

ST. ANDREW'S SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES
Minutes for Monday, January 26th, 2015 at 6:30 pm

PRESENT: Esther Lapworth
Mary Catherine Brisco
Joanne Murray
Alison Vandergragt
Michele Tomasini
Cory Lee MacMunn
Lyndsey Mask
Rhonda Summers

PRAYER: Council recited "A Winter Prayer" together.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: Anne Haley, Trustee of the Renfrew County Catholic District School Board, and Chair of the Special Education Advisory Committee, spoke to the Council about a workshop that they are presenting on Saturday, April 25th at St. Joseph's High School in Renfrew from approximately 9:30 – 2:30. They are very excited about this project and have received a PRO Grant to fund it. It is for all parents, but especially parents of special needs children. There will be a keynote speaker (yet to be determined), activities for children, catered lunch, break-away sessions in the afternoon. Transportation will be available for everyone who wishes to go, but cannot get there for various reasons. They are looking for volunteer help for registration, passing out information, evaluation forms, etc. Members of the committee are meeting with every School Council in the Board to announce this workshop. More information and flyers will follow once the keynote speaker is determined. We thanked Anne for coming and she left the meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Esther read the highlights of the previous meeting's minutes. On motion by Michele and seconded by Cory Lee, the Minutes for November 11th, 2014 were approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The balance in our account as of January 26th, 2015 is \$2,995.24. Profits from the candle sales was \$927.50 and it was agreed that this fundraiser was much simpler with more profit than our previous Christmas fundraiser of the squares/cookies. On motion by Cory Lee and seconded by Alison, the Financial Report was approved as shown.

PANCAKE LUNCHEON

This year, the Pancake Luncheon (Shrove Tuesday) falls on Tuesday, February 17th. Esther mentioned that the day ran much smoother when the batter was made the night before. Esther, Michele and Rhonda volunteered to come Monday evening to the church basement to mix the batter. Esther will look for volunteers to help on Tuesday morning.

WINTER PLAY DAY:

Mrs. Brisco advised the meeting that the staff had decided that the Winter Play/Away Day would be held on Friday, February 27th. The Grade 4 – 8 students would be invited to go to Pakenham Ski Hill and the Grades JK – 3 would have a play day here (with skating at the Barry's Bay Arena, pizza, sleigh rides and other activities at the school in the afternoon). It was unanimously agreed that School Council will donate up to \$1,000 towards the cost of bussing for these winter excursions.

PRO GRANT:

Mary Catherine has received confirmation from Janet Podleski (co-writer of the Looneyspoons Cookbooks) that she will be our guest speaker at the evening will be hosting for our “Healthy Eating Choices” PRO Grant. We will plan to have this evening during the last week of April, first week of May, depending on Ms. Podleski’s availability. Michele will also look into the Algonquin culinary students coming out for some hands-on activities.

OTHER FUNDRAISING:

Esther left some information for a possible fundraiser for next Christmas. It would be tea/coffee baskets from the store in Golden Lake.

PRINCIPAL’S NOTES:

Mary Catherine spoke to the group about the Algonquin College “Schoolyard Greening” project. On Monday, February 9th, Algonquin intern students along with some Algonquin staff will be coming to our school to talk to us about what we would like to see change or enhanced on the school yard. They will also spend first recess outside with the students to get an idea of our play space. All classes (Gr. 1-8) can be involved as they have said that they could handle 3-5 groups. Mary Catherine will also be looking into some grants that might be available for this project.

NEW BUSINESS:

We will have a “Soup Day” on Friday, March 13th, right before March Break. We will serve homemade turkey soup and buns. We will ask the students to bring in their own bowl and spoon but will have some available for those who forget.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, March 2nd, 2015, at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion by Rhonda and seconded by Joanne, the meeting was adjourned.