

Monsignor McCoy School Council Meeting
March 9, 2011 @ 7:00 p.m.
School Library

In Attendance: Danita Marshall, Lisa Faller, Helen Brown, Paula Lacher, Clyde Pudwell, Erika Bodnaruk, Cheyanne Olsen, Raelee Barth, Janice Eckert, Carol Drew, Peter Grad, Glen Barth

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

1. Opening Prayer - Led by Clyde Pudwell

2. Approval of the Agenda/Additions - Paula Lacher approved the agenda and Helen Brown seconded.

3. Approval of January minutes - Carol Drew approved the minutes and Paula Lacher seconded.

4. "Tell Them From Me" Project - report by Erika Bodnaruk: This survey from Alberta Education gives Gr. 7-12 students an opportunity to voice their opinions about what is working well and where improvements can be made in their school. In this, year two of a three-year pilot project, 276 schools are participating. Survey results are compared to national norms. About half of our students completed the survey last semester and the remainder will participate this semester. The survey takes about 25 minutes to complete (may be condensed in the future). Data gathered will help administrators with planning and meeting the needs of the students.

5. Greetings from the Board Chairman - Mr. Grad was in attendance, and shared some information regarding the budget that will be approved in May. Another Town Mall meeting is being planned; watch for the date. There is hope that the School District will be able to retain our Youth Coordinator, Lance Rosen; the local churches are planning to discontinue their funding for a portion of this position. The Board is pleased with academics at McCoy School and Mr. Grad expressed his pride in the whole School District.

6. Administration Report - by Clyde Pudwell

1. Friends of McCoy Society: None of the current members have students attending school any longer and they are looking to depart. They are offering School Council the opportunity to take over Friends of McCoy as our fundraising body. Now that bingo and casino fundraising has been discontinued, the society's only ongoing fundraising project is the school's Sponsorship Board. After some discussion it was decided to postpone a decision until fall when the new executive is in place.
2. New Cell Phone Policy:
 - Students are allowed to use electronic communication devices during non-instructional times throughout the day, e.g. spares and lunch break.
 - During instructional times (class time) students are to leave their electronic communication devices in their locker or turn them in to the teacher when entering the classroom. Any students found in possession of or using an electronic communication device during class time are considered in violation of this policy.
 - First violation of the policy will result in a one day in school suspension. Any further violations will result in an increase in suspension time and a parent/student/administration meeting.
3. Registration for Next School Year: Grade 9 students currently attending St. Mary's and Notre Dame registered Feb. 9-10. Registration for Grade 10 & 11 students currently attending McCoy is scheduled for March 21 – 25.

4. Nutrition Admin Procedure: School Council was asked once again for feedback. Members are concerned about how the new policy will affect fundraising projects that involve food sales. Any further feedback can be given to Clyde to forward to the Deputy Superintendent.
5. January Diploma Results: Staff are very pleased with the results.
 - 6 out of 9 exams we were above provincial average in the area of Acceptable Standard (students that scored 50% or higher)
 - 4 out of 9 exams we were above provincial average in the area of Excellence (students that scored 80% or higher)
 - 6 out of 9 exams we were above provincial average on overall test mark
6. Student Teachers: Several teachers from the U of L are presently doing placements at McCoy.
7. Upcoming changes to McCoy School: There will be an expansion done in the fitness room. The Cosmetology lab will be getting an increase in working stations, from 16 to 24. In Shop there will be a mechanics class as one class and a woodworking class as the second. (Welding will also be kept). A new Sports Medicine and the existing Videography classes will be offered, with a good possibility that it will work with the College on the dual crediting system.
8. March/April Calendar - Upcoming Events:
 - Mar 16-17 Progress Reports sent home
 - Mar 17 - St. Patrick's Day (wear green) Shamrock Shakes - \$3.00
 - Mar 18 - PD day - no school for students
 - Mar 30-31 - Parent Teacher Interviews
 - April 1 - Hat Day/ Mission Impossible Day
 - April 4-7 Spirit Week
 - April 8 - PD Day - No school for students
 - April 20 - Easter colours dress up day
 - April 21 - Holy Thursday/Report cards sent home
 - April 22 - May 1 - Easter Holidays
 - May 6 - Easter Mass (8:45 a.m.)

7. Student Rep Report - by Cheyanne Olsen and Raelee Barth.

- A formal dance was held, but unfortunately it netted a loss
- Shrove Tuesday - pancakes were cooked by students & staff
- Crush pop for Valentine's Day/Match -A-Pal: profits will go to Chalice Child charity
- St. Patrick's Day - wear green/green milkshakes will be sold
- Spirit week - TBA
- Possibility of an outdoor dance is being explored

8. Teacher Rep's Report – by Carol Drew: The teachers were sceptical of the new cell phone policy but are very impressed with the response they are getting from the students.

9. Parent Association Report - by Janice Eckert - Last Parent Association Meeting was Jan 24/11:

- Tripartite talks (between ATA, ASBA, & Alberta Gov't) were ongoing at that time, but have been discontinued since an agreement would not be reached in time for the next provincial budget. The government intends to honor the teachers' contract with the scheduled pay increase.

- Wi-fi in Schools: The Board received a report on the safety levels of radiation in our schools at the January Board meeting, and made a decision to continue to move forward with installing wi-fi in district schools.
- Centennial Celebration planning continues. The theme will be "Come on Home". There will be celebrations throughout the year, but the main events are scheduled for the weekend of June 8-10, 2012. This weekend will include a golf tournament, Bishop's Dinner, and a community Mass. The budget for the Centennial Celebration is \$20 000.
- Class size initiative: recommended average for high school is maximum 27 students. MHCBE average class sizes are smaller.
- Budget assumptions for next school year (passed by Board at Jan. meeting) included: (1) preparing for a scenario where teachers' wage increase (4.3%) may not be covered by the government; (2) cost of School Resource Officer is increasing by \$8000; (3) Youth Ministry position was expected to cost \$20 000; (4) Superintendent received direction to consider increasing central office staff; (5) Transportation costs increase of 3%.

10. Treasurer's Report - by Helen Brown - Opening and closing balance is \$1380.37. No transactions have been made since last meeting.

11. Chair's Report - by Janice Eckert

- Please consider attending the next Town Hall meeting.
- Alberta School Council's Conference will be held April 15 – 17 in Edmonton. If any members wish to attend, their expenses will be partially paid for by School Council. Danita expressed some interest in attending. Motion made by Helen Brown to cover expenses of up to \$400 to send someone to this conference; Lisa Faller seconded the motion; carried.

12. Old Business :

12.1 - Date for Teacher Appreciation Event - the date will be decided at May meeting.

13. Next Meeting - date TBA in May

14. Adjournment @ 8:55 p.m.

