

St. Basil Parent Council

Wednesday March 3, 2021

1. Call to order
2. Opening Prayer ~ Lenten prayer shared by Lisa
3. Additions to agenda ~ Black History Month ~ parent shared feedback that she was pleased to see the school acknowledge and act on this.
Principal added - diversity is growing more and more and personal growth is important. Principal is working with the school staff to lean into the conversations regarding minorities, racism and growing in our knowledge and development. Board gave great resources to deal with it. Conversations with staff on how to address racism and celebrate Black History and diversity. Be honest and authentic and put it out there. Always looking for resources and studies. Interested in the conversations people are having with regards to it. Always open and welcoming for feedback so that we can continually grow and improve in this area.
4. Presentations from Outside Agencies ~ none
5. Principal's report ~

Health Updates with respect to COVID:

- Cohorts, outdoor play, protocols in the school, arrival and dismissal.
- Parents asked about asymptomatic testing: Information will come, schools are in rotation; Parents will go online to make an appointment on Saturdays, this will be independent of the school. No official information received yet.

Lent:

- Religious Faith Formation in a virtual world; sacraments at Church; collection for SSVP online

Enrollment:

- enrollment continues to grow: 465 face to face and approximately 80 in virtual school which will mean around 545 total. K registration a bit down from last year (if you know anyone who has a child born in 2017 let them know to please register online); have approx. 30 JK, 62 going to SK; Staffing starts in March so accurate numbers help with this.

Technology:

- In need of more technology (computers for students, and possibly active boards); waiting to see what the Board is purchasing and then we will complement that. Would like to purchase another cart but the supply chain is depleted so will put in an order and see what happens; still waiting for some technology to be returned to us.

Communication Home:

- Emails with updates vs newsletters

Spring Break:

- new dates (April 12-16), theme days for March, including pajama/movie/popcorn day on Fri, March 19th

6. Chair's report ~ nothing to report at this time

7. Treasurer's report ~ approximately 3,000 in lottery raised, used for grade 8 novel sets, literacy resources, library in classrooms, ordering catholic education week books, kids are benefitting and not carrying into next year. A lot of phys ed equipment coming, asking teachers for wish lists. Next year we can take on some projects. TBD next meeting

8. RCPIC report~ Vice Principal attended-last Wednesday, very low turn out. With grand Erie as well. A lot of data offered. Presentation based around parent questions, dissipate bullying. April meeting for that. Paul Davis had a lot of advice, facts, of social media, navigating through it. Was booked for April but wanting to see for June or the fall. Always informational.

9. Sub Committee Reports ~ no sub committees at this time due to COVID

10. School Council Funds Request ~ put it out to staff for wishlists and trying to get that processed. Council/Parent requests probably wouldn't be started this year but can table it to next meeting. Some preliminary discussions around: More trees? Have been planted down Blackburn. 6-8 new trees. Replaced a few in the kinder pen. Have to plant ones that are indigenous to the area. Kids play on them, stay off. Hard to do any structure right now because of spacing/ landscape issue. Drainage problem before any project.

11. Special Events ~ none planned at this time due to COVID

12. Other Business ~

Parking Lot concerns:

- Parking lot/ drop off -bottle necking-can do a kiss and drop but parents may not be receptive to it. Large amount of people drive but supposed to be a walking community. Different grades go out different doors. Cannot stagger times, can't alter school day re: older siblings walk the younger ones, conflict with Walter Gretzky times. Encourage children to walk, adequate supervision. Reminders will go out again in email. Lisa to send out work order for arrows and sign in parking lot.

13. Next Meeting Date ~ TBD after Spring Break late April/Early May