

BISHOP ALLEN CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Apr. 28th, 2009 CSAC Meeting

In Attendance

Adrian Della Mora	Monika Czulo	Gabriele Kresic
Christine Kwiatkowski	Valerie Devine	Aoife Humphreys
Andy Kwiatkowski	Lucie Jabour	Marie Couture
M. Whabi	Ann Andrachuk	Sean Plunkett
John Grassby	Susana Rodrigues	Krystyna Dix
Kelden Formosa	Margret Brzoza	Art Hileman

1. Opening:

Meeting opened with a prayer.

2. Approval of Minutes from Feb 24 , 2009.

- Remove Chester Budziak / Add Christine Kwiatkowski to In Attendance list
- Change principals update wording on PD activity day as per Mr. Della Mora

Motion to accept the minutes of the Feb 24 2009 CSAC meeting with caveat of changes was moved by Keldon Formosa and seconded by Andy Kwiatkowski.

3. Student Council Rep Report

- Held Junior semi formal dance. Very successful. Next year allow more time after March break
- Acoustic night in Chapel, approximately 40 people attended. Very successful and would consider doing it again. Raised money for Daily Bread Food Bank.
- Spirit wear is now available from supplier and will be on sales over next few weeks
- Carnival upcoming at end of May and elections
- One question was asked to when Spirit wear can be worn. It was advised that this is done on the students' own time.

4. Treasurers Report

- \$738.66 in account currently and not committed.
- 2 expenditures since last meeting (1) Paid for trip to Ottawa; (2) Paid for coffee on Parent Interview night
- No other changes to the budget since last meeting
- Art Hileman asked if monies budgeted for have been spent yet. Mr. Della Moira advised that they will be spent before the end of year.
- Discussion around Surplus Funds of \$738.66.

- John Grassby asked if surplus funds could be used to fund Virtue Quotes on the walls school. Plan to possibly add one per month originally in September but if funds are available, this could start in May or June. Clarification given that the \$500 already allocated for Art/Calligraphy in the budget is for a separate art activity by Ms Allen.
- Mr. Della Mora advised of pending project to improve the area around the bridge at the back of the school.
- Lucie Jabour suggested use of surplus funds for uniforms for sports teams. Mr. Della Mora spoke to potential of having common pool of sweatshirts, tops, jackets etc where possible which would be used by all teams but that due to the nature of differences in clothing requirements for different sports in different seasons, the concept of one uniform for all sports is not viable.
- John Grassby suggested purchase of portable tent that can be taken to various meets.
- Marie Couture advised that some funds be kept for unexpected items before end of year.
- Keldon Formosa moved to allocate \$500 for purchase of tent for outdoor sporting events. Seconded by Andy Kwiatkowski. Motion passed. Marie Couture abstained.
- Surplus Balance of \$238.66 now remains.

5. FOBA update

Andy Kwiatkowski, chair of FOBA presented an update on current activities.

- Campaign to make parent community more aware of FOBA and what it is. Also to try to make FOBA a priority in terms of charities that parents may donate to.
- Also FOBA is compiling a list of items on which funds would be spent and a priority determined for same. For example, improving the condition of the track and sports field. Part of this is associated with the beautification of school and renewal of foyer.
- A query was raised as to why there is currently no full track. The track space and bleachers were compromised by the back porches that were put on the new portables for safety exit requirements. The current plan is to retrofit the field into the space that is now available. Mr. Della Mora is working with board for facilities to shift the field and realign the goal posts. The field is also used for gym classes as we only have one gym. Also suggestion of artificial turf is being considered but this is very expensive. Mr. Della Mora also considering business case to submit to the board for funding given that Bishop Allen is second largest high school in board and has many extracurricular activities.
- Ann Andrachuk asked if board has committed to having the fieldwork done by September. Mr. Della Mora advised that camera installation for the portables is still pending installation and will also continue to follow-up with board to ensure this does not drop down the priority list.
- Mr. Della Mora described how students are using cafeteria to plan rugby strategies, stairs for exercise, hallways etc.
- Mr. Whabi asked if FOBA would be interested in presenting a booth at the club event that is held early in the school year to make students aware of what clubs etc are available in the school. Booth could try to get students involved in FOBA.

6. Teacher Rep Report

- Leadership team: Monday Apr 6th 15 students attended at St Margaret's Church and prepared dinner for homeless as part of the 'Out of the Cold' program.
- Empowered Partnership: On April 28th 11 students attended conference with The Toronto Police Service which was successful
- Catholic Leadership: 26 students attended leadership weekend at Camp Olympia in Huntsville.
- Baseball: beginning May 4th 50 students tried out
- Badminton team advanced
- Soccer team – girls in 1st place, boys are in 4th place.
- Last week Parent teacher interviews were held and were very successful.
- All reports card were issued week of April 20th
- Keldon Formosa advised that BAMUN (Bishop Allen Model UN) group hosted a day. This is an event where students enact being UN representatives for a day. The day was very successful.
- Mr. Della Mora advised that the newsletter also went out with the report cards. It is 32 pages of activities that occur within the school.

7 Principal's Update

CSAC graduation award criteria

- Action from the last meeting for Mr. Della Mora to determine what the criteria for this award is. Mr. Della Mora advised that the current criteria is "Student who demonstrates greatest personal development and growth".
- Mr. Della Mora would like CSAC input on any change to the criteria and/or how the award should be given.
- Marie Couture reminded the group that the criterion has included a condition that the student must have been in the school for 4 years.
- Also a comment was raised that CSAC funds are typically used to benefit multiple students. It was advised that this award has been a tradition and is the one exception where funds go to individual students.

It Starts In The Schools – Lawrence Hill + Bishop Allen Newsletter

- This was held and very successful.
- Partial funding from board to defray the costs.
- Grade 9 AP English Students attended in the library.

Parent Involvement Funding Template

- Board asked for Mr. Della Mora to share protocol on board account – includes funding for parent engagement. There is currently \$1,500 unspent for Bishop Allen. Mr. Della Mora asked that some of this be used to defray the costs of the newsletter.

Police Speakers Bureau update

- Mr. Della Mora advised police will typically speak about various topics including cyber bullying, gang awareness, face book, MSN, street smart – what would we like?

- Topics proposed for discussion by the group present were: Cyber bullying, Cyber-safety, Face book, Street Smarts, MSN.

Walk-A-Thon fundraiser

- Mr. Whabi and students propose Walk-A-Thon as fundraiser for school.
- Target for Spring 2010

Cell Phone policy

- Mr. Della Mora advised that the school cannot restrict the ability to bring cell phones to school. All students are asked to be prudent in the use of this device. Cell phone should be turned off. If used for inappropriate activity such as taking photos etc the teacher firsts addresses with student, then escalates to guidance counsellor and/or parents.

Wake-A-Thon

Marie Couture expressed concern that the Wake-A-Thon is on the Friday before the AP exams start. Why endorse an event that impacts the schedule before exams?

Mr. Della Mora advised teachers have said that primarily grade 9 and 10 participate in the event and not many senior students actually participate. For future events Mr. Della Mora will take it under consideration when timing the event. Each year the funds raised go to different charities as decided by SCOPE.

Marie Couture proposed motion to ask administration to cancel the Wake-A-Thon in future years. Seconded by Lucie Jabour. The motion was not carried.

Swine Flu

- Heightened vigilance is being promoted at the school
- Students are being advised to wash hands frequently
- If no soap in bathrooms they should advise administration

8. Adjournment and Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00pm. Next meeting May 26, 2009 7pm.