

MINUTES

FLVT School Council Minutes Feb. 10, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Monique at 7:02pm

In Attendance:

Asheley Cowie, Monique Atkins, Paige Peake, Olivia Pelucco, Wendy Iwanczuk, Sheryl Benson-Loman, Luigi Pollio, Greg Kostiuk, and Danny Ponjavic

Approval of Agenda

Joel not present; no agenda circulated.

Approval of Previous Meetings

Monique motioned approval of previous minutes, Olivia seconded; all approved.

Report from Executives

- Chairperson: Not present
- Vice Chairperson: Not present
- Treasurer: Vacant.
- Secretary: Not present
- School Events Coordinator: Monique: to discuss fundraising under *new business*.
- Communications Coordinator: Nothing to report

Principal's/Staff Report

Greg: February/March calendar distributed. Valentine's dance is Feb. 13, still need chaperones. No school from Feb. 17- 21st. Shrove Tuesday is Feb 25th and the Ash Wednesday mass will be held in the gym.

Staff are adding new components to the grade 7 orientation. The week of Mar. 2, upper level students will be involved in orientation and there is a focus on team building at the orientation at the school on Mar. 5.

Life Touch will be offering pictures spring school pictures on Mar. 18. They pay \$2/student to come into the school; kindergarten included. No pressure to purchase.

Report cards will be out on Mar. 20

Registration has started for next year. Online registration will be taking place in February. Digital records are now being required. In regards to registration growth, at the start of the 2019/20 school year, we had 596.5 students (kindergarten count as .5) Last year, the board estimates were 40 fewer students than attended. The board estimates for fall 2020/21 are 609.5 but Greg is estimating closer to 623.

FLVT has 74 more students since having a staff increase, which leads to challenges with timetabling, space and capacities. Greg is waiting to hear from Ken Samson regarding budget before any definitive plans can be made. One possibility being explored is the addition of a grade 7 classroom. While this has challenges, it can be seen as positive that there have been no job losses.

Danny: Attended a board meeting where budget was a large part of the discussion. The deficit will be larger than projected, there are plans to reallocate existing Operation and Maintenance reserves to on the ground funding needs.

Luigi: Any opportunity that parents have to advocate for education; please use it. Teachers and administrators are doing the best they can to be heard, but that doesn't necessarily carry a lot of weight. Parent voices around education funding, classroom sizes, or any other areas of concern or question **MUST** be heard.

Unfinished Business

- The request for funds from Cheryl Braun for a \$200 full-page ad on the Aladdin Jr playbill.
- Shrove Tuesday; Monique spoke to Knights of Columbus about supporting. They donate time, not funds and they are currently supporting another school's Shrove Tuesday's activities. The pancake mix has been donated, so it will be an effort supported by parent volunteers. Letters for donation will be handed out soon; Monique asked for support in the efforts to distribute letters. Asheley will write a request for volunteers that Greg will distribute. Monique will ask the office for a schedule of classroom times to try and alleviate some of the confusion and lag time previously experienced
- The school secured a grant for healthy eating. Fridges are coming, stocked with healthy snacks for students. Sports Day will be covered by this grant, so school council will not need to sponsor the lunch this year. Junior high can be involved, there is interest in combining Sports Day with Storm the Wall
- Olivia inquired about hosting a father-daughter dance as a fundraiser. No one is aware of any other schools hosting an event like this and it has been very successful in Raymond. Greg noted one area of consideration would be the mandate of our board to focus on inclusivity and there is a concern that this event has a limited and specific audience.
- Monique asked if hosting fundraisers that have alcohol served would ever be an option and Greg noted that it can happen. There are requirements like a liquor licence, food service, safe transportation options, etc. if alcohol is served, but alcohol service at a fundraiser is an option
- Asheley suggested with the funds we have, we should consider an event that is focused specifically on the promotion and awareness of Parent Council and getting membership. It was suggested in-face promotion at parent/teacher conferences as well as a communication plan including a parent survey
- Trees: Joel has reached out to the city and there is a program to support a beautification project. Staff have asked if we would consider purchasing markers or plaques for around the pond to represent stations of the cross to support current teaching that happens around the pond
- Greg will get a budget report from Tamara.

New Business

- Bottle Drive: last one was easy and successful but we don't know amount of funds raised yet. Monique estimates it will be similar to amounts raised with the past bottle drive. Extra shout out to Christina and Carla for all their support on the two days of the bottle drive
- Meeting adjourned at 8:04pm

Next Meeting

Wednesday, March 18 at 7pm, 2020, in school library