$33,757.74**
- **General Account: \$7,432.82** (after inflows of current fundraisers)
- **Park Account: \$671.51**

Will need to go to the bank to change signing authority from Rita (who has stepped down from Fundraising Coordinator position) and to add Teri.

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Fundraising Update –Teri Kantor

- Current/upcoming fundraisers :
 - Bottle drive, Feb. 8-12, Gr. 6 initiative for year-end celebration
 - Purdy's for Easter
- No casino date yet
- Recent fundraisers - Local small businesses
 - Royal Pizza – one night, 10% back to St. Boniface SAC
 - raised \$260 but owner rounded it up to \$300
 - would spread it over 2 nights next time (for sake of Royal Pizza keeping up)
 - Yelo'd (ice cream and baking) – owned by St. Boniface parent
 - raised about \$160 and owner rounded it up to \$200
 - will definitely repeat, in the spring (May or June)

IB Evaluation Update – Courtney Repchuk

- virtual evaluation over three days in Jan.
- one evaluator from Florida and one from Toronto
- schedule:
 - day one – interviews with Division and school admin
 - day two – classroom visits and interviews with staff
 - day three – interviews with students and parents
- feedback was very positive – we've shown a lot of growth since last evaluation 5 years ago
 - evaluators had confidence that PYP is being authentically delivered at the school (not just 'on show' for evaluators)
 - some areas of growth were identified, with school's agreement

Principal's Report

IB Evaluation

- Leana wanted to express a huge "thank you" to the parent community for all their support over the last years – emotionally and financially – especially leading up to and during the evaluation

Budget for next year

- Alberta Budget – not looking promising for schools
- COVID has proven to be very expensive for schools (over and above what moneys were provided)
 - for example, online schooling turned out to be extremely expensive for the division
- anticipating very tight school budgets coming for next year
- situation at St. Boniface – enrollment will likely be down (so funding down) because we are losing two Gr. 6 classes but will likely only have one kindergarten class coming in

Masks

- Kelly and Leana had been talking about the possibility of making Thunder masks available to students as a fundraiser (cont...)

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- the division is okay with idea although not sure of ‘optics’ of a students at a more affluent school having customized masks when students at other schools have the provincially supplied masks
- Leana will look at costs and minimum ordering amounts and we’ll revisit it at the next meeting
- students will likely need masks in the fall as well, so it is still viable

Structure of Online Schooling options for next year

- the division will be sending out a notice to all parents soon
- it will likely indicate that those opting for online will not be affiliated with a particular school (resulting in lower enrollment for St. Boniface)

Valentine’s Day, Start of Lent

- a SWIFT message was sent out on Friday to all parents indicating that we won’t be exchanging Valentine’s Day card this year – instead the school is going to focus on celebrating Random Acts of Kindness Week, Feb. 15 – 19th
 - each class will have a ‘buddy’ class and they will decide on ways to show kindness to that buddy class throughout the week
 - students can also hand out pre-packaged treats on the Friday before Valentine’s Day
- the start of Lent also coincides with Random Acts of Kindness week – on Ash Wednesday, they will watch the ceremony from St. Thomas more virtually

Parent Surveys

- not ready yet as they need to be modified to reflect the nature of this changed school year

Old Business

- 3rd Street Beat residency for June 2020 that was cancelled – cheque for \$3000.00 (refund) has arrived
 - the School Advisory Council gave that money to the school in the 2019-2020 school year and it was spent within the school’s budget
 - the division accounting, however, did not include that \$3000 expense in the 2019-2020 budget since the refund was not part of that year
 - that leaves the school with a \$3000 expense to start the year
 - so if the school keeps the refund, their accounting will be resolved (rather than coming back to the Fundraising Society)
 - Leana pledged that the school will still do this residency in the future and they will instigate their own fundraising initiative to cover the cost
- Sock It To YEG initiative – collected over 13,000 pairs of socks!

New Business

- No new business

Adjournment, 6:51 pm

MOTION: Tina moves that we adjourn the meeting. Lahni seconds. All in favour; passed.

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Opening

- Call to Order: Teri Kantor: 6:52 pm

Approval

MOTION: Lahni moves that we approve agenda. Julia seconds. All in favour; passed.

MOTION: Lanhi moves that we approve the St. Boniface Fundraising Society minutes from the last meetings (Dec. 2, 2020). Julia seconds. All in favour; passed.

Old Business

- By-laws – at the next meeting, Kelly will discuss the issue of whether or not we can eliminate the second meeting and combine fundraising and budget items into the main School Advisory Council meeting

New Business

- No new business

Adjournment, 6:59 pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 17, 6:30 pm