

BISHOP ALLEN CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Minutes of the February 23 2010 CSAC Meeting

In Attendance

<u>CSAC</u>	<u>Staff/Students</u>	<u>Others</u>
Art Hileman Lucie Jabour Andy Kwiatkowski Venita Indewey Aoife Humphreys Anne Walsh Rieger Gabriele Kresic	Adrian Della Mora Don Walker John McCabe Mary Keenan	Tamila Semloo Krystyna Dix Michael Szul Valerie Devine Zhong Wang John Grassby Christine Kwiatkowski Denise Mucha Denise Williams

1. Opening:

Meeting opened with a prayer.

2. Minutes from January 19 2010 Meeting

Minutes were not complete with points from the Treasurer. The points in the version 2 minutes were reviewed. Art motioned to accept the minutes the way they are written with an addendum to include Lucie's update. Anne motioned to accept and Andy seconded.

3. Student Rep Report

Students were not present.

4. Teachers Report

Presented by John McCabe

- Girls hockey team made it ot the playoffs which begin this week
- Cheerleading team performing at Angel game
- Ski team did well at the Toronto championship –
- Girls snowboard team came in first; both teams are going to the Ontario championship

- Jane Anne Clough and Martin Clough travelling to Vienne, France with students: French students attend BAA in April
- Inside Ride was a huge success and raised \$20,000 – high energy and well run event. This amount is unprecedented for a first time fund raising event. This will become an annual event. High level of student participation.
- Waterloo Math contest for grade 9,10, and 11 students is on Thursday
- Mr. McCabe attended a session on mood disorders. Select students are now going to be trained in the topic of ‘Stop the Stigma’ subjects in May. A staff in service was held on this topic during the last PE day. Teacher feedback on the session was very positive
- 15 students will travel London, Paris and Italy in another trip being organized through the school. School sanctioned trips will be accompanied by permission forms
- Both bands achieved silver medals at Kiwanis while competing against ‘arts’ schools

5. Principals Update

Presented by Mr. Della Mora

- PD day included audio testimonials from students which led to discussion and then a half day session on the topic of mood disorders organized by John McCabe.
- Activity Fees and allocation to CSAC: A revision to the existing process was tabled given that the allocated portion of activity fees has been an ‘in and out’ accounting process (a cheque is cut for CSAC and deposited in the CSAC account, CSAC approved a list of teacher requests and a cheque was subsequently issued by CSAC back to the school). Mr. Della Mora proposed that in the future:
 - Rather than cut cheques to balance the ‘in and out’ process there would be full disclosure of the initiatives for CSAC input at the beginning of the academic year and the approval process would remain the same. (no cheque issued – funds deducted at the school level)
 - Incorporate the FOBA meeting into the CSAC meeting. This would create a greater participation in FOBA discussions.
 - Incorporate an option of a voluntary contribution to Friends of Bishop Allen on the Course Option Sheet that goes home with students and requests the student fees. Ideally this will generate more funds for FOBA discretionary assistance.
 - CSAC Treasurer would become the treasurer for FOBA
 - Any extra funds that CSAC raises would be dispersed at the sole discretion of CSAC and would be raised through FOBA – this allows a tax benefit for donors.
 - We will have to eliminate the CSAC bank account, make revisions to the CSAC constitution, and maintain monthly 2 hour meetings of the combined group. Mr Della Mora went on to say that he hopes CSAC does not see this as a take away in any fashion and that this proposal will simply remove the duplication.

Feedback:

- John suggested that we disclose to parents in a one page summary what was collected and by % broad statements about how the school disburses the funds to support school activities
- This could be a marketing message that ‘markets’ to parents
- Several parents debated the degree of detail required

- Opinions were voiced that parents may not be fully and accurately informed about the degree of support students require, about funding gaps to the school from the board to support the school
 - Mr. Della Mora committed to an appropriate communication to inform parents about how the funds are spent; he will revise the form that solicits student fees; Venita suggested that the 'marketing message' needs to be with the document where the parent commits funds
 - Lucie expressed some concern that there could be duplication of purpose between FOBA and CSAC. Andy suggested that the decisions re: expenditures had potential to be more 'custom' and targeted – a latitude that we do not have with student fees.
 - Art clarified that the expenses CSAC generates (ie: coffee for parent teacher nights, parent presentations) would still be funded by the school as they now hold all the money that would have been in the CSAC account
 - CSAC will continue to have input to the disbursement of funds.
 - Lucie asked for clarification on why this change was proposed. She further suggested that because of the tradition this practice is policy – why change. Other parents responded that they were OK with the change as the current process is inefficient.
 - Another parent voiced the opinion that CSAC should raise its own funds but not be allocating funds the school raises.
- Mr Della Mora asked for a vote of support for his proposal from the CSAC attendees to modify the existing process regarding how the activity fee is disursed (effective September 2010). Consultation will still occur. See the proposal above. Those voting yes: 7 voting no: 0
 - Gradwear- students voted for white. The shirt is a way of recognizing the achievement of those students who reach grade 12. Shirts need to be ordered Feb 25 and 26 at a cost of \$26.00 short sleeve and \$31.00 long sleeve taxes inc. Cash, credit card and debit accepted. One of the parents asked how the school would handle kids who could not afford another shirt. Mr. Della Mora will work with McCarthy's for some free product. Another parent asked Mr.Della Mora to check into the availability of a windbreaker for students.

6. Treasurers Report

Presented by Lucie Jabour

- Treasurer report presented. The balance will have to be spent by June given the planned change.

7. FOBA Update

Presented by Andy Kwiatkowski

- FOBA has raised over \$10,000 this year. The campaign ended at the end of January.
- Andy showed the purchase of 6 brand new LCD projects purchased for the school. They purchased 6 refurbished Dell Latitude laptops which are supported by the Board and include a 3 year warrantee. There are still some funds in the bank for future. Some cheques are still coming in but FOBA can only give a tax receipt for the current year.
- Tax receipts for last year will go out this week. United Way and Canada Helps donations have already received their receipts.

8. Any other business

- One parent asked what the update was on the condition of the portables, was wireless installed and what the status is on plans for the playing field. Mr. Della Mora will follow up on the wireless commitment made by the board. There is no funding for moving the track at this time so further investigation on the condition of the field is required. The feeling is that the board made public commitments with regard to these matters and they have not been addressed. Mr. Della Mora suggested that this might be a topic for CSAC to support messaging with parent support.
- April 22nd is Parent/ Teacher night. A sign up sheet was circulated for parents to support and coffee and information on FOBA and CSAC table.

9. Adjournment and Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:08 pm. Next meeting - April 27, 2010 @ 7pm.

10. Attachments

A – Treasurers Statement Feb.23 2010



BA CSAC Feb 23
2010 Treasurers Rpt.

B – Volunteers for CSAC/FOBA table Parent Teacher Night April 22nd

- Andrew Kwiatkowski
- Lucie Jabour
- Denise Williams
- Aoife Humphreys