

BISHOP ALLEN CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Summary of Meeting of April 21, 2008

In Attendance

Susan Sillery	Mary Keenan
John Di Paolo	Krystyna Dix
Chester Budziak	Lucie Jabour
Rosa Rea	Julie Pignatari
John Grassby	Anna Gilmour
Jane Fleming	Marie Couture
Bernadette Gilbertson	Art Hileman
Barb Di Santo	Andrew Kwiatowski

Meeting opened with a prayer.

1. Motion to adopt minutes from March 4, 2008 meeting made by Marie Couture and seconded by Andrew Kwiatowski. Motion passed.
2. There was no student council report tonight.
3. FOBA report – Andrew spoke on same. There was a meeting prior to CSAC meeting today. Purchases made with money raised are a lighting board in the drama room, three Dell LC projectors, and an information monitor in front of school. Andrew is to talk to Ms. Sillery concerning logistics – perhaps put one in the cafeteria; i.e. – announcements often are not heard in the portables and this would be form of information for students. With respect to the announcements, another suggestion made would be to look into forming an announcement committee made up of students.
4. There was no teacher’s report today.
5. Principal’s Update
 - a. Sue Sillery announced that after eight years as principal of Bishop Allen she would be retiring at the end of the school year. She doesn’t know yet who her replacement is. She hopes to know by the middle of June.

- b. School Board budget impacts – The Board is in a deficit so expenses are being downloaded to schools. As an example, about nine computers in our library are always down, and the rest of them don't have the capacity to run current versions of software; they're just too old. Bishop Allen has recently gone to Computers for Schools and we've purchased 75 used computers for \$8,500. We've had the same budget for the last five years.
- c. Greening Project – we haven't heard back yet concerning our application. Mr. Walker put submission together – perhaps a row of trees to be planted near portables to increase shade and breeze. This would be right down the middle. Another idea was a roof garden. The greenhouse is coming down. The first company the school dealt with went bankrupt so another tender has been made again elsewhere. It would cost approximately \$125,000. to rebuild.
- d. Cafeteria Commissions – Ms. Sillery and three other principals will be meeting with the Board to talk about this issue. (an open discussion held re cafeteria issues). CSAC to answer questions (from Ms. Sillery's letter that was forwarded to Art).
- e. Surveillance cameras – incidents of recent thefts discussed. Money was stolen from student locker when another student looked and obtained combination of other student's combination. Student later got into locker and stole \$200. Student beforehand had gone to that locker twice to check to make sure he could open the lock. Then went back and took money. Money was recovered. Student was identified from surveillance cameras. Victimized student didn't want to press charges. Other student was suspended for five days and the police were called. This was the second incident against this particular student. A principal/school must write everything down, i.e. progress of events from start to finish of incident, so if at later date you go into student's record, the history is seen.

General information from Ms. Sillery – James Dempsey has been elected student board trustee. David Morello is competing in Skills Canada geography competition. The school's first ever Science and Technology Olympics for grade 6 is taking place on May 24th. On May 21st there is a meeting concerning AP programmes for grade 6 and 7 students and their parents. It's an open house. Flyers are being couriered to these students/parents. Ms. Sillery reviewed handout of recent Fraser Report concerning secondary schools' math and literacy testing and the results for the last five years. All results of the survey are based on EQAO testing. Ms. Sillery said the school will look at this report closely.

Art asked Ms. Sillery what was done with the \$2,000. put into the school bloc. She advised that it was used to buy computers. Discussion then about donation of computers. Ms. Sillery advised that the Board won't accept anything less than 1.5 megahertz, and nothing over five years old. She thinks that donating computer parts would be all right.

6. Treasurer's Report.

Marie asked Ms. Sillery whether or not we were getting the \$500. owed to CSAC (Parent Involvement Fund). Ms. Sillery advised that the money is in a separate CSAC account which was deposited by the Ministry. Perhaps money could be put towards school newsletter; could be used to defray those costs. (no cheque will change hands). With respect to the CSAC bank account, Art wrote to Michael Webby. The passbook charge was still there as of the end of March. CSAC balance is \$611. after Thursday night's parent night.

Andrew Kwiatowski advised that he took Ms. Sillery, earlier in the day, to have her portrait taken for the "Hall of Fame" at the front of the school. Chester Budziak said that he would check out prices for frames.

Art then spoke about Ms. Sillery's retirement. Five teachers have formed a committee and are planning the retirement party for June 13th. Dinner for the teachers will be at the Renaissance Centre. We will talk to Don Walker to get ideas for a gift for Ms. Sillery. CSAC to buy a gift for Sue. Ideas? It was the consensus of the CSAC executive that CSAC's gift will be the portrait plus a gift. We'll figure out and finalize money for the gift and put on agenda for the May meeting.

Meeting adjourned – next meeting Tuesday, May 20th.