

March School Council Meeting

Monday, March 21, 2022 from 6:00 – 7:00 pm

1. Call to Order – 6:00 pm – Laurie Catonio
 - a. Opening Prayer – Devon Dempsey
2. Land Acknowledgement – Devon Dempsey
3. Introductions
4. Approval of Minutes for January 2022 School Council Meeting.
 - a. Minutes approved by Michelle and seconded by Tokunbo
5. Treasurer Report – Tokunbo Walter-Enudi
 - a. Closing Balance on February 28th: \$4,841.50
 - b. Opening balance on February 1st: \$ 5,253.50
 - c. Total credit into the account in February is \$343.00 which are the cheques sent from the school I deposited.
 - d. Total debits from the account in February is \$755.00 which include \$750 for the library, \$3.00 monthly maintenance charge and \$2.00 statement print service charge.
6. Trustee Report – Bob Spitzig
 - a. Trustee Meeting Wednesday. Minutes will be sent out. Trustee board is working on listening to school councils. Spoke about curriculum and supporting teachers, as well as the ASCA. Each Council gets \$500 that needs to be spent by the end of the year.
 - b. The Bussing issues are slowly improving.
7. Old Business:
 - a. Updated School Council By-laws – vote
 - i. Language updates to be more neutral. Parents required for quorum changes from 7 to 4. Laurie has written new and updated School Council bylaws. These bylaws need to be approved through a vote. The new bylaws and mission statement can be found on the website.
 - ii. A motion was made to change the bylaws as stated by Tokunbo. Michelle seconded it and the motion was passed.
 - b. ASCE Grant (Alberta School Council Engagement Grant)
 - i. Money has to be spent by the end of the school year. Could be spent on mental health/wellness issues. Could also be spent on parent resources for home and school.

- ii. Devon suggested that we could put the funds toward having an elder come in.
- iii. A night focused on nutrition was also suggested. This evening could be a parent – student workshop. Making food during this workshop was also considered. Could also be a night focused on body image.
- iv. We could also have a cultural night focused on learning about different ethnicities.

8. New Business:

a. Guest Speaker - Nikita Villiger, school counsellor

- i. Handouts were given.
- ii. A summary:
- iii. Positives of Social Media: Students finding like minded groups and finding places to fit in and belong.
- iv. Cautions: those who struggle from mental illnesses are often affected more. Social media is often untrue and propagates a false reality that students at a Jr. High age are not mature enough to rationally understand as false.
- v. Cyberbullying is also a growing new problem.
- vi. There are a bunch of new apps that are coming out, and it is really hard to stay ahead.
- vii. Parents are encouraged to educate themselves and make those decisions for their own families. Parents can also watch out for addictive traits that begin to develop. Students also do not tend to understand that social media is designed to keep them engaged, and not necessarily to read truthful material. Open conversations between parents and students are critical.
- viii. 30 mins of social media a day is a healthy amount.
- ix. The school has a zero tolerance policy towards bullying of any kind (including cyber bullying).

b. Staff Appreciation - Discussion

- i. June 13 is the last PD Day. It was suggested that this is a good day to have a staff lunch provided by School Council.
- ii. A motion was made by Rena to spend 1000 dollars to provide staff with lunch. This was seconded by Deena

9. Principal Report – SFJH News (Devon Dempsey)

- a. The play 'Beauty and the Beast' is going well
- b. Badminton is on a break
- c. Showcase for St. Francis is on March 24 for adults. There will be a showing from the play (they will sing Gaston). This is a good time to try and recruit more parents for School Council.
- d. Exam Schedule
 - i. 20th - Social
 - ii. 22nd - Science
 - iii. 23rd - English
 - iv. 24 - Math
- e. April 13th - 10 am.
 - i. SFJH is being gifted with a Blackfoot name at 10am. Parents and council members are invited.
- f. April 28th- Parent Teacher Interviews

10. Closing Prayer – Laurie Catonio

11. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 7:30

Special Notes:

Kevin Toews was the secretary.

Next meeting will be April 11th, 2022 at 6 pm.

Thank you for your commitment to St. Francis Junior High