ESSMY School Council Meeting Minutes - September 10, 2019

Attendance: Stacey Jost, Monique Aultman,Helen Jamieson, Joan Crockett, Mary Addison, Suzanne Morton, Sarah Inglis, Lisa Pasichnyk, Genevieve Gray, Cathy Giesbrecht, Francine Savinkoff, Michelle MacKay, Chantal St. Jean, Sabrina Lalonde, Taler Daum, Anita Rivero

1. Call to Order: 6:37PM
2. Acknowledgement of Territories: Stacey Jost

   ESSMY acknowledges that it is gathering on the original lands of the Cree, those of

   Treaty 6, and on the homeland of the Metis Nation.
3. Opening Prayer: Prayer led by Mmm. Aultman
4. Adoption of Agenda: Motion to approve agenda by Michelle MacKay, seconded by Chantal St. Jean.
5. Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve minutes by Genevieve Grey, seconded by Michelle MacKay.
6. New Business:

   a) Chairperson report: Stacy Jost
   Glad to be back, nice to see so many new people at the meeting

   b) Student Rep report: No student rep at meeting

   c) Trustee Report: Joan Crockett

On behalf of the Board, I thank you for supporting our school community in whatever manner that works best for you. Your voice and dedication are of great value to the school principals and to our District.

I am very proud to be a trustee for GSACRD. There are many reasons – We as a Catholic District “awaken the hearts and minds” of almost 6000 students. - We not only look after the less fortunate, we excel in academics being one of the highest achieving Districts in the province. - GSACRD ranks one of 37 best work places across the globe with strong employee engagement. (According to Gallop).

Good News

Vital Grandin School celebrated their 60th anniversary June 3, 2018. Students showcased their history with each grade sharing a history of events, world news as well as music from that decade. Very creatively done. Many community members, alumni and staff enjoyed the entertainment as well as, the refreshments and sharing that followed. - **Sister Alphonse Academy** initiated a care packages for the firefighters involved in the High Level fires. The firefighters responded with a thank you and a photo of themselves with the packages. A wonderful example of compassion and caring for others. - **Bertha Kennedy School** held fundraisers throughout the year in support of the La Salle Women's Shelter. They collected more than $26 000 to support many women and children. - All of our **17 schools** in our District do an exceptional job throughout the year of **nurturing the whole child**. As Sister Theresa of Avila says "God has no hands but our hands to do His work for Him. God has no feet but our feet to do his work for Him." We as a Catholic District are very proud of the love and caring that is shown in the classrooms every day as well as all the outreach that is being done to serve others. - SACHS and MCHS received 33 awards at the **Annual Cappie Awards Gala** for their respective drama productions. So proud of the talent and their dedication to the Arts.

Board News

As a District we gathered on August 30 for the annual faith retreat –**Blueprints Day** which included an opening mass at St Jean Baptiste Parish and a day with Sarah Hart on the theme of Shepherd – Living Like Jesus. Thirty new staff were named and welcomed, and the Laura Bird Memorial Beacon of Hope Award was presented to Dolores Andressen from Bertha Kennedy. - As a District we are very fortunate for many blessings. I want to highlight a very important leader that we have in our Superintendent. It is so easy to advocate for **Superintendent Keohane** as he is recognized both locally and globally. He has spoken at numerous Rotary meetings and I look forward to hearing him speak at St Albert's Friday morning's meeting. - Alberta Education asked Mr Keohane to teach the **Superintendents**

Leadership Quality Standard to new Superintendents this past March and he will do so again in November. - Recently our Superintendent was awarded **Superintendent of Alberta,** which automatically advanced him to Ottawa, where he was chosen among the provincial nominees for the national award. He was also recognized in the United States in February as the **Canadian Superintendent of the Year** at the International Awards Ceremony. - In **Gallops Great Workplace Award Recognition,** David is identified in the top 5 leaders from 1100 organizations globally. - As a member of the Board of Trustees, we have only one employee and that is our Superintendent. As trustees, we are very proud of Superintendent Keohane for obtaining the great results for our District as well as being a **professional supporter of Catholic Education**. - And we know that behind every good man is a strong team of administration. We are grateful for our school administrators for their leadership, wisdom and expertise.

Initiatives of the Board

The Unveiling of the **Sister Alphonse Legacy Mural** will be held on September 19, at 6:30pm. Everyone is welcome. - The **Annual Long Service Awards** will be held on Wednesday, October 2 at the Morinville Community Cultural Centre. GSACRD's employees are highly valued for their dedication, loyalty and strong sense of belonging to this District. Long Service Awards celebrate and commemorate the commitment and loyalty of employees who have achieved significant milestones of service. The structure of Long Service awards recognizes a staff member every five years of service, from 5 to 35 years

- ***Next Regular Board Meeting – September 30 - 3:30 pm - Public Welcome!***

d) Admin Report: Cathy Giesbrecht

- Excited for everyone here
- Several long service awards this year : Congratulations to Monique Aultman for 25 years
- Great start to year. We are in the 3rd year of "Living like Jesus." Servant, Steward, Shepard. This year's theme is "We are Sheperds, I am the good sheperd, I know my own and my own know me.".

- Enrollment increased by 26 students. We now have 300 students at ESSMY: 104 students in grade 7, 93 students in grade 8, 64 students in grade 9, 12 students in grade 10, 18 students in grade 11 and 9 students in grade 12.
- Day 1 of grade 7 went well - great turn out
- Volleyball tryouts also went well with 60 girls and 50 boys trying out.
    Senior girls - consolation champs
    Junior girls - overall champs
    Boys won half of their matches
- New Options: Multimedia and STEAM
- Today was day 1 of our new food service. We are no longer using the kitchen as it is a huge expense. We have signed up for Healthy Hunger, a food delivery service, which offers several venders. Went well today, not a huge amount of orders. School makes a bit of money from each order. Sign up on-line to Healthy Hunger and pay for what you would like to order. Small school store/cantene in the works, run by high school students. Will have noodle soup, granola bars, etc.
- No food service on Mondays and Fridays. School council can still run special event on these days, ie. poutine days, hot dog sales
- Shrove Tuesday will stay the same

- Staffing - Mme Bouchard took a leave of absence. We were able to get back M.Jean to teach FLA/Social.
- Cathy Giesbrecht will now lead the 3 cities trip.

- School boundaries are opened up for grade 7, 8 and 9
    Students feel a change from elementary school
    Gives students freedom
    If parents do not want to have their kids go to the stores, they need to have discussions at home with their child.

- Changed from 4 day schedule to 2 day schedule
    Other schools on 2 day schedules, easier to share part time staff with other schools

- Lunch is earlier this year, breaks are better
- 42 minute blocks - consistent with other Jr high schools: good for structure as everyday starts the same
- No flex - time was wasted as students were not utilizing their time properly

e) School Council Elections

Stacy would like to step down from her Chair position
Michelle Mackay - voted in as Chairperson
Chantal St. Jean - voted in as Vice - Chairperson
Anita Rivero - remains secretary

f) Proposed schedule of meetings 2019/20

September 10/2019
November 5/2019
January 7/2020
March 3/2020
April 7/2020
June 2/2020

Parent council stayed with meetings occurring every other month, First Tuesdays of each Month. May meeting moved to April because need to approve budget from March.

7. Old Business:

a) Basketball net - Ordered rope nets; $3 a piece. Buy a few and keep them on hand. Hopefully, the nets will last. Maintenance will put them up. Question was proposed if Maintenance can give outdoor basketball area a facelift.
b) Cafeteria - see above in admin report
c) Chrome books - Can purchase chromebooks cheaper on your own vs a staple's "deal"

Adjourned : 7:22PM

Next meeting date: Tuesday, November 5, 2019 at 6:30PM