

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL COUNCIL
Minutes
February 29th, 2024

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Erika Dalla Torre at 6:03 pm in the library on Thursday, January 25th, 2024.

Present

Elena Amos, Erika Dalla Torre, Kian O'Higgins, Allison Menzies, Fr Alfredo Monacelli, Keefer Pollard, Brianna Shereck, Renita Silva, Stephen Wauthy

Regrets

Teresa Evangelou, Alice Valiquette

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 Brianna and Allison.

3. Approval of Minutes from January 25th 2024

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

4. Approval of In Camera Minutes January 25th 2024

The minutes were approved by Brianna and Renita.

5. Correspondence

- Letter received from school principal Keefer who announced his retirement for July 2024.
- Council congratulated Keefer.

6. Administrator's Activity Report

- Lots of rehearsals and hard work put into the Cats musical.
- Teachers preparing report cards.

7. Father Alfredo Monacelli's Report

- Youth group has grown and is now between 30-40 kids.
- Pleased to see that a couple teachers asked to come into the church to go through the stations of the cross. Would like to see more teachers approach him.

8. Victoria Tri-Council

Nothing to report.

9. Committee Reports

i) PAG Liaison - Stephen Wauthy

- Had a PSG meeting on Tuesday
- Bingo night this coming Friday (March 1st).

ii) Finance - Kian O'Higgins

- Took a look at the December finance report.
- School is in the red for items such as instructional cost, utilities, religious education, school bus.
- When looking at school fees (applications) the school is trending under for parents from First Nations.
- \$13K above budget for instructor - full time.
- \$3K above budget for Pro-D days.
- Very minimal investment in drama.
- \$5600 over in janitorial costs.
- \$3200 over in field trips.
- Keefer pointed out that the school \$29,000 in the good and will be getting 2nd disbursement from the government so will be at around \$70,000.
 - **Action: Keefer to take a look at items in the red.**
- Allison inquired about the status of the new bus. Elena provided it could be February or maybe even later as they are waiting for steel.
 - **Action: Elena to check in about the bus before Spring Break.**
- Erika inquired about the number of Pro-D days and whether there has been an increase.
 - Keefer confirmed the Board of Directors decide the number of dates. There is a local school retreat day, faith day in November, 2 Island Catholic Schools Pro-D days, 2 local school Pro-D days. For the past couple of years most of these days have been in the first part of the year.
 - Discussion around how not all Pro-D days are in line with public school so no care is provided. Families need to take the day to care for kids.
 - Keefer suggested writing a letter to Paul Rosetti about scheduling Pro-D days to match public schools.

iii) Buildings and Grounds - Allison Menzies

- Will have a new person for Maintenance.
- We have a new Groundskeeper who will start in March - October.
- Waiting on the wooden bench installation.
- Fr. Alfie added that the digital sign has arrived, unsure of when it will be installed.
- The school will update the sign Monday-Friday, while the parish will update the sign on weekends and holidays.

iv) Marketing and Uniforms - Teresa Evangelou

Absent, see attached report

- Renita reported that there will be a used uniform sale on March 12th.
- Reminder that the uniform changes to summer uniform after spring break; requested Keefer could put that in the newsletters in the coming weeks to remind families.
- Neat Uniforms will be at the school on June 7th for uniform fittings.

v) Parish Liaison - Brianna Shereck

- Making sure parishes are receiving the emails regarding Cats as some mailboxes were full.
- Gave posters advertising Cats musical to retirement homes in Victoria.
- Keefer requested to also invite the seniors to the Showcase Concert.
 - **Action: Brianna to send invites in April.**

vi) Secretary - Renita Silva

Nothing to report.

vii) Chair - Erika Dalla Torre

Nothing to report.

Elena thanked the LSC for the staff treats during Catholic Schools Week.

Next meeting:

Thursday, April 18th at 6 pm.

Meeting adjourned

Erika adjourned the meeting at 6:47 pm.

Teresa Evangelou - Uniform Report

Used uniform sale March 12, 2024. Uniform changes to summer uniform after Spring break.

Can Mr Pollard send out a reminder to families in newsletter in a few weeks?

June 7, 2024- Neat uniforms coming for uniform fittings.