

## CSPC Meeting #2 - Nov 26, 7 pm – 9 pm – via Zoom

### In attendance:

K. Blanchet, A. Sobol, D. Forsayeth, K. Hawkeswood, C. Corbin, D. Gonzalez, K. Kosecki, M. Puglisi, T. McGhee, B. Lacay, C. Devine, S. Pennington, M. Brannon, Tammy, M. Holder, L. Collins-Dunleavy, M. Michalak, S. Colla, M. Mifsud, P. McFadden, L. Elchuk, H. Dunn, G. Nunes, G. Finlay, A. Aberin, C. L. Kuo, A. Paul

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### Agenda

#### Welcome and Housekeeping

- Mrs. Blanchet welcomed everyone and opened with participation protocols guidance. A prayer was said by Mrs. Sobol. The land acknowledgement done by Mrs. Blanchet.
- Agenda was shared.
- Round of introductions was done by all attendees.
- Minutes of October meeting were reviewed at the end of the meeting, and were approved. *Moved by Clifton, seconded by David.*

#### Principal's Report – K. Blanchet

Thanks to staff for their dedication and effort. Lots of pivoting throughout the year and there are instrumental in ensuring things are smoothly. There are three main areas of focus; safety, mental health, and curriculum. That's also the order of priority. If kids aren't safe, they can't study. Safety protocols remain intact; screening at the gate, sanitizing in the line on colder days to quicken drying, refining practices as learning takes place. As well, late arrivals protocols email sent around. A lot lately which hampers start of day for them with safety protocols are already done.

Great news; HEPA filters have arrived. 17 placed in rooms with no partial mechanical ventilation, and rest went to rooms with higher enrolment numbers. Rooms without students didn't get them. Water bottle filling stations; 2 have been ordered. The plan is to install one in the older and one in the newer building, and looking to get 2 more.

Class sizes; 520 in-person, 130 virtually. In-person down from 545. Avg class sizes is 24. Averages for primary is 19, junior is 24, and intermediate is 23. Effort was made to keep below capacity limits during recent re-organization. Only one at over-cap.

Students with special needs; the IEP was sent via post. There are two Special Education teachers also assist with virtual.

Clifton Question: Which class is over cap?

Blanchet Answer: 20 students in a Grade 3 class.

Clifton Question: Do Special Education teachers do supply teaching?

Blanchet Answer: Yes, but they are last on the list because their role is specialized.

Cheryl Question: Has there been any success with HVAC calculations for the school? If the system was inspected, it would be fine.

Blanchet Answer: The request has been made but it hasn't been received. System check was done recently and one unit was replaced. There is a noticeable difference.

Clifton Question: HVAC air quality has come up a few times i.e. the mechanical ventilation report. Could we also have access to the HVAC report for the school, as it would help explain to some parents why some classes were getting the filters and why some were not.

Blanchet Answer: The system has been checked recently. There are concerns about windows being open all day long. The best practice is to have windows rotationally open for a period and then close – just like an air exchange system works. It will circulate the air through. Will check into the HVAC

All previous open staff positions are now filled except for the instrumental music position which is open. Ms. Kordos will teach vocal music. Mr. Robert is the French teacher who is retired and he will be teaching until March. A replacement will be sought after.

During the re-organization, two teachers were re-assigned; Ms. Kuzner and Ms. Woodward to the virtual school and the Board respectively.

Christmas outreach will be done this year, and there will be information in the newsletter. It can be done while distanced and with safety protocols. There will be participation in the sock drive run by the Gr. 8s. looking for student leadership opportunities.

The Ministry of Education was talking about extending Christmas break but has decided against it for now. If another closure does occur, the school is in a much better position than in March; students are more prepared, system is more prepared, math platforms are in place, lots of plans for a robust online presence. It's all about community spread. Kids are happy and the school continues to work with individual students who have concerns.

### **Vice-Principal's Report - Ms. Sobol**

The office continues to be a well-stocked PPE warehouse as promised by Ministry of Education. Inventory is tracked through the system in order to remain good stewards of the resources.

All students are reminded to keep track of their personal items to avoid having a massive bin of lost and found.

Recess; there is no significant change. Everyone has become more efficient at getting in and out of the building. Time was being lost initially but kids are now accustomed. Teachers are making use of the school yard, outdoor learning time. The yard is being used well with lots of wellbeing, physical activity.

In addition to this role, Mrs. Sobol is also VP for Gr. 7, St. Anne Academy – the virtual school. She is at St. Brigid all day but sometimes goes to St. Anne's to work. Mrs. Sobol has been in it for a month and is still able to meet all the needs of the St. Brigid community.

Chery Question: There is currently one indoor recess. Is there thought to going back to more outdoor recesses because of fewer classes? Could we shift the timings? Is that the case at all the TCDSB schools?

Sobol Answer: There are still 18 homeroom classes in the school not including jk/sk. With only 12 fun-zone spaces, it doesn't quite allow for more outdoor recess time. Gym teachers are making sure kids are getting outside for physical activity, and the outdoor space is being utilized in a more creative ways. There is a common set of time-tabling that is tough to shift to accommodate. We can't just change things at the St. Brigid because this time-table is set by the Board. But, St. Brigid is always looking to facilitate more outside time.

Clifton Question: There are 18 classes, 9 fun zones, 3 in the primary yard. Can we rotate having more time?

Sobol Answer: There are 2-15 mins breaks in the am/pm, and 30 minutes at lunch. And the school has thought of lots of different ideas to try to get more opportunities for outdoor time.

Sheila Question: Could parent redraw fun zones? Are the classes close to 30?

Blanchet Answer; Space is needed, but the zones can't be made any smaller. Socially-distancing could have trouble. There are classes that close to 26 in size.

Mike Question: What about space at the parish?

Sobol Answer: Offsite increases the number of personnel needed.

Blanchet Answer: We also have to look at the safety aspect. Is it a field trip?

### **Teacher Report – McGhee :**

Nothing new to report. The teachers are getting the voice amplifiers, which have made a huge difference on the level of exertion and students being be able to understand. It is appreciated.

### **Treasurers' Report: M. Brannon, B. Lacay:**

Pizza refunds is currently at \$6k of the \$18k from pizza revenue from last year. Donation is \$12K. Likely \$1k more.

Nov 9th bank statement shows:

- Rev commission from Eagle Beaver,
- Expenses for X=Power, Teacher Allotments
- Balance is \$56k

Outstanding Commitment; uncashed cheques - \$7k (amplifiers, pizza, grad)

\$25k approved thus far this year. Probably \$5k in unapproved expenses. Playground fund is \$7k. 2019-2020 school year; Chrome books

Other updates:

- Only 4% of the budget spent.

- Overhead for bank administration
- School agenda – still no invoice
- \$5k for fun fair that will be reallocated.
- Fundraising is going to be difficult; no pizza.

Brannon Question: Need signatures for bank letter. Any more invoices?

Blanchet Answer; Ok. Yes, for voice amplifiers.

Cheryl Question: 10-15 pizza cheques to be done

Clifton Question: What about the agendas?

Sobol Answer: Agenda cash has come in.

Clifton Question/Answer: Thanks to Mike, Bellamy, and Cheryl for organizing the refunds cheques. Google form has already been closed. If people want to collect their money, then of course.

Maria: Virtual students have been taken forward on all St. Brigid emails. Virtual families are being asked to support the virtual teachers' home school.

Blanchet: This should not be the case, but will be happy to support to check.

### **Church Liaison Report – M. Mihalak**

Church's sacramental virtual program starts on Sunday Nov. 29. for First Communion. Confirmation starts Sunday December 6. The events will be in spring. Deadline has been extended for registration.

The Cardinal visit occurred to mark the beginning of 100th anniversary. Fundraising attempts includes selling sweatshirts, toques, tote bag, calendar to promote to St. Brigid community. Items quite attractive. Perhaps a video to promote. With respect to the Christmas Sock Drive; Maria at the office is aware.

Mrs. Blanchet noted that there was a virtual Mass today, and the students watched it via live stream this time. In October, it was in-person. Marc noted that he is happy to do music for it. Sobol noted that it's been great that so much coordination has been made and possible to not miss anything.

### **OAPCE Report – P. McFadden**

OAPCE has their AGM this past weekend and a webinar series on parenting positivity. Minister of Education Stephen Lecce spoke about bringing down cases which included testing asymptomatic people. There is an OAPCE return to school survey due on Nov 27. The regular mtg is Dec .8.

### **President's Report – C. Clifton**

There was on one online vote which was approved; for parent interview scheduling software. Parents wants to start an information group that help to collate Board of Education meetings including what's happening at other schools, and what the Board is saying which applies to St. Brigid. Cheryl noted that she would be interested in being a part of that.

With respect to allocation of funds; stay the course until we've got a need. Cheryl noted that if the HVAC report comes in, there may need to be a December meeting.

Clifton/Cheryl Question: For the reading program – Forest of Reading - how much have we allocated in the past? Kids were really into it, and the school library gets the books once the program is done.

Blanchet Answer: How would the program be run? Anything is doable. It just taken time to organize.

*Clifton - Motion: To approve \$2,200 for Forest of Reading, which is a Toronto Public Library reading program; meet authors, festival, book club. Etc. Kids were really into, reading in yards, etc.*

*Moved by Clifton. Seconded by Bellamy. All in favour. The motion passes.*

### **Special Events Report – C. Devine, G. Nunes:**

A quick online parent survey was conducted with an almost 10% response rate. The list of areas of interest included:

- Magic show, online interactive
- Virtual animal show
- Virtual play or theatre like Young Peoples Theatre
- Communal art project
- Online physical fitness or challenge
- Meet the expert to talk about their job
- Tutorial – like Google
- Parent Lecture

The results were that people liked the magic show (70%). Fitness was also high on list with older kids. Mrs. Sobol also suggested a Rubik's Cube opportunity. Some parents are hoping that there is a charitable component. The group is also looking into holding babysitting class virtually, as well as a holiday sing-song. K-5 will like the magic show. Kristen will look into the babysitting course.

Mrs. Sobol shared that the Rubik's Cube; Cubing Out Loud is a provincial competition. There is a beginners workshop on how to think about solving it. Expert cubers can also be on board. It is best for Gr 4-8. Rainbow cubes are for younger kids between Gr 1-3. If parent council is interested in supporting, she doesn't mind organizing the logistics. May cost 250 cubes \$2,000 for Gr. 4 to 8.

The magic show is likely about \$300 for the whole school. It could be a family event in the evening. \$500 to be approved.

*Motion to approve \$2,000 for the Rubik's Cube initiative and \$500 for the magic show. Moved by Cheryl, seconded by Clifton. All in favour. The motion passes.*

A committee is needed for the 100th anniversary of the school next November. The school is thinking about getting in touch with alumni, also to do a photo display. Parents support is needed. Alumni of the school are already interested. Cheryl asked Maria if she could chair from parent side. School and parents to work together. Ask Karyn to put in the next communication. Thanks to Cheryl and Germana for organizing the Halloween decorations.

Key items to think about from the Zoom chat or other notes:

1. Multi-language books for Forest of Reading – Marc
2. Initiative to help less privileged schools – Karolina
3. Mrs. Blanchet and/or Mrs. Sobol will send a reminder about the agendas.

Mike thanked Trustees.

Adjournment – *Moved by Clifton, seconded by Diana. Motion passes.*

Next meeting is Jan. 2021.