

**Madonna Catholic School
Parent Council Meeting
January 18, 2018
6:30-8:15 PM**

Prayer: Mrs. Antoniuk

In our meeting Lord, help us to focus on what is important rather than just what is urgent. May everything that we discuss have a bearing on the children in our care. Let us never forget that it is both a privilege and a responsibility to play a part in the education of the young. Grant that we may always support each other in that process. Amen

Introduction: Special Guest Michelle Szott - Designated Trustee for the School

Roll Call: Warren Bitzer, Jennifer Brownlee, Cathy Hinger, Amanda Rabby, Karen Antoniuk, Lindsay Tomlik, Courtney Davison, Ryelee Skaalid, Kathy Noel, Michelle Szott

Trustee Report: Trustee Michelle Szott reports:

- Hand out the EICS Board Highlights Sheets for December 13, 2017 and January 10, 2018
- Board meetings are always once a month. Next meeting is on February 21 at 2:30
- EICS Board of Trustees honoured our Div. Psychologist Brea Malacad who was recently named one of Avenue Magazine's Top 40 under 40. Her amazing work in the Violence Threat Risk Assessment protocol was Brea Malacad Avenue Magazine article.

Board of Trustees, Superintendent Hauptman touched on a number of issues including:

- Excellence in Catholic Educational Leadership (EXCEL) Leadership development program.
- Support from teachers-connection project
- Excellence in Education - support Teachers in Faith
- EICS Kindergarden Programming in 2018-2019 allowing flexibility in the Early Childhood Services being offered throughout the division. Ensuring School Administration to ensure parents registration request are utilized in determining which type of ECS kindergarden programs offered. A survey was conducted and data is being collected.
- Draft Calendars for 2018-2019 School Year. Goal is to develop a calendar that meets the necessary hours of instruction, supports a quality learning environment and supports teacher and staff professional development.
- Joint transportation with EIPS and Battle River is a consideration. Calendar will come to the Board for approval at a later time once approved in principal by the Board of Trustees and then will be circulated to schools and school councils for feedback.
- Boundaries....seeking information from the people.
- Thought Exchange Survey...basing a decision from data received.
- Coffee House meetings Feb 6 at ABJ at 6:30 for the community to see possible scenarios for reconfiguration.

Teacher Report: Mrs. Kathy Noel:

What is happening around the school?

- Grade 1 Students enjoyed the tour of OLPH in December. We had a "behind the scenes" look around and an 'up close' look at the beautiful stain glass and art work there. The focus of the religion unit was Advent...a time of preparation. How we ready our hearts and homes for the birth of the baby.
- The hallways are buzzing with the question,"What are you going in for FLEX options?" Tomorrow everyone is excited to start a new round of courses. We love that they are a mixture of friends from all

the grade 1 and 2 classes!

-Grade 1 teachers are running Parent Literacy Night on Thursday, January 25 from 7:00 to 8:00. The goal is this evening is to model some of the reading strategies being taught and to share tips for effective home reading.

-A big thank you to the many parents, grand parents, and community members who come into the school and volunteer their time. We are so blessed to have such hard working dedicated volunteers to do sooooo many things that make Madonna a wonderful place to learn and grow.

-Grade 1 students LOVE the Hot Lunch Program (so thank you for that!!)

-Also thank you to PSC for making a generous donation towards Alien in-Line Skating coming up next week.

-We are excited for Monday when we will be getting messy in our Colour Centers. Using the inquiry process, we explore and discover the magic of mixing a variety of mediums to learn all about colours!

-Grade 1S has enjoyed being the Assembly leaders going up on the stage to sing, read and spread the Good News. Grade 1N will be Assembly leaders in March.

-Coming up in February will be having the 100th day of school. Students will work on a 100 collection, count to 100 in many ways, and dress up as they see themselves when they are 100 years old.

-In preparation for Lent, we will have a Rubble Road come in to teach us about carving a soap stone cross.

-We look forward to sharing pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and going to OLPH church for Ash Wednesday Service.

-Grade 2 Thompson will be beginning their Snowmen at school story writing project where each day the classes Snowmen at school story writ in project where each day the classes snowmen (rice snowmen they have made) will be found in a different spot around the school! The grade 2's will then turn this into their own story.

-Both grade 2 classes are thrilled to use the new Fountas and Pinnel Reading Program. There are big books for read alouds and individual books sets of 6 for guided reading. The teachers are so excited about the comprehensive guide books that encompass all of literacy!

-Grade 3's went on a field trip to the Art Gallery where they viewed local works of art, designed and etched their owns snow flake, and then carved a foam snowflake that was used for print making. They also visited the library, saw the Agora, and sat in the gallery of the Strathcona County Municipal Government Chambers.

-This month in 4H has been exploring "How is the Birth of Jesus a New Beginning?" We look forward to giving back to the community through our visit with Capital care next week to wish our friends a Happy New Year. In LA we are focusing on Guided reading. Mrs. Hinger is reading aloud the book, Frindle, and we are working on looking at perspective through the story of the Three Little Pigs. In Math we are working on estimation strategies as well as strategies for Addition and Subtraction. It has been a very busy time for our social studies classes as we have finished putting together our Alberta Regions Studies Projects and are almost finished giving our student presentations. In Science we have learned all about Waste and our World and we will be doing a wrap-up project using recycled materials. In French we continue learning about the AIM (Accelerated Integrative Method) gestures, and actions and will learn simple songs and dances as well as drama, songs, and story-telling to allow students to practice communicating in French. Our basketball unit is in full swing and looking forward to inline skating. In Music, the recorder ha been a great success. We continue to discuss proper care and use of a recorder, practicing finger movement and placement while playing through scales. A busy time in 4H which we are all fully enjoying!!

-Madonna Catholic School is excited to have the class set of large Djembe Drums on loan this month from the division. Students love to tap out rhythms, while singing, dancing and creating their own sounds!

Administration Report: Mrs. Karen Antoniuk

Registration Open all grades

Pre K → set at → M T Th F am class & pm class

Kindergarten: parents select am pm or MW or T/Th full days.

Based on the information that parents bring forward decisions on programming will be made around this data. ... currently at 17 registrants :)

HOW and WHERE should we advertise? ... *BrightPath and Creativekids day care*

Open Houses ...

- **Pre K Jan. 24th 1-3**
- **Open House Feb. 21st. 6:30 - 7:30**
Entire School Pre.K, Brighter Beginnings, Kindergarten,
Gr. 1 to Gr. 4

Surveys

- Alberta Education ... sending out to Gr.4 parents questionnaire via mail ... right now. Please take the time to fill out.
- Alberta Education ... grade 4 students will be doing the questionnaire at school within the next couple of weeks.
- Division has sent out the **Thought Stream** please fill it out.

Report Cards: Jan. 31st. Available In PowerSchool 3:30pm.

Ash Wednesday & Valentines day same day. This is our plan

... Mass 12:30 at OLPH Parish

... after mass ... valentine day card exchange and healthy snacks in the classroom, fruit, veggies, cheese crackers ... we are asking for NO MEAT as Ash Wednesday is a fast day. Any other idea's?

Should we do Valentines Day party on the Tuesday? NO... keep as is

Flex Programming

- Gr. 1 & 2: Earth Club, Bread Making, Fit Kids, Soap Stone Carving
- Gr. 3 & 4: Handbells, Leadership, Coding, Fairy Tale STEM: Literature Based Math and Engineering

New EA Hire to support grade 3 current in the am

New Teacher Hire for Grade 2. Feb. 13 → June 29th

Interviewing right now.

Christmas Concert Feedback:

- **Stay at the Church**
- **Not after a mass**
- **Pre-K and Kindergarten to go in the afternoon**
- **Allow at intervals → photos**
- **Other suggestions**

Gr. 3 / 4 Choir to sing at masses (3 to 4 masses a year) a note will be going home for consent first to see if this is an interest.

February- Class Colours Day: -Each class will be assigned a different colour and students will dress accordingly

Face to Face Ministries: Feb 22

Valeda House: offering \$285.15 ... Thank the parent community

Lent: Collection for the continual support of our Chalice Child.

Book Fair: Tried new vendor Audrey's Books → Should we go back to scholastic? Yes... go back to Scholastic Book Fair

Next 3 Way Conference: March 20 & 21 st

Opera: bringing in the Opera NUOVA → Opera NUOVA will be touring The Brothers Grimm, a 45 min opera specifically written for elementary school aged children this MARCH, 2018. student cost ... \$2 - \$3 dollars

FNMI: future planning of events

Divison putting on a Coffee House → Tuesday Feb. 6th @ ABJ 6:30 pm Re-Configuration scenarios

Apple School Report: Cathy Hinger reports:

- Apple School - Sponsored Rings and Rocks Curling for February 15 (Tattoos to be given out)
- Healthy snacks good until the end of the year.
- Apple School is celebrating 10 years.

Parent New Business

- Hot Lunch New Vendor on board- Burrito Libra offering a few different kinds of wraps.
- Need to make a procedure chart for hot lunch days...eg. when child is not there, where does food go etc...
- Teachers appreciation- talked about maybe a dinner before school interviews, something like pasta pantry.
- Shrove Tuesday is on February 13 at 11:00
- An idea was brought up about drawing people to the school with maybe a Spanish class.

Fundraisers

- Little Caesars (allowing 2 weeks) making the beginning of March to be the pickup.
- Paint night numbers are looking good...selling cookies, rice Krispy squares, coffee, hot chocolate and juice.
- Yoga teacher offered to teach in the gym for \$45 for the whole class.
- April 20 selling tickets Adult \$5.00 and Children \$1.00 we will sell water.
- Raffle off costumes and Oilers tickets at the dance.
- Bake sale to be done again during interviews.

Treasurer Report:

Last year report:

Mundare:	1992.70
Hot Lunch:	3,897.59
Toy and Turkey	987.40
Bake Sale	793.75
X-Mas Raffle	97.15
Little Ceasars	662.00
Bake Sale	902.00
Dance	620.00

<u>Total</u>	<u>9952.59</u>
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What we made so far this school year:

Mundare	\$3524.27
Toy and Turkey	\$1651.85
Bake Sale	\$730

School Wish list

Discovery Education \$635
Purchase of the Animated Lit. story books \$4000
School-wide tinker-crafts / flex ... 250 x4 → \$1000
Books for March Madness: Tournament of Books \$900
Alien Inline Skating ... \$2800

Motion: Yes to support the school wish list with a change to Alien Inline Skating → Parent Council to pay \$1500 for Alien inline skating and all participating children will be charged \$6.00

All were in favor

Meeting adjourned-next meeting:

Thursday March 8, 2018 @ 6:30pm