

**Vincent J Maloney Catholic Junior High School
School Council AGM & September Meeting Minutes**

September 29, 2015 at 6:30pm

VJM Library

In attendance: Greg Lamer, Lorne Pedersen, Linda Boyd, Heather Dayman, Lorraine Tamburrino, Angie Christman, Steve Johnston, Michelle Bonnici, Tara Hergott, Megan Bates, Tracy Kociuba

A. Annual General Meeting - 6:30pm

1. Welcome - Linda Boyd
2. Prayer - Greg Lamer
3. Introductions - round table
4. School Council Annual Report from previous year - overview by Linda and Greg
5. School Council Binder in school office - the group was reminded that this binder contains instruction and examples for all council positions.
6. School Council Elections -
Those in attendance were invited to review the descriptions of positions as provided. Greg reviewed the bylaws pertaining to the election. Elections were held and results were as follows:
 - Chair - Linda Boyd
 - Vice Chair - Michelle Bonnici
 - Secretary - Tara Hergott
7. Adjournment - 6:45pm

B. Regular School Council Meeting - 6:45pm

1. Adoption of Agenda
2. Prayer - completed in the AGM
3. Approval of Agenda - motion by Tara, second by Heather
4. Approval of June Minutes - minor change to item 5: Sheri motioned
5. Volunteers for Other Positions on Council
 - Communications Coordinator (VJM Good News Story) - Megan Bates
 - Compassionate Friends Coordinator - Angie Christman
 - Grant Research Coordinator - vacant (this has been vacant for a few years as there has been little opportunity for grants)
 - Partners in Prayer - Lorraine Tamborrino
 - Staff Appreciation Coordinator - Linda Boyd
 - Volunteer Coordinator - vacant. This is an email coordinator for gathering volunteers when needed. It is a small commitment as volunteers are needed infrequently.
6. Trustee Report - none
7. Administration Report
 - a. School Update - Greg and Lorne
 - Please see attached.

- Class size is currently 25-26 students for grade 7 and 8 classes, 29-30 for grade 9 classes.
 - Staff is excited about google classroom and it will be a focus of professional development this year.
 - It was estimated 300 students are currently bringing devices to school. In addition, the school has 100 devices available outside of the computer labs. The district has a very strong infrastructure to support the number of devices being used in the school. There is a wifi router in each classroom as well as in larger areas like the library.
- b. Roles and Responsibilities of School Council - reviewed as provided.
- c. Feedback on 2016-17 Draft Calendar
- An initial draft was shared for feedback. First day of classes is proposed for September 1, last day of classes as June 28. The date of the last diploma exam strongly dictates the date of the last day of school. The current model of full PD Staff Meeting day has yielded good results but the calendar looks different than other districts that do not follow this model.

Events within the school:

- It was a smooth start to the school year and the patience from grade 7 students and families was appreciated during the changes to the classes with the new teacher.
- Teachers lost the tug of war to the students.
- Thank you to Linda for coordinating the successful back to school BBQ. About 150 took part and it will be considered again for next year.
- Feedback was requested and received about holding Awards Night in June vs. September. This will be considered.
- Grade 9 retreats were completed at St Albert Parish. Students were exposed to the many ministries in the church they can be involved with. The second part of this is a half day spent at the food bank in the Spring.
- Power school will open on October 1. There will be an upgrade mid-year and parents will have to set up their own accounts.
- Grade 8 Gallop Student Poll last week of October.
- Thanksgiving celebration is October 8 at 9:30am in the gym. The Remembrance Day ceremony will take place in the gym, the Advent ceremony at the parish.
- Interim reports will be sent out November 20. Parents will be invited to view Power School on October 16 to serve as the first interim report. Interviews in October will be the arena format. November interviews will pilot the booking system.

8. Council Update

- a. Vote on motion to update School Council Bylaws (if motion made last May) - no request for updates
- b. Sign new School Council Bylaws (if required) - not required

c. Committee Volunteers -

- Partners in Prayer (Lorraine) - Parents meet the last Friday of the month to collect prayer requests from the students and pray for the students, teachers, school and community. Anyone is welcome to join and the first date is October 30.
- Compassionate Friends (Angie) - Last year parents were invited to contribute breakfast items each week that were then distributed by the Mrs. Hobbs who invited kids to take what they need. We assisted one family last year in their time of need. Breakfast items will be requested again for the year.
- Staff Appreciation (Linda) - themes to yet be decided.

d. Confirmation of the following dates for School Council - September 29, November 3, January 5, February 2, March 1, April 5, May 3, June 7.
A meeting was added December 1.

9. Next Meeting - November 3 at 6:30pm

10. Adjournment - 7:40pm