

Catholic School Advisory Committee
St. Columban School – January 22, 2025 online
Minutes

Attending: Amanda Linton, Dan Gracey, Kay Madsen, Hope Shantz, Kim Renne, Cheryl Coyne, Katie Louwagie, Jenna Duck, Pauline Skinner, Claire Krempien, Jessie Nyland, Anna Blando, Ashley Ryan, Julie Schoonderwoerd,

Regrets: Diamond Terpstra, Amy Ritz, Kristen Schoonderwoerd, Justina Zmuda, Jenny Feltz

1. Opening Business

- 1.1 Opening Prayer – Dan Gracey
- 1.2 Approval of Agenda 1st Katie, 2nd Kay
- 1.3 Approval of November 26, 2024 minutes 1st Jenna, 2nd Pauline

2. Reports

1.1 Treasurer Report

Notes:

- Went over financials that Carolyn sent. Donation money for Christmas Dinner: \$1264.00+\$490.00. Cheque for Spirit Wear: \$618.25. FIAT team bus to Villa has been paid. Louwagie family donated the Document Camera for St. Pats. Dan also purchased one with Council money. Confusion on who was purchasing. We currently have one at St. Pats and one at St. Columban. Rollin Roaster has been paid for Christmas
- Carolyn has other money \$995.95
- HST Account: \$1283.38
- CSAC Account: \$13,995.27 (\$490 from Christmas Donations, not yet added)
- With commitments: \$ 12,000
 - \$300 contribution to St. Andre Bassette has not come out yet
 - \$1500 Line painting in spring
 - \$1000 Graduation until Committee can meet

1.2 Principal Report

Notes:

- WAAG info – absenteeism a growing concern across all jurisdictions. Families may want to talk about someone in the community/school family. Please read the WAAG, and provide feedback with things we like, or could be refined/shortened.
- As a council we have an opportunity to bring guests to the schools and have great learning experiences. ~\$870 for entire trip to maple syrup trip, for classes 1, ½ and 2. May be a good opportunity for providing a lot of experiential learning for students.

1.3 CPIC Report from board meeting

- Board is offering a webinar regarding EQAO Math night for parents. Grades 3, 6 and 9's. February 5, and February 18.
- Board has requested ideas regarding parent education on mental health and wellness. 20% of youth are struggling with mental health. Vaping, social media and cell phone use are major concerns. Currently in the beginning stages of connecting with people. Looking at using funding to use across multiple schools. If you have suggestions please reach out to Amanda.

3. Discussion Items - ongoing

1.4 Team Jerseys update – Claire

- Submitted tentative order. Did not receive proofs from Janice. When we receive the two options, Claire will send out to see and vote on option. Expected timeline was Jan 22. Must receive a physical version to confirm.

1.5 Basketball nets

- Room for 3 total nets. Have 2 posts, require 2 nets and backboards. Purchase one full net (post, net, backboard). Must purchase through school supplier, like the purchase of the swings. Dan to work with the plant and maintenance team at the board with funding, we would purchase. Dan and Carolyn to ensure the research was done to figure out backboards and nets. Claire has some

quotes and contacts from this work done previously. Kay to meet with Dan when she is there throughout the week for snack.

1.6 Volleyball/badminton nets for St. P – on wish list still? – deferred to new business

1.7 Craft supplies for St. Patrick's – are staff interested? – Deferred to new business

1.8 Hockey sticks purchased for St. Pats by Jenny & delivered. PVC nets – Julie was to discuss with Ron, any update?

- Julie was there ready to be installed. Dan wants to have staff help with where the nets should be placed.

1.9 Spirit Wear update & status of remaining items

- Multiple issues with spirit wear. If we do this again, have samples on site or direct people to Dunnys. All incorrect items will be redone. They should be back by Friday and Hope can pick them up. Once items are in and picked up, Amanda or Kay to ensure that items are correct this time around. Need to be really clear on website and descriptions, the different options, have samples. Janice has been really good to ensure everything is going to be dealt with. Kay: thought that the online store had been done previously, we were the first ones to close the online store. Made the assumption that this was done before, so this was a learning curve for Janice to navigate as well. The process should be more streamlined next time as they now have the experience on this.
- *Do we want to offer another round of this again this school year or wait till the fall again? School used to do this at a fall open house, would be nice to offer again, with samples. Younger families are keen to purchase. Should we offer this at the spring open house? Amanda to continue to have the conversations with Janice, minimum orders need to be met, so we can put in sweaters etc, once items are on file, it should be easy, but it just could take a little time. Would be concerned if they side step council and go right to Dunnys, and what if we don't get the money from these items? If someone goes into Dunnys, are they charging the same amount and we still get our fundraising cost?*
- Planning to offer at parent council table in the hallway at the fall open house as well as spring family event.

1.10 Painting of asphalt – booked for spring by Dan, leaving on agenda to follow up then.

1.11 Student council update – Dan?

- No update.

1.12 Christmas Lunch recap:

1.12.1 Have St. C come earlier

1.12.2 Need to reserve a table for drivers

1.12.3 Count chairs for next year, possibly need to bring folding chairs to seat everyone. 190 chairs** can use chairs from the church, just need to coordinate that and use a truck to get them*

1.12.4 Any other feedback?

Students loved it and were very thankful! Staff and Students alike. Went very well, everything is so ironed out and runs very smoothly.

1.13 Fundraising

1.13.1 Rubber shoe charms – status of new logo

- Need a graphic designer to provide us with all the formats. Kay has a family friend who can do it for \$100.00 we would then become the owner of the logo. Can't move forward with the charms until this is done. Well used and worth the money to create this. Worried about a copyright issue with Dunnys' if it is the exact same logo. This current logo, was drawn by staff. If we own the logo and description of colour scheme, sounds like a good investment.
- Motion to approve Kay to get graphic designer started on logo by: Amanda, 2nd Claire

4. Discussion Items – new

1.1 Monthly spirit wear days

- Ideas: Black, green or shamrock clothing, take a student picture that day

1.2 Hot lunch re-heat options for students returning from sick day.

- Not everyone coming in, only students coming in with their cold pizza from a sick day. Not going to add microwaves to classrooms. Dan and Carolyn working on possibly using the oven to reheat multiple at a time. Someone email Carolyn, what are the numbers on number of children not present in school on pizza day? Some schools can't guarantee pizza the next day. Someone would need to come from home to pick up pizza if it is more than 2 days. If parents are worried kids are being sent home hungry, forgot lunch etc. this is not the case. Amanda to message Carolyn on how many students are missing on pizza day that have purchased. *Updated after meeting to note per Dan that school does not have resources to offer to all students unfortunately after a sick day.*

1.3 Hope's requests for St. Patrick's:

- Butterflies
 - 30 live larvae, Boreal Science cost for kindergarten classes: \$112.00
 - Great opportunity, its an ongoing learning experience. Has been done before at St. Pats.
 - The entire school can possibly be included in the release day depending how many live.
 - Motioned to purchase by: Julie, 2nd: Claire
- Skating
 - Bus costs \$318.19 entire school trip
 - If we support this *2, every kid at the school can go.
 - Don't know cost for st. columban yet
 - Motion to approve this by: Amanda, 2nd: Kay
- Kind-heARTed Studio
 - Total cost for entire school \$757.10
 - No bussing costs, this is for everyone at St. pats.
 - Approving for St.Pats. Hopefully approve for St. Columban. Pauline & Dan to review for St. Columban.
- Snowshoeing
 - \$375 for all St Pats
 - We would like to proceed at both schools, cost to be determined for St. Columban.
 - Motion by: Amanda, 2nd Kay
- Huron County Playhouse – Grand Bend
 - Contribution for bus cost per each trip - \$360.07 x 2 busses.
 - Declined as a result of prior meeting decision to decline class trip expenses per below.
- Volleyball/badminton nets
 - Dan found 2 nets for \$300 total+HST, that would meet the needs of the staff and students. Dan is comfortable endorsing this plan and will place order.
- Craft supplies
 - Michaels donates a lot of craft supplies to Stratford schools, after seasons end. Can have CSAC reach out, if they need a staff member, let Dan know.

Comments from various CSAC members: Single class support was not approved last meeting. Would like to benefit everyone and not a single class. Need to be very cautious to approve something at St. Pats, are we going to mirror this at St. Columban. Split households with students that get to do a lot of activities, and the other doesn't. Some trips and activities don't appeal to older classes. Opportunities that the older children get, that St. Pats don't get the option to participate in. System sports, some students get excused because they don't make the team, they don't have enough room on the bus. Older students should have these experiences as well. The Cinderella Trip, this is an ask to parents. Some things need to be paid for by parents. Many opportunities for virtual presentation. The opportunities to do these smaller projects for classes, parents/classes can see the different things we support

1.4 Grants – PRO has been approved for \$500 per elementary school. Using this for year end open house, does Dan need us to apply?

- Need to get funds from CSAC.

1.5 Open house:

- 1.5.1 Date – June 4 2025. 6-8pm last year, assuming we will proceed same time.
- 1.5.2 Location – Dublin Hall and Pavilion, and Ball Park: \$138.19 Hall and \$36.04 +HST
- 1.5.3 Book singer Mary Paige St. Onge - \$150.00
- 1.5.4 BBQ hot dogs again? - yes, hall provides bbq's which is easier this year.
- 1.5.5 Cake – Costco
- 1.5.6 Book face paint – should go with same person as last year. One person, but she brought a friend to assist. Amanda will reach out to Dana to figure out who it was. *Snippity has been booked.*
- 1.5.7 Tug of war? Yard games? – behind hall, Cheryl to check with Party Supply Co. Suggested we have one activity for older students. Bubbles went over well, Julie can take care of. Claire will look into other options like other games, as well as reaching out to other parents and older students that can hopefully volunteer.
- 1.5.8 Water, napkins, plates, condiments, onions – Kay to look into all food.
- 1.5.9 Photo booth – older kids like this, not too much work.
- 1.5.10 Pie in the face? – maybe a class competition, silent auction fundraiser, have a table set up, with the names of teachers on there so that they know who they're pieing. Maybe a principal for the day at both schools. Custodian for the day with Ron. Dan to ask Jen if it would go at St. Columban. Pauline and Hope to go back and see if there are other options. Ice bucket challenge? Snack Helper for a day
- 1.5.11 Donations – should do this, Dan says that the board now has debit machines that we can request to use that night for donations. Money would go back to our bank account. Make sure to put donation away from the food so they don't think they need to pay to have food. Make sure to make it known that there are fundraising options available at the event.

Notes: Aim to be at the hall, and pavilion. RSVP Ballpark to estimate how many people were there. Sold off hotdogs and buns at the end of the night. May need to go back to Carolyn and see what the figure was ~360 through RSVP's, did not count at gates. Will have spirit wear on this night. Raffle ideas are not allowed.

5. Date of next meeting

April 9, 2025 6-8pm Location: St. Columban

6. Adjournment

Motion by: Amanda

Second by: Jenna