

Holy Trinity Parent Council Meeting November 5/19

Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm. Absent: Josie Halycz, Marie O'Connell.

Prayer and welcome to council members and parents - Erin Bell.

Honouring the Land

- School Council co-chairs review of our code of conduct and conflict of interest: Colleen Gamble had to rescind her position as co-chair since she has returned to teaching in our board.
- VP Chris Chliszczyk explained the conflict of interest in a little more detail.
- Student Council update: no members were present. Lindsay has started her maternity leave so Natalie Prus will be the staff advisor in her absence. Natalie mentioned the upcoming Empty Bowls event as well as Christmas karaoke.

School Council update: approval of minutes from the October meeting.

- CPIC report from the last Council of Chairs meeting - there will be a family of schools work group event in the spring which will focus on mental health; there was an OAPCE commissioning ceremony; spoke about how CPIC can work more effectively with the schools; Bishop's dinner was last week and golf tournament is in the spring.

Principal and Vice Principal's report were combined and presented by Chris Chliszczyk:

- Chris presented his request for more charitable funding and discussed HT Cares which is a program at our school to help needy kids and their families. It operates with a budget of approx\$2000. They are helped with uniforms, class trips and meals. HFFT (Halton Food for Thought) also provides food for our breakfast program as they do in many schools. ISW also helps provide some funding. The school has a closet of clothes for kids to wear on civvies days. Currently there are 3600 students in Halton living below the poverty line. The need for help is increasing as we welcome more newcomers and refugees to our community. Our breakfast program applied for funding and received it to purchase a new freezer. With the increasing cost of cafeteria food this will allow the school to purchase items to help feed these children and their families. We discussed other organizations that may be able to help such as the May Court Club. They provide snacks to some of our feeder schools. As Colleen is a member she will look into this for us. Suggested that perhaps we could add a wish list to our website that is regularly updated. Many families would be happy to help whenever they can. One way to help is the donation of grocery store gift cards.
 - Applications for funding include: \$1000 for the grad awards, \$700 for a dance, \$2000 for the robotics team as their funding has been cut, \$1500 for SHIELD, \$100 for a ball hockey tournament and \$1600 for the football program.
 - The leftover toques from our fundraiser last year were donated to St. Vincent de Paul. The reciting of the Oath of Citizenship has been changed in HCDSB policy.
 - PRO Grant format has changed - we used to receive \$1000 per school that applied and now it's dropped to \$1750 for our entire family of schools! We will use it as a continuation of the mental health night we hosted last year. It will be held in March and breakout groups will be hosted by the parent council of each of our schools. The topic will be aimed at children in grades 3-12. More info to follow as the details are ironed out.

- HT Family Cares - bullying prevention week focus is on the bystander. We all have a moral obligation to speak up and care for one another.
- Big news: the new website finally launched and it's fantastic!
- We can now link our calendars to the school one! It also links to the My School Day app.

Parish updates:

a) MMOG - Tina Cenedese mentioned the many events going on this month and next such as the CWL Christmas Bazaar, the new sensory masses, Book of Remembrance, Advent Wreath sales, Colleen's brother will be presenting his documentary about euthanasia. For more info: www.mmogp.ca.

b) St. Michael - Monica Bolland mentioned they are also adding sensory masses and the annual Christmas Dinner is on Dec. 8. For more info: www.stmichael-oakville.org.

c) St. Joseph Ukrainian - no update in Josie's absence. For more info: www.tserkva.ca.

d) HT Croatian - Tony Pavelic mentioned the banquet coming up this week to celebrate their 43rd anniversary! They also have bake sales during the advent season. For more info:

www.holytrinitycroatian.org.

New Business - n/a

Next meeting date and adjournment - note next meeting has been changed to the second Tuesday of January due to the Ukrainian Christmas on the first Tuesday. New date is January 14 at 6:30.

Please visit our new website for a list of important dates.