



Parent Council Meeting Minutes – St. Matthew’s Catholic School

Date: Thursday September 21, 2017

Time: 7pm

Attendance: Flora Nordoff, Lesley DiPaolo, Kate DiPaolo, Shauna Cassidy, Trish Rayner, Angie Chiaravalle, Jennifer McDonald, Malwina Stemmler, Erin Haire, Craig Van Doren, Krista Schmid, Stephanie Femia, Andrew Bienhaus

Opening Prayer – Flora Nordoff

Agenda Items Discussed:

Voting in council members:

1. Chair – Andrew Bienhaus
2. Co-Chair – Angie Chiaravalle
3. Parish Rep – Kate DiPaolo
4. Secretary – Larry Medeiros
5. Executive Council Team – Lesley DiPaolo, Trish Rayner, Jennifer McDonald, Krista Schmid, Stephanie Femia

Principal’s Report:

- We had a great year last year. School was able to purchase 63 chrome books due to our fundraising efforts.
- Carmen’s has the deposit for our pasta dinner on November 27
- We have \$4,500 in the account for this year’s agenda’s
- Portables are all outfitted with TVs and Chrome books
- We have approx. \$800 in float money
- School population is 1,050, will continue to grow next year
- New school being built on Binbrook Road and Fletcher is on hold. The city hasn’t granted permits until they figure out the boundaries that may be impeding on residents
- We may need another 4 pack for next year, this may have to go on the other side of the fence in the park – nothing has been decided yet. School is being looked at as a whole for classroom space
- Meet the teacher night was a success. Unfortunately, 2 food trucks had to cancel the morning of the event, however, the school did receive positive feedback from parents. A handful did complain that it shouldn’t be on opening night of the Binbrook Fair, council decided to keep it on that same night for next year – the event end early and people can make their way to the Fair.
- The park next to the school is being used for nutrition breaks



- Parent concern that stones and balls are ending up in her backyard. The parent backs on to the school and Mrs. Nordoff will make an announcement to please remember to respect the neighboring properties.
- Cross country will take place on October 4th
- Pita Pit lunch will be back. Prices have gone up to \$5.50 – Stephanie will help count and sort the lunches with help from other council members that are available.
- A reminder will be sent out to parents that we are a nut sensitive but not nut free. We cannot guarantee this for all students and parents must discuss with their children

Council Meeting Dates:

1. Thursday October 19
2. Thursday November 16
3. Thursday January 18
4. Thursday February 15
5. Thursday April 19
6. Thursday May 10
7. Thursday June 21 – Social Dinner

Council Notes:

- Andrew suggested the parish rep speak with the church about doing a small social after the communions and confirmations
- The Catholic Women’s League used to provide the cake, but it was only for the kids to eat not the adults
- Suggestion was made that we as a council provide the cake and hand it out to parents and kids.
- Kate DiPaolo will look into this and let us know if the church is ok with this suggestion
- Emails from the school will start next week with any updates going out to parents. We are already receiving school cash online
- There was discussion on growing parent council with parents that will have children attending the new school. Idea was once the school was operational we could hit the ground running with council
- We are looking at doing movie nights again this year in the gym. Our gym is booked pretty regularly and we would have to give advance notice when we’d like to have a movie night. We will look at picking a date in our next meeting
- Council was asked to think of a new fundraising idea and bring to the next meeting. Maybe something will come out that might be helpful in raising funds for the school
- The school has 2 new Vice Principals – Mr. Morrow, came from St. David and Mr. Fletcher who came from St. Peter and Paul

Meeting Adjourned – 8:05pm