

St. Teresa's | École Ste-Thérèse School Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 13, 2018, 6:00pm

In attendance: Kyran Dwyer, Lisa Kenny, Barb Hennessy, Jarrett Morgan, Danielle Nugent, Sheri Roberts, Joanne Saunders, Jason Shaw

Regrets: Beverley Bailey, Kelly Bromley-Brits, Kim Devlin, Connie Gartland, Angela Lacey, Joanne Mallay, Stephanie Rose

Minutes by: Sheri Roberts

~Minutes from February 13, 2018 accepted

St. Teresa's School Development Plan 2017-18:

- Has gone out for external review and been returned with very minor changes. Final report should be ready for May meeting.

Principal's Report

- Book Mobile – A cart of books which is signed out to classrooms for 1 hour at a time. The cart contains high interest books for students to choose from. Feedback from elementary students has been especially positive. Kyran has applied for The Love of Reading Grant, offered through Indigo/Chapters Literacy Fund. If chosen for the grant, money could be used to provide a Book Mobile for each floor as well as develop classroom libraries. For more information about Indigo's For the Love of Reading Literacy Grant, please see the following link: http://www.loveofreading.org/en/literacy_fund_grant
- Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled for May 22. Appointments can be made through St. Teresa's Website by clicking on the 'Optis' link.
- Website has been redeveloped and is up and running. Kyran is encouraging teachers to send in more highlights to feature on the Webpage/Twitter. As well, training is ongoing for teachers to develop their own webpages for their classrooms where they can post home work/assignments/activities/highlights, etc.
- Knights of Columbus Free Throw championships saw two St. Teresa's students representing their age groups at Regionals and Provincials. Congrats to Emily C. and Candace P. (didn't catch their last names sorry!)
- St. Teresa's Elementary Choir has been invited to perform at the Kids Eat Smart Foundation Annual Gala to take place March 24. This is the Silver Anniversary Gala, celebrating 25 years! For more information on the Gala please see the following link: <http://www.kidseatsmart.ca/>
- The grade 4 concert is in planning and is set for May 16th, 2018.
- Pride Group/Kindness Wall – Based around LGBTQ+ inclusion and recognition, however this group is about promoting overall kindness to everyone. A recent activity undertaken by our students was the "Kindness Wall", which can be viewed in our front foyer. Students created messages of kindness and shared personal examples of how to be kind to others for display on the Kindness Wall. Feedback from students about this activity has been extremely positive and students have shown pride in their creation.

- Outdoor play – while St. Teresa’s recognizes the importance and value in providing as much outdoor play as possible to the students, it can be more difficult in the older grades. There have been some issues surrounding fair play with some of the elementary students. The school is looking into providing more equipment (basketball nets, etc.) to accommodate the older students.

Enrichment Activities:

- There was interest in offering more enrichment activities for students at St. Teresa’s. Activities such as [Bricks 4 Kids](#) and [Young Rembrants NL](#) have been offered in the past and are currently taking place at the school. Kyran noted that Bricks 4 Kids will be offered again but there wasn’t enough interest during the last sign-up for it to be feasible. Suggestion from Joanne S. about offering a school level basketball team and from Sheri R. about offering Volleyball. Girls VB is especially important to Brother Rice JH (our feeder school). One of the challenges that has been noted is the team’s lack of skill in grade 7 as compared to other schools who start their students in volley ball during elementary grades. Kyran agreed that the more we can offer to our students, the better. In order to have school level sports teams, there must be a teacher sponsor, everyone interested in the sport must be allowed to play (no picking teams/cutting players in K-6) and the coach must be 21+. Sheri agreed to look into the possibility of MUN Phys. ED./ Kinesiology students wanting to be involved.

Outdoor Garden Grounds:

- St. Teresa’s School has been provided a grant through the Sisters of Mercy NL, to develop an outdoor garden on our grounds. Kyran has suggested planting some trees as well as incorporating some raised flower beds. It would be nice if we could make this a family/community event, as well, families of the school could volunteer to maintain the beds over the summer when school is closed. A great way to build community pride in the school.

Other Business:

- Grade 6’s looking for fundraising ideas to help support the cost of the Brother Brennan Trip. Asked if it was possible to have an ice cream or pizza day. Unfortunately, the guidelines for nutrition set forth by the Department of Education are pretty strict when it comes to offering certain food items. As well, it may cause issues with the School Lunch Association, not to mention that not all children would be able to afford to pay for ice cream or pizza. Just not a feasible suggestion. Jason S. suggested maybe contacting the Edge Basketball Team to see if there is a way to get tickets donated to sell. Sheri suggested a possible students vs teachers, exhibition basketball game at the school. Admission to the game could be by donation. Kyran was going to check on possible Edge game tickets.

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 10 at 6pm

Motion to adjourn: Jarrett and Barb