

**ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL COUNCIL**  
**Minutes**  
**November 16th, 2023**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Erika Dalla Torre at 6:01 pm in the library on Thursday, November 16th, 2023.

**Present**

Elena Amos, Erika Dalla Torre, Teresa Evangelou, Fr Alfredo Monacelli, Keefer Pollard, Renita Silva, Alice Valiquette, Stephen Wauthy

**Regrets**

Allison Menzies, Kian O'Higgins, Brianna Shereck

**Minutes Prepared By**

Renita Silva

**1. Opening Prayer**

The opening prayer was led by Fr Alfie.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved by Renita and Teresa.

**3. Approval of Minutes from October 19th, 2023**

The minutes of the last meeting were approved by Stephen and Teresa.

**4. Correspondence**

None.

**5. Administrator's Activity Report**

- Had three liturgies: i) All Saints' Day, ii) primary and iii) intermediate.
- Had a staff retreat with the theme 'seeing God everywhere'.
- Teachers have been working on proficiency skills for new report cards.
  - New report card will be piloted.
  - Superintendent (Paul Rosetti) would like parents' input. After the second report cards go out, the school administration will send out requests for feedback.
- For extracurriculars, there is dance, choir, musical rehearsals and basketball season.
- Tried to get gymnastics and swimming in the recreation program but there are not enough instructors available.
- Renita asked when the new reports would come out.
  - Keefer confirmed it would be in December.

**6. Father Alfredo Monacelli's Report**

- Addressed the proposal of having an extra mass on Wednesdays after school, but there was no interest.
- Proposed to grades 1-4 classes for them to come and join mass on Thursdays and Fridays.
  - One class has done this. They came today and behaved well. They got to see other parishioners.
- Happy to see how appropriate the Halloween Howl was for the children as there was an issue with this in the past.

## 7. Victoria Tri-Council

Nothing to report.

## 8. Committee Reports

### i) PAG Liaison - Stephen Wauthy

- Had a meeting on Tuesday November 14th.
- Fundraised \$12,000 with over \$22,000 to go.
- Expenses from the budget included: classroom: \$1272, bike rack: \$1729
- VIP parking \$300, Halloween Howl \$2764
- Clean up (tape on floor) was an issue and has been noted for next year.
- Purdy's update: November 20th is the last day and pick up for orders will be on the 30th.
- Mardi Gras Gala proposed for the 1st weekend of February.
- Used uniform \$1125
- For the bake sale, grade 7 raised \$405, grade 6 raised \$331.
- For the Christmas concert there will be a parking and front row auction for the evening and matinee performances.
  - Also discussed a 50/50 draw at the Christmas concert.

### ii) Finance - Kian O'Higgins

Absent

- Keefer reported that the most current financial report is from September.

### iii) Buildings and Grounds - Allison Menzies

Absent

- Elena reported the landscaper has retired
- Sourcing quotes from 3 landscaping companies and will make a decision based on the quotes.
- Landscaping will be a lot more expensive. Originally paid \$800/month, but based on current quotes from professional companies it will be \$800/week.
- Erika suggested contacting Steve Rhodes who charges \$300-\$360/month for landscaping at Sacred Heart (to note: it is a smaller property).

### iv) Marketing and Uniforms - Teresa Evangelou

- One sale on November 10th and made \$179.

- Sale happening - email sent out by Mrs Lee.
- Informed by Keefer that he signed a new contract with McCarthy.
  - They will purchase \$3000 worth of uniform for a family in need.
  - The contract is for 5 years.

v) Parish Liaison - Brianna Shereck  
Absent - Nothing to report.

vi) Secretary - Renita Silva  
Nothing to report.

vii) Chair - Erika Dalla Torre  
Nothing to report.

## 9. New Business

### I) Uniform update

- Keefer updated the uniform code to reflect the results from the survey.
- Wording for shoes changed. Consulted with Mitch regarding running shoes for PE.
- Moved requirements for haircuts, makeup and jewelry to a different section.
- Renita noted that the wording for colour requirements of religious headwear should be inclusive for all.
  - Keefer will look into that and also if any exceptions would be needed.
- Renita asked for clarification black runners.
  - All black runners are no longer needed (i.e. soles do not need to be black).

### II) Parking lot update

- Reports of unsafe behaviour in the parking lots.
  - Parents pulling up in front of the potato patch to drop kids off; the kids make their way through lines of traffic in the parking lot on their own.
  - Sent out information in the newsletter.
  - EAs will provide names of kids so parents can be contacted individually about this.
  - Things have improved this past week.

### III) 2024-2025 fees for child care

- Fees have been raised
- \$45 change fee to discourage family from making multiple changes; causes extra admin work; fee will be implemented with discretion.
- Increase in camp fees.
- Council members expressed concern with fees increasing again.
- Renita noted that last year camp fees went up \$45 and this year \$50.
- Erika asked if the council needed to approve the fees as they were approved in the past, but it was not required. This was confirmed by Alice.

**Next meeting:**

Thursday, January 25th at 6 pm.

**Meeting adjourned**

Erika adjourned the meeting at 6:36 pm.