

St Mary's School

Parish Education Committee

MEETING MINUTES –November 22, 2023

Meeting Name	Parent Education Committee Monthly Meeting			
Date of Meeting	November 22, 2023	Start time	6:50 pm	
Location	School Staff Room	End time	8:50 pm	
Chair:	Dale W.	Minute Taker	Alphonsine S.	
1. Attendance				
Present:			Guests:	Regrets:
Dale W.-Chairperson	Sheldon P.-Treasurer	Fr. Giovanni S.- Pastor	D. Weberg-Teacher	J. Sallos-Principal
Melissa G. - Delegate to CISVA	Dave H. - Maintenance	Giorgia Q. – Vice Chairperson	Francisco (Seminararian)	
Alphonsine S. -Parent Participation/Secretary	Elaine M. - Fundraising			
2. Opening Prayer				
Fr. Giovanni				
3. Approval of Agenda				
Approved: Dale		Second: Elaine		
4. Approval of Minutes				
Approved: Dale		Second: Giorgia		
5. Member Reports				
Who:	Notes:			
Principal	See Principal's Report			
Teacher	D. Weberg. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Mic and Stand: Mrs. Choboter got in touch with Long & McQuade Musical Instruments, but she needs a tech comment regarding options. · Hampers for Christmas: Freezer is needed for storage 			

Pastor's remarks	Fr. Gio <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Games night: Fr Felix said that all went well. · All Saints: it was so beautiful. For next year, we can plan for a parade. · Parents need more notice to prepare for next year's All Saints activities. · The parish population increased by 15% · Hope to see the school population increased too.
Treasurer	Sheldon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · See the attached report. · Monthly circulation of Financials (suggestion from Melissa)
Fundraising	Elaine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Oktoberfest: there is no number yet. Still waiting for Jenna's report. · Suggested to think about new fundraising ideas for Spring, because the funds raised up to date are low.
Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · See the Member's report
Society Delegate	Reviewed policy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Student Code of Conduct (Policy 407): Compared to other students in Chilliwack, St Mary's students have good behaviors and use respectful language.(Giorgia's remark)
6. Old Business	
Gym Doors	Giorgia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · \$9000 is the quote for the gym door replacement. · It was pointed out that the kitchen doors and the other door where tables are kept have issues. · Suggestion: all doors in the gym need to be checked · Will follow up with Chris and Steve

Electrical Scan	Giorgia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Everything looks good · Still waiting for the report and solution to the heat 	
Action item	Person responsible	Deadline
Get report and follow up on next step	Giorgia	ASAP
Class sponsorship	Melissa <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 1 class still needs a sponsor. · Announcement at the end of the mass is needed 	
Action item	Person responsible	Deadline
Involve parish office to make announcement for sponsorship	Melissa	ASAP
Microphone and stands	Sheldon to contact Bill for updating PA system	
Projector Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Fr. Felix contacted Jeanine; update will be available in the next PEC meeting. · Fr. Gio suggested that the stage in the gym need a repaint. 	
Chromebooks	Giorgia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · In progress 	
Tech Committee	Alphonsine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Was not able to work on it. 	
Action item	Person responsible	Deadline
Connect with Giorgia to determine the Tech Committee objective	Alphonsine	ASAP
Colour Printer	Table printer to purchase	
MOTION: Dale moves to purchase a colour printer, Canon Image Class X, for invoice(tax included), \$1,500 from Columbia System Business.		
NO OPPOSE		
Outdoor Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Jeanine and Ms. Gillespie will determine which equipment is needed. 	
Freezer Use	Fr. Gio <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Rectory has a big freezer that can be donated to the school. · The school to decide if they want it or not. 	
7. New Business		
Christmas Party	Dale <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · The Christmas Party will be on December 13 at Jeanine's house at 6:30pm. · It will be a potluck 	

Propose Changes to 3 PEC Meeting Dates	Dale <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed changes to 3 PEC meeting due to his work schedule. Giorgio offered to cover the meeting before Dale joins. IN conclusion, no changes to PEC Meetings Dates	
AGM Date	Dale <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AGM will take place in the first week of February at 7pm 	
Registration Packages	Dale <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will contact Mrs. Netzlaw to start working on the registration packages. Elaine offered to help Mrs. Netzlaw to prepare the registration packages. 	
Pro-Life Talk	Dale <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The talk about MAiD is for parents/adults. Proposed that Jeanine follows this topic to the Parish Council 	
Knights of Columbus-Chilliwaack Chiefs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is another opportunity to advertise the school. How to advertise: use St Mary's short video, update pamphlets. 	
Action item	Person responsible	Deadline
To update pamphlets for the next event	Melissa	ASAP
Screenagers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan for a Parent info night-movie \$600 is the cost per movie. To reduce the cost, Julie Lee (St. James & St. Ann's) proposed to get the schools together to reduce that cost. We prefer to host the event here in Chilliwack, due to perceived low attendance from St. Mary's families due to distance. It was proposed to make this a parish event, by donations, so that parents in our parish community can benefit too. 	
Action	Person responsible	Deadline
To take Screenagers to Parish Pastoral Council if they can host the event by donations.	Jeanine	ASAP
8. Closing Prayer	Fr. Gio	

In Camera Session

November 22, 2023
Principal's Report
St. Mary's Parish Education Committee

Enrolment

Our enrolment numbers as of today are detailed below:

Figures as of today, November 22, 2023.

K	22
1	27
2	18
3	22
4	23
5	23
6	15
7	18
Total	168

18 students are Indigenous

Kindergarten/Grade 1 has 22 Kindergarten students and 2 Grade 1 students
Grade 1/2(K) has 14 Grade 1 students and 6 Grade 2 students
Grade 1/2(P) has 11 Grade 1 students and 12 Grade 2 students
Grade 3/4 has 22 Grade 3 students and 7 Grade 4 students
Grade 4/5 has 16 Grade 4 students and 12 Grade 5 students
Grade 5/6 has 11 Grade 5 students and 15 Grade 6 students

We gained a Grade 7 student this month (returned from public school - sibling is here).

We will be gaining a Grade 2 student in January (moving from Vancouver).

We lost a Grade 2 student and a Grade 5 student (both moved out of area).

Spiritual Events

- All Saints dress-up day was well received; we estimate that nearly half the students dressed up, and now that others have seen them, I would assume there would be even more next year
- Our November school-led Mass was quite well attended
 - this was also the First Communion enrollment Mass and most students/families were in attendance
- Our Grade 4/5 class presented a very moving assembly/prayer service for Remembrance Day
- this Sunday is the 2nd Mass for Confirmation students

In the Classroom and Around the School

- Games Night was a big success; many thanks to staff for doing so much
- This month, former students and their SJB coaches came to do basketball camps - our Grade 7s will take part in the Little Cub Classic in the new year
- FSA testing is over and marks have been submitted. We thank Mrs. Joanne Bright and Mrs. Cindy Kuester for again being our markers. The majority of our students are On Track or Exceeding standards in both Literacy and Numeracy. Our Grade 4s were our first Covid Kindergarten class and the markers definitely noticed a difference in their ability to write well. I have heard of this in other places as well.

Extra-Curricular

- Basketball practices are underway for Grade 6/7 girls.
- Some members of the Grade 7 leadership team have asked about having some different clubs - as long as there are staff members who are willing to supervise, we are open to all kinds of things.
- The whole school is going skating on November 30

Staff News

- Teachers are hard at work on writing report cards - these will go home on December 1.
- I have started having monthly meetings with each teacher and EA - an effort to make sure that I am touching base with everyone on a regular basis.
- 5 teachers and 5 EAs attended the CPI training last Friday; the other teachers and I met together to talk about literacy and numeracy and resources to beef up what we are doing
- this Friday teachers will be meeting up with other CISVA teachers (Fraser Valley zone) at Star of the Sea school - we have a priest guest speaker, and then there will be time for networking among grade levels
- I will be with the other CISVA principals for Catholic Educational Leadership Days at Harrison next Wednesday - Friday

Addendum - Old and New Business Items:

- Old Business: Colour Printer:
 - I am forwarding an email from Columbia Business. In our phone conversation, Denise suggested that purchasing the machine outright made the most sense, then a lease for the service, which includes toner, parts and labour.

- Cost of the machine itself is \$1143 plus taxes
- based on our average use, cost per month would be \$36 (I would suggest this would be higher, because of course it has been out of commission over the last couple of months, and wouldn't have been used over the summer)
- The email has a brochure about the printer itself
- I do think it's important to have this for upstairs use

- New Business: Pro-Life
 - Carol Gray stopped in to see me a little while ago, and she was telling me that the woman from the pro-life centre (they are the ones who donated the fetal models and cabinet) would love to come and do a talk for parents re: MAID, euthanasia, etc. I said I would bring that forward to the PEC to see if we wanted to do that, or if it would be something better sponsored by the parish (but we could still promote it to our parents)

- New Business: Knights of Columbus/Chilliwack Chiefs
 - Jean Godbout came by to tell me that the Knights have enrolled in the Chiefs sponsor a school program, and will be sponsoring us (he had talked about this with me in the past). This gives us 10 tickets per game which we can use as we choose - some schools use them as rewards/incentives or do draws.
 - Advantage is that our school name will be featured on the Jumbotron, bringing attention to us
 - The Knights will also be able to set up their Charity Appeal table at the Coliseum
 - Jean was wondering if we had any kind of brochure that they could have on their table to advertise the school

- New Business that wasn't on the agenda: *Screenagers* movie
 - One of the options for the "Sexuality and Your Child" parent evenings that we are meant to have (we have used the online option for the last few years) is to show the movie *Screenagers*. That comes with a cost of about \$600. Julie Lee, principal of St. James, suggested that our two schools could host a parent evening together to show that, to help us both with costs. We thought that if we asked to do it at St. Ann's Abbotsford it would be a little bit closer for Chilliwack parents.
 - *Screenagers* is "an award-winning film that probes into the vulnerable corners of family life and depicts messy struggles over social media, video games and academics. The film offers solutions on how we can help our kids navigate the digital world." You can find out more about it here: [About Screenagers Growing Up in the Digital Age \(screenagersmovie.com\)](http://AboutScreenagersGrowingUpintheDigitalAge(screenagersmovie.com))

