

BISHOP ALLEN CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Summary of Meeting of March 4, 2008

In Attendance

Andrew Kwiatkowski	Lucie Jabour
Anna Gilmour	Marie Couture
Art Hileman	Mark Stadnyk
Bernadette Gilbertson	Mary Keenan
Danny Ravolli	Michael Wahbi
John Di Paolo	Sandi Kiverago
Krystyna Dix	Susan Sillery

Meeting opened with a prayer

1. Motion to adopt minutes from January 15, 2008 meeting made by Andrew K, Seconded by Marie C. Motion Passed.
2. Art H passed around a thank you note and picture received from the Salesian retreat
3. Art H passed around information received concerning a Toll Free Parent Support Line funded by the RBC Foundation.
4. Art H reports that the CSAC has responded to the two surveys from the school board as follows:
 - a. Fund-raising Survey: No
 - b. Central Banking Survey: No
5. Bishop Allen Washrooms (specifically the quantity of water closets) were counted to review whether we have the right quantity of water closets for the student and teacher population of the school. Art H reports that yes we do according to the Ontario Building Code.
 - a. Sue S reports that the washrooms are all operational and open for students to use
 - b. Sue S reports the boys' washrooms have a high rate of vandalism, mainly graffiti. Caretakers are to remove the graffiti by end of day and if not successful to paint over it.
6. Andrew K reports the FOBA account balance is \$8,137 at end of 2007. These funds have to be spent in the following year. Request have been received as follows:
 - a. 3 Computer projectors
 - b. 1 lighting board
 - c. 1 alumni board photo gallery
 - d. 1 electronic board in front of school
7. Andrew K has created a CSAC and FOBA newsletter that was distributed by the school at grade 9 registration. The intent is to raise awareness with new parents joining the school and attract more volunteers that can contribute and make a difference
 - a. Andrew K is requesting the assistance of the school administration in incorporating where possible this newsletter with student mail distribution, such as the grade 9 curriculum night, school newsletter, etc.

- b. Sue S thanks Andrew & FOBA for the time and effort put in the newsletter
8. Susan S reports the school activities
- a. Intramural Friday night Hockey
 - b. Girls Hockey Team
 - c. David Marrello participated in the provincial geography challenge
 - d. 16 athletes participated in swimming, snow boarding and skiing
 - e. BA goes international with the Dominican Republic experience
 - f. BA student exchange with students in France organized by Mr. Martin Clough
 - g. 21 students go to Italy and earn credit in Ancient Civilizations, thanks to BA teachers Mr Wahbi and Mr Wilson
 - h. BA Senior band places first in Kiwanis Music Festival, thanks to Mr Legere
 - i. April 25-27, Camp Olympia experience. BA is chairing the student leadership week-end in Huntsville with 9 BA student leaders. 13 high schools are participating, each will bring 25 students, 3 guest speakers Thibodeau, Sanders, ---, Thank you Mr Wahbi
 - j. BASLO students are interviewed for participation in the Huntsville weekend. BASLO has 200 members that meet every 2 weeks. BASLO has team building activities such as the out- of- the- cold program at St Margaret parish. Last year they went to Nathan Phillips Square and fed the homeless
 - k. United Nation Forum, 6 schools were invited
 - l. Festival of the Word, week of April 21, thanks Mr Don Walker
 - m. Grade 12 assembly on Monday, Party in the Right Spirit
 - n. March 27 Literacy Test, OSSLT Ont Sec Sch Lit Test for all gr 10 students
9. Sue S reports on the cafeteria Emails and there was discussion as follows:
- a. BA Commissions received are in the order of \$20,000 per year which is a significant portion of the school budget
 - b. The school board is proposing that 30% be pooled to a central fund for cafeteria repairs through the board to assist any Board cafeteria that may be in need of repairs or equipment replacements.
 - c. Ann A trustee indicated in her correspondence that the principals were consulted. This statement was rescinded when more information became available.
 - d. Stacey Corey has a 2 month period to consult with the principals. He will be consulting 9 principals , 3 principals at a time, then putting out a survey to all principals and CSACs.
 - e. The board budget is tighter and they are looking for funds. At the same time the school budget is constantly being cut with no reprieve.
 - f. There are 32 secondary schools in the board. Some cafeterias have a difficult time surviving because of their location near fast food restaurants that are easily accessible to students
 - g. Board is looking for ways remove its deficit and this is another way. There was a computer roll out that did not happen. Text book costs have increased. Funding of co-curricular activities is not available. Teachers are requesting Lap tops and projectors to enhance the delivery of the curriculum. New program start up costs are no longer covered by board.
 - h. People who use the cafeteria should pay for their own upgrades as part of their operation. If they cannot sustain themselves why should another school fund it
 - i. This 30% will hit some schools more than the others. The schools with little revenue will benefit. We will be subsidizing cafeterias that are not sustainable on their own
 - j. The board is having a consultation on March 19 that BA CSAS will be participating in

- k. Sue S handed out a copy of the questions received from Stacey Corey complete with her responses.
 - l. If the Board takes 30% of the school's cafeteria revenue, then the school may need to raise the activity fee to compensate for the loss in cafeteria revenue
 - m. Andrew K suggests we do similar activities as in the elementary schools where we have pizza day to raise funds
 - n. Funding for many major items such as student computers has been downloaded to the school's activity fee or commissions account. The proposal to now take 30% of the school's café commissions feels like the last straw.
 - o. Lucie J recommends a review of the cafeteria operator agreement. You may be able to pass on the responsibility of the cafeteria facility to the operator or you can retender the cafeteria services with this change incorporated.
 - p. A parent indicates the catholic community can share with other schools that are in need
 - q. The loss of the vending machine revenue at schools was never replaced.
 - r. Art recommends CSAC should formalize its opinion in writing to the board and Stacey Corey. CSAC members agreed.
 - s. A parent indicates the cafeteria commission is not public knowledge to parents of the BA community. Parents may request that the cafeteria operate with no profit and reduce the cost of meals to students
10. Sue S reports on work orders
- a. All washrooms are in working order
 - b. Very icy conditions at portables, snow removal services for this area have been poor, not enough salting performed and removal is not being completed in a timely manner. Students and employees are walking in deep snow and on ice. This has been addressed with Facilities Dept.
 - c. Large snow fall this year has placed an additional burden on caretakers.
11. Treasurer report: Marie C reports no change to last month. Marie is awaiting a \$500 cheque is from the school
- a. Banking survey: Marie indicates we have a fee account passbook at \$2.25 per month. This book is easy and convenient to update and useful for auditing purposes. The option is to have a statement sent in the mail and Marie's concern is this may not be directed to the right person. Michael W recommends that the schools community write a letter to the branch requesting a waiver of fees due to this is a community not for profit account. The branch has that authority to grant this.
 - b. Marie indicates she did not receive \$10 per student from the school for CSAC. Sue S indicates the service charge for nsf cheques of \$6 each was removed from funds submitted to CSAC

Next meeting April 22, 2008