



Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, October 16, 2024

Time: 7:30 PM

Location: St. Gianna Catholic School

Attendance

- **Principal:** Michele McGarry
- **Vice-Principal:** Michelle Wallace
- **Co-Chairs:** Juman Asmar, Sophia Whitten
- **Treasurer:** Nicole Grimes (Virtual)
- **Secretary:** Jaime Rose Tieu
- **CSPA Representative:** Dabo Yang
- **Parents at Large:**
 - Frank Calixto Mory
 - Gangee Sanjeevan
 - Melissa Russo Sorbera
 - Nadia Awwad
- **Guest:** Sarah H

Not in Attendance:

- Ghinwa

Land Acknowledgement & Prayer

Vice-Principal Michelle Wallace led the council in prayer and a land acknowledgment.

Finance

Opening a New Bank Account:

With the formation of the new council, a dedicated bank account is needed to manage funds. Melinda, our Office Administrator, will securely hold the funds until the account is established.

Creating the Constitution:

Juman will collaborate with Melissa and potentially a legal expert to review the constitution, closely examining CESPAs rules and regulations for potential amendments.

Trustee Presentation:

Scheduled for October 29 at 7:00 AM, focusing on the introduction of St. Gianna.

Next Steps:

Juman and Melissa will review the constitution draft, which will be shared with voting members one week prior to the vote, with final approval sought from CESPAs.

Engaging Parents:

To create a welcoming atmosphere, Melissa proposed making the council more approachable. Juman suggested hosting a Parent Night, which would include a brief meeting followed by an informal mingling session. We may need sponsors for this event and could consider offering childcare.

Hot Lunch Program**Pizza Day Launch:**

The highly anticipated Pizza Day program kicks off on October 17, 2024.

Lunchbox Program Update:

Nicole and Sophia met with representatives from the Lunchbox program to discuss key points:

- Orders can now be placed through the School Cash Online system.
- Options for weekly, monthly, or yearly meal plans will be available, with flexible payment choices.
- Donations are welcomed to support students unable to purchase lunches.
- A \$150 credit will assist these students.
- The council will select menu items from various vendors, including Subway, Lunch Lady, and Booster Juice.

Financial Overview:

Nicole shared estimated participation rates for the hot lunch program:

- **Lunch Lady/Subway:** Projected participation rate of 25%, expected to generate approximately \$9,400.
- **Booster Juice:** Anticipated participation is around 40; awaiting proposed pricing.
- All meal pricing is HST exempt, categorized as school food.

Lunch Schedule:

- **Tuesday:** Lunch Lady

- **Wednesday:** Subway
- **Friday:** Booster Juice (pending a quote)

A vote resulted in unanimous approval to proceed with Lunch Lady on Tuesdays and Subway on Wednesdays, starting in November and continuing until the end of the school year.

Admin Report

Principal Updates:

- The school board will provide St. Gianna with an OWL device to enhance virtual participation during council meetings.
- St. Gianna's new mascot will be the Eagle, with colors chosen as magenta, black, and white magenta being a tribute to St. Gianna's birthplace.
- Students will be invited to submit designs for an eagle head logo, potentially for t-shirt designs.
- Due to budget constraints, sports offerings are limited; students may participate in two sports plus track and field.

Safety Concerns:

Melissa raised concerns about student safety at the front of the school. Juman will liaise with builders regarding debris and propose safety measures for pick-up times.

Traffic Issues:

During the Terry Fox run, Steve Deroche visited the school and discussed ongoing traffic surveys with Michelle McGarry. They emphasized establishing a four-way stop at Atrium Ridge and Brian Good Ave. to improve safety. It was noted that the city council does not oversee crossing guard arrangements, and this issue will be revisited in May.

Action Items

- **Trustees Presentation:** Scheduled for October 29, featuring student participation. A link will be shared on the OCSB website.
- **Robotics Club Proposal:** A proposal will be drafted for a potential robotics club to operate during lunch or after school. Additional program suggestions are welcome.
- **Fundraising Ideas:** Discussed potential initiatives, including a family picnic and a dance-a-thon.
- **Parent Communication:** Michelle McGarry will update parents on donation options and lunch program details.
- **Social media:** Explore the creation of a social media role for students to engage with the school's Twitter account in support of the principal.
- **Next Meeting:** Confirmed for November 16, 2024

- **Constitution Review:** Juman and Melissa will conduct a thorough review of the constitution and present any changes at the next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at: 9:10 PM

Minutes Prepared by: Jaime Rose Tieu

Date: October 18, 2024