

BISHOP ALLEN CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Summary of Meeting of May 20, 2008

In Attendance

Sue Sillery	Mark Stadnyk
Mary Keenan	Michael Wahbi
Barb Di Santo	Art Hileman
Ela Tkach	Krystyna Dix
Sandi Kiverago	Danny Ralanu
Susanna Rodrigues	Denise Muchen
Marie Couture	Chester Budziak
Amanda Liscio	Dana Di Loreto

Meeting opened with a prayer.

1. Corrections to April 21, 2008 meeting. They are to be sent to Ms. Sillery, Mr. Wahbi and Art Hileman when made. Marie Couture moved to adopt minutes as corrected, and seconded by Krystyna Dix.
2. Student Council – Amanda Liscio and Dana Di Loreto were student council representatives tonight. This week is election week. Today is Public Relations Day. Posters will be hung around the school. Tomorrow videos will be shown by candidates. Thursday are the Student Council elections. Friday is Carnival Day. It begins at 1:30 p.m. The winners in the election will be announced at that time. All students can vote. Last week students ran mini spirit week for the grade 9's. It was organized and run by the grade 11 and 12 leaders. Activities took place during lunch, and before and after school. Mr. Wahbi advised that the event is held to promote physical activities and fitness. It is Board initiated and funds are provided by Board. It is a very successful event in the school.

Amanda advised that this year's Student Council donation will be TVs for all the portables and a jersey for the school mascot.

The Prom is June 19th at the Liberty Grand. June 18th is the Grad Picnic. Grad Breakfast is June 24th and the Graduation Ceremony is June 25th.

A month ago Bishop Allen hosted Camp Olympia, an annual leadership weekend, for the secondary schools of the TCDSB. 300 students participated. 10 B.A. students organized and ran the weekend activities.

3. Year End Business

– Parent Involvement Funds – receipts are to be attached to form and submitted to the Board by August 30. Sue and Art will take care of this.

Concerning the upcoming 2008/2009 school year, those present were asked if the last Tuesday of the month was suitable as a meeting date. It was agreed that the schedule of CSAC meetings for 08-09 will remain the same as the schedule for 07-08.

Marie asked about the CSAC award to be presented at the grad ceremony. Ms. Sillery will forward the criteria for the CSAC award and for the other awards to the CSAC executive. Marie suggested that the criteria should be revised to include a stipulation that the award winner be a student of BA for the full 4 years of high school.

The last grade 12 exam is Tuesday, June 17th. The final marks have to be in by Monday, June 22nd in time for the graduation ceremony. Honour Roll students will also be mentioned at the graduation ceremony. Art said that the tradition has been that the parent on the Executive who has a child graduating will attend the ceremony and will confer the CSAC award on stage. This year the parent is Barb Di Santo.

An enquiry was made as to the source of payment for the portrait of the principal that will hang with that of the other BA principals in the lobby of the school. At a previous meeting, the CSAC had offered to pay for the portrait. A representative from FOBA stated that FOBA would cover the cost to support this school tradition of acknowledgement and appreciation.

Michael Wahbi had a message from Mr. Lavar – June 5th and 6th the EQAO Math Assessment for the grade 9 students will be taking place. Periods 1 and 3 will be switching those days.

4. Principal Update -

(a) Cafeteria Commissions – The issue: each secondary school receives from its cafeteria service provider, a commission based on per cent of sales. The Board made a motion to take 30% of the commissions from each school to be placed in a central fund to be used for whatever cafeterias need upgrades. The motion was rescinded to allow for a consultation with the secondary school communities. Ms. Sillery received e-mail from Stacey Corey of Partnership Development advising that 15 schools responded to the survey. It was unanimous that money generated by cafeteria sales should stay with the school that generated the funds. The survey results will go to the trustees for possible further action.

(b) Year End – Ms. Sillery advised that the list of principal moves has not yet been approved. A school Mass will be held next Wednesday. Tomorrow, Wednesday, May 21, grade 6 and 7 students and their parents have been invited to attend an Info meeting at BA on the Congregated Advanced Placement program. The school will be having its usual Grade 8 Open House and Info Evening on the first Wed in November but

parents want to learn more about the AP program at an earlier date. Thus the May 21 info evening on AP.

David Morello placed 4th in Canada in the National Great Canadian Challenge.

This Saturday May 24, the Science Technology Olympics will take place at the school.

Outward Bound trip is leaving tomorrow for 10 days. We have received some funding from the Board for this.

Music Concert will be held in two weeks. The Athletic Banquet is June 5th.

Sue is very appreciative of all parents who have attended the CSAC meetings over the years.

The projected enrolment for September 2008 is 1,470. Mary Keenan (V.P.) is 95% done next year's schedule. She has done a great job in this regard.

Ms. Sillery advised that nowadays, every class has an individual class-size cap, not just an average class size cap. Until the schedule is completed, it is not possible to know whether there will be room in classes for new admissions. It is unlikely that there will be space.

5. Year End Financial Statement – Marie Couture – It remains pretty well the same as the last statement. We have approximately \$600.00 left in the CSAC account. The bank monthly passbook fee will not be waived as banks no longer gives this exception.

Art's query – if we were to lose 30% of the cafeteria commissions, would we need to raise the activity fee? Ms. Sillery said that we have not raised the activity fee in many years. She gave examples of other schools; Wellesley increased their activity fee by 50% from \$80.00 to \$120.00. If 30% of cafeteria commissions are lost, then it may be important to increase the activity fee. There was a suggestion that the activity fee be raised to \$125.00. That decision, however, is only made by the principal in consultation with CSAC. Sue said that it would be helpful to raise the activity fee, possibly to \$120.00, as it has been many years since there was an increase to the fee and the cost of items has increased over the years. Art said that this subject should be tabled at the AGM in the fall. Right now the activity fee is \$100. and it includes a contribution to CSAC but the amount of that contribution is not specified. Traditionally, the CSAC receives about \$8000. Marie is not in agreement with raising the activity fee as there are parents who cannot pay now; we should cut other things out. Ms. Sillery replied that about 3% of parents have given cheques which are returned as NSF. Michael said that perhaps the way to go would be to increase the fee by \$5.00 per year every year.

6. Setting CSAC Meeting Dates for 2008/2009:

September 30, 2008 – AGM and elections
October 28, 2008
November 25, 2008
January 20, 2009
February 24, 2009
April 28, 2009
May 26, 2009

Ms. Sillery's retirement party is June 13th at The Renaissance Centre.

General discussion concerning opportunity to present Ms. Sillery's portrait.
Suggestion – end of year Masses on May 28. Andrew would present the portrait at the first Mass and Art at the second Mass.

Sue thought it would be a good idea for the CSAC Chair and Vice Chair to meet the new principal and will try to arrange a meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting is September 30, 2008 - AGM