

Vincent J. Maloney Catholic Junior High School
November Meeting Minutes
Library, 6:30pm
November 15, 2016

In attendance:

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| • Greg Lamer | • Nicanor Ong |
| • Lorne Pederson | • Michelle Bonnici |
| • Joe Becigneul | • Heather Dayman |
| • Laura Reader | • Linda Boyd |
| • Sheri Tchir | • Teo Zanetic |
| • Karen Abella | • Tara Hergot |

1. Adoption of Agenda - Heather Dayman, Sheri Tchir
2. Prayer - Greg Lamer
3. Truth and Reconciliation Statement - read by Linda Boyd
GSACRD acknowledges that we are meeting on the original lands of the Cree, those of Treaty 6, and on the Homeland of the Metis Nation. We acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.
4. Approval of Agenda - Michelle Bonnici
5. Approval of September Minutes - Sheri Tchir
6. Trustee Report - Mr. Joe Becigneul
 - All were invited all to attend Trustee meetings or bring items to him to bring forward at meetings.
 - The consultation on Sister Alphonse Academy and the open houses were well attended. The Academy is scheduled to open in 2018.
 - Morinville was awarded a school.
 - He will be attending two upcoming conferences – Alberta Catholic School Association and Alberta School Boards Association.
7. Administration Report
 - School Update - written update was provided
 - The school calendar, modified from the last meeting due to an error in the date of Easter, was reviewed. The question about a fall break was asked - historically there has not been one in St Albert.

- Safe Arrival System - this newly implemented system is more efficient. VJM is one of 3 schools piloting this system. Feedback was requested and received as positive with a few suggestions for improvements.
 - PT Interviews Booking System - Moved to 2 consecutive nights based on last years feedback. It was agreed that one slot of 8 minutes was adequate, even if the child has the teacher for more than one subject. More parents are coming and seeing teachers with new booking system.
 - Do parents need a hard copy of the report card mid term?
A discussion followed and it was agreed that an email inviting parents to look at power school to see student marks was adequate. There was no opposition to trial this next semester with email and phone out notification versus a printed interim report. A report card will always be printed for final marks.
 - Can a student change a parent booked Excel session? Lorne requested feedback to determine if this is the case.
- School Education Plan - provided. School council needs to review this plan and align its plan with this.
 - School Modernization Plans - 8.3 million
The plan was reviewed with the following highlights:
 - Infrastructure improvements (i.e. all mechanical will be replaced/upgraded) are the bulk of renovation costs. Money can only be spent on the core of the school, and no money on anything that was added in the 2006-7 improvements.
 - One of the goals is to create flexible spaces, including a learning commons area. A concern about noise in these open areas was voiced. Quiet spaces will still be available for students.
 - CTF areas will be redone (Foods/Fashion and Industrial Arts), along with the gymnasium and the music room.
 - A special needs washroom will be added to the RISE program room.
 - Feedback was invited on suggested color schemes.
 - Gender neutral washrooms were planned to offer urinals instead of toilets in a few stalls. The overall opinion was that this was not preferred and all stalls should have toilets.
 - Concern was voiced about the glass walls to be used in flexible spaces (as in SACHS). These have been recommended based on engineering of this school and experience in other schools. No safety concerns have been brought to attention to date. The benefit of better sightlines for supervision and ability to open up the space for more versatility were shared.
 - Timeline – 16-17 months estimated. Solar panels may be an option through a government program so that may affect the timeline.

Construction will be ongoing during the school year.

8. Council Update

a. Chairperson Report

- Council Three Year Education Plan - Attendees were invited to review this with the School Education Plan to determine how Council can best be involved. To be revisited at the next meeting.

b. Committee Reports

- Partners in Prayer - last Thursday in November (as Friday is a holiday)
- Compassionate friends – no report
- Volunteer Coordinator – Teo Zanetic
He will share names gathered to date with coordinators. Emails specific to events have historically been sent when help is needed (i.e. staff appreciation luncheon).
- Good News - no one has volunteered yet. This is a parent perspective about what's going on in the school. Typically the writer can read the Principal's blog and summarize.
- Staff Appreciation - no report, upcoming in January and June.

9. Next Meeting - December 6 at 6:30pm in the library.

10. Meeting Adjournment