

Catholic School Advisory Committee
St. Columban School – April 9, 2025
Agenda

Attending: Amanda Linton, Jenna Duck, Kay Madsen, Claire Krempien, Diamond Terpstra, Cheryl Coyne, Jenny Feltz, Katie Louwagie, Hope Shantz, Jesse Nyland, Amy Ritz, Ashley Ryan, Dan Gracey

Regrets: Anna McCreight, Kim Renne, Pauline Skinner, Kristin Schoonderwoerd, Julie Schoonderwoerd

1. Opening Business

- 1.1 Opening Prayer – Dan Gracey
- 1.2 Approval of April 9, 2025 Agenda – 1st: Claire, 2nd: Jenny
- 1.3 Approval of January 22, 2025 minutes – 1st: Kay, 2nd: Jenna

2. Reports

1.1 Treasurer Report

- \$340.06 – nets for St. P.
- \$186.28+\$33.84 – to Julie Schoonderwoerd - snow shovels + outdoor toys
- \$50.00 donation for Shrove Tuesday – this should be part of Snack Program, not in CSAC Funds.
- \$126.00 from Dunnys spiritwear
- \$1083.97 – shoe charms fundraiser
- \$51.93 to Jesse Nyland – art supplies
- \$2374.90 – School jerseys
- \$100.00 – updated logo and all file types
- +deposit from St. P fundraising - \$1485.95
- 300.00 has not come out yet.
- No contributions to grad at this point in time. Composites about \$480.00 plus \$50.00 for awards (total grad budget \$1000.00)
- Nothing for line painting yet – will be done over summer, no payment made yet. Basketball nets – open amount at this point
- *No bills for buses for skating, snowshoeing, payments for Vanessa DeGroot yet.*
- HST: 1283.38
- CSAC: 11486.24
- Total: \$12769.62
- ** sitting at about 3000.00 for current bills**

1.2 Principal Report

- Cell phone usage – has been good at St. C however we need to be aware of smart watch use and children contact parents directly while at school. Need contact to be made through staff to parents. Kids need to feel comfortable talking to staff regarding these conversations.
- WAAG – can this combined? Currently two separate emails, but similar information so some parents getting the same thing twice. Dan will try one WAAG this week, possibly next. Put in a note that we are attempting this new way to send out WAAG
- Nutrition Lunch – free lunch program – Optimists money and a personal family donation used for the lunch. Money needs to be spent by end of year for the government money. Personal donations can be carried over. Looking for selections by April 11 on School Cash Online, several have not responded. If this happens again, add a “No thank you” option to track. Program also offering milk and breakfast bar before trips.

1.3 CPIC Report from board meeting

- 1.3.1 School Climate Survey running March 31 to April 11. Shared on our FB page for exposure, last survey completed had disappointing participation.
- 1.3.2 Next meeting is going to focus on fundraising rules. – trying to be prepared for next September.
- 1.3.3 Discussed grants:

- Blazing the Trail (what did our school use this for?) Grade 6-8 had the net industry youth leaders on Friday. \$1400 of the \$5000 from the grant. Leaders made a great connection with the group! A lot of people kept their children home that day. Each classroom is getting a sacred space renewal – anything from icons, to church seasonal appropriate colours \$450.00 on pins for Catholic Education week, bought posters and framed, bussed children from Dublin to St. Columban tomorrow after mass – the Grade 3's are having a retreat after Mass. Cookie project, bussing cost (cost of cookies was Nutritional snack) April 29 both FIAT teams from both schools, to purchase items for the food bank at St. Vincent de Paul.
- CPF (Canadian Parents for French) – is someone from our French team applying for this? Dan to encourage staff to have a project in mind to apply.
- Hensall Co-Op Vibrant Communities – cannot contribute to schools.
- 1.3.4 Language barriers - do we have any issues with reaching families with English only correspondence? Other schools have suggested inclusivity for other language options for newsletters, fundraisers etc.
- Our WAAG only goes out in English? Dan can look in the data, 192 students, and 120 students are English as first language. School messenger can turn messaging into a different language.

3. Discussion Items - ongoing

- 1.4 Basketball nets – Carolyn waiting on reply from the rep for products and pricing. – on hold
- 1.5 Volleyball nets – can we get these at St. C? Dan to reach out to staff at St. C to see if they'd like these.
- 1.6 Hockey sticks purchased for St. Pats by Jenny & delivered. PVC nets – Julie was to discuss with Ron, any update? – hockey sticks delivered, Julie can bring PVC Nets by anytime.
- 1.7 Painting of asphalt – Dan advised waiting on company to come to site, will be completed over summer if not before.
- 1.8 Kind-heARTed Studio - has this been booked for St. Columban? Supplies purchased for St. Patrick's, booked for April 24 & 25. . Dan to investigate for St. C.
- 1.9 Snowshoeing done at St. Patrick's but not St. Columban this year.
- 1.10 Fundraising
 - 1.10.1 Rubber shoe charms – new logo was created and now used on social media pages. Is school using as well? Shoe charms delivered. Sell \$5 each at open house? **Yes.** Sell prior to event? **yes,** office assistants to have boxes, if possible, at each school to be able to sell prior to Open House. Notice for spirit wear days that these are available at the school for purchase.
 - 1.10.2 Sprit wear to be offered again at the open house. Will obtain stock samples from Dunny's along with some items we are looking to sell off that night from error orders. Volunteer for this table to be confirmed. New families can place orders at this table, not just overstock, Dunny's is looking to recoup costs. Use various sizes and put in the silent auction at open house, purchase using pizza money for these items. Make purchases through Kerry. Prefer T-shirts and ballcaps (seasonal items)
- 1.11 Grants – PRO has been approved for \$500 per elementary school. Using this for year end open house, Dan applied for us? – Yes, we have \$1000 to use for our open house, will also use pizza money to cover costs.
 - To receive reimbursement: must have original receipt, can be electronic, nothing else personal can be on these receipts.
- 1.12 Open house - need volunteers assigned for all items.
 - 1.12.1 Date - June 4, 2025, 6-8pm.
 - 1.12.2 Hall booked - Jenna. Do we need propane for BBQ's? \$180.00. Amanda to talk to Dale (Lions Club) Carolyn should've received invoice.
 - 1.12.3 Book singer - still \$150? Julie - done.
 - 1.12.4 Food - hot dogs, cake, condiments, onions, water, napkins, freezies - Kay.
 - Snack program to pay for: buns (264.00), condiments, watermelon, water, napkins/plates. Pizza fund to cover, freezies, hot dogs (700 at approx \$4ea per pack = \$300) and Cakes (6 cakes*\$25.00 each=\$150.00. Cheryl to pick up cakes in London, will drop off at hall by 3pm)
 - 1.12.5 Book face paint - Booked, \$400, 2 hrs, 2 people - Amanda

- 1.12.6 Tug of war & yard games rental – Cheryl – Party supply in Stratford, \$522 for a dart board and tug rope, delivered & set up.
 - Two other options to Cheryl to investigate for this, may be a bit cheaper.
- 1.12.7 Yard games from schools and families on loan. Wiffle ball supplies at school?
 - Diamond to bring lifesize jenga
- 1.12.8 3-legged race, sack races - Claire? May pursue depending on other items and rentals.
- 1.12.9 Photo booth - Julie & Jenny
- 1.12.10 Bubbles - Julie.
- 1.12.11 Pie in the face? Class competition, silent auction fundraiser with names of teachers to pie, principal for a day at both schools, custodian for the day with Ron (Dan was to check with Jen at St. C? Pauline & Hope were going to discuss other options internally, any update? Water balloons (Dan)? No. Start advertising pie in the face now! Should it be a competition?
- 1.12.12 Silent auction with 2 bird houses? To be added to auction table.
- 1.12.13 Donations - how do we request the debit card donation option from board office? Who will run this? Claire will request.
 - Things to do for this year: Section off the end of the road, to ensure it is safe to be walking across from pavilion to diamond. RSVP's. Poster – Jenna to do this – have ready for Kindergarten Orientation, Bring your own chair & ball gloves. Can Kerry and Carolyn put together pictures of CSAC paid events

4. Discussion Items – new

- 1.1 Outdoor volleyball net/sand court suggestion from a student.
 - Great idea, but not a lot of room back there that is our property.
- 1.2 Guest Speaker - Mindful Mike, Sara Westbrook, Sam Demma, Tyler (Humboldt)
 - Best when tied into something the school is doing already/recently. Can these be communicated to schools if the board is organizing.
- 1.3 Used to have a hockey team in grade 5/6? Is this no longer occurring?
 - Board said no more hockey.
- 1.4 Arts program - play put on by students.
 - Staffing needs to be available to do this. A few part time staff, in these departments* VAP portion of the curriculum. Can there be parental support? – yes! Staff lead, with parents is ok. This was suggested for CSAC funding. CSAC fundraiser potentially? Dan to bring up at next staff meeting
- 1.5 Pizza fund - where is this money spent throughout the year?
 - Bussing for events. Open House for 2025. Board pays for bussing to and from Mass.
- 1.6 Extra milk issue from snow days still ongoing - look for a different option for winter months next year?
 - Gave it to students, the next day they were there. If someone needs to request a refund, will take it out of pizza fund. Any questions to be redirected to Dan.
- 1.7 St. Patrick requests - sand toys and sand
 - Coyne family has truck toys for St. P. Sand – usually done in the WAAG for donations
- 1.8 Fundraiser from school for bussing costs. We were going to discuss a separate fundraiser for 2025/26 - do we still discuss as CSAC or is this now staff owned?
 - form did not mention that it was not a CSAC fundraiser, please make sure this is clear in the future. Does the information of funds raised get publicized anywhere? How is it divided by the classes? Moving forward, having a discussion if this will be staff owned or CSAC? Keep on Agenda for September. More communication tied in for future considerations, students don't know what they are selling for if they don't know where they are going, same with parents.
- 1.9 Grad Funding Increase
 - Motion to increase grad funding amount from \$1000.00 to \$1500.00: 1st Amanda 2nd Katie
- 1.10 Grass seed? Diamond to ask Debbie where this is. Flowers are already budding so need to be fixed up in the fall. Pizza fund can help with mulch etc.

2 Date of next meeting

Thursday September 18, 2025, 6:00pm

3 Adjournment

At 8:36pm 1st: Jenna 2nd: Katie