



St. Luke Catholic School

Better Together

School Council Meeting Minutes January 16, 2023

Attendance: Erin Crawley, Meghan Ferguson, Cathy Hinger, Carrie Knysh, Kyla Norris, Shannon Blyth, Brenda Watmough, Sharilynn Shakeshaft, Laura Cormier (Teacher Representative), Melissa Orr-Langner

Meeting Start Time: 6:34 pm

Prayer & Reflection

- Opening Prayer – Cathy Hinger
- Prayer for Ukraine – Sharilynn Shakeshaft

Land Acknowledgement – Done by the students of St. Luke

Welcome & Introductions – Cathy Hinger

- Thank you to our Mental Health Capacity Builder, Laura Cormier, for joining us tonight.

School Update

Administrative Report – Cathy Hinger & Sharilynn Shakeshaft

- *Advent Celebrations*
 - A symbol was placed on our Jesse Tree everyday. Every class participated and any students who wanted to, were invited to read an intention. At the conclusion of our prayer, we did our 12 Days of Fitness.
- *12 Days of Giving*
 - Thank you for all the donations that came in throughout the 12 Days of Giving. All donations were given to the Tofield-Ryley Food Bank, and we were able to raise 654 pounds of food.
- *Advent Production*
 - Despite the little time we had to put this all together, the concert went very well, and the students did an amazing job. Students have been able to watch the video of the production and have been able to see themselves in their acting roles. We are trying to figure out logistics of sharing the video with parents.
- *Crazy Hair Day*
 - It was fun to see the many hairstyles that day.
- *Grade 7/8 Christmas Turkey Dinner Potluck*
 - We had a full Christmas morning set up in our classroom, which included a tree and a Secret Santa exchange. We were all able to sit down for a full Christmas dinner. It was a blessing to

be able to do this. We shared traditions and it really provided a nice opportunity to share and connect.

- *Sportball (Grade 1-4)*
 - Classes rotated through the gym, and everyone seemed to really enjoy it. We would like to plan to have Sportball come back.
- *Intramurals Program*
 - These are happening on Monday and Wednesday during lunch recess. This time is used for the grade 5-8 students to work on their sport skills and skill development.
- *OR (Opportunity Room) Student Help*
 - We have many students coming into the OR for assistance. Almost every grade has been represented and it's a place where students come to work on homework, study, read, get reading intervention help and receive extra math help. The Opportunity Room is available on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday during lunch recess.
- *Kindergarten/Pre-K Open House*
 - January 19 from 6-7pm
 - EICS has decided to put more support toward the Pre-K program and will be covering some of the cost. This fall, the Pre-K program will run at a cost of \$125 a month. More advertisements will go out in our area (including social media). Please forward information along to anyone you think may be interested. Registration begins on February 1.
- *Intervention Grant*
 - This grant was given to all districts because of the work we did last year. We targeted students from grade 2-4 for literacy and numeracy (there were 25 students in our program last year). We did so well globally last year that we did not receive as much money as we had hoped for. The division received \$57,000, which works out to about \$200 per student in the program.
 - This year, we began the program in September, and we have identified where we needed strategies and have now expanded into all grades. We are looking at new resources to bring into the school as well as staffing. Madame Monique is now helping on Mondays and Wednesdays so that our group can be divided into even smaller groups (phonetical awareness, literature circles, targeted interventions). Right now, we have myself (Mrs. Hinger), Madame Hayden, Madame Monique, the grade 1-4 teachers and an aid. We will be running for another three weeks and then meeting as a team to assess where we need to go from there. We have noticed that students' confidence to read aloud and to sound out words is getting better.
- *EICS Calendar 2023/2024*
 - The calendar was shared with the group in attendance with any feedback being sent to Mrs. Hinger by the end of the week. Any feedback provided will be taken to the board for final approval in February.

Upcoming Events

- Djembe Drumming in Music classes
- January 19 – Farm Day
- January 19 – Open House – Pre-K/Kindergarten 6-7pm
- January 25 – Bell Let's Talk Day

- January 27 – Grade 5-8 Field Trip to Millennium Place
- January 30 – Professional Day (No School)
- February 1 – Winter Walk Day
- February 7 – Disney Day – Dress like your favourite character
- February 8 – Swimming Lessons start
- February 9 & 10 – Teachers' Convention

Teacher's Corner – Ms. Laura Cormier (Mental Health Capacity Builder)

- I'd like to take some time and talk about the Boys Group that we have started. This group began as a result of some of them getting very competitive at recess and some physical fights that were occurring. We are basing the group off the One Circle Foundation Program, which embodies social emotional learning, talking about attitudes and recognizing how to express emotions. We built off the strengths of the boys and focus on resiliency and healthy relationships. They boys have really come out of their shells and have had great conversations. After five sessions, we went into the gym to practice the skills they've learned (this group consists of about 15-20 of the grades 4-6 boys). The gym session went really well, and I saw a lot of grade 6 boys being leaders that day. We are seeing a change in the boys a result of this group and instances of fighting have decreased. Moving forward, we will start discussions around gender roles, strengths and vulnerabilities and emotional awareness. I am hoping to run the boys group continuously like we do the girls group.

\$500 Government Grant – Erin Crawley

- Last year, we did not spend the \$500. Ideas for this year include:
 - Blanket Exercise
 - Saffron Centre Presentation
 - Paint Night
 - Something liked with the Open House (since people will already be in attendance)
 - Parent Communication/Technology
 - Teach parents the Google platform
 - Parental online security for Apps
 - Self Defense Class
- More discussion to be had on these items and an update will be provided at the next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:31 pm

Next Meeting: Monday February 13, 2023 at 6:30 pm