

CSCC Meeting

November 29, 2023

Attending

Luanne Wiens	Tanya Clarke
Patty Fenske	Shelan Fournier
Randy Strawson	Stephanie Penner
Andrea Willenborg	Tim Gelinski

1. **Opening Prayer** – Randy Strawson

2. **Minutes from Last Meeting – October 18, 2023**

Motion to Accept amended minutes: Tanya Clarke

Second: Shelan Fournier

3. **Old Business:**

a. **CSCC vacant positions** – Secretary, Vice Chair

Talk to Luanne if one of these roles interests you.

4. **Speech Competition & Hub City Optimist Club**

Randy Strawson gave an update after he and Kim Duggan attended a Hub City meeting. The Club supports lots of organizations; we are thankful that St. Volodymyr is on their “list”. Chrissy B. (before & after school employee) will be stepping into the Chair position next year. The Club will be coming to speak to the school staff in December to discuss supports for our speech competition in school and beyond. At the school level they will provide the theme that the speeches will be based on and they may provide judges for the school competition.

In future years, if more supports are needed in regards to our speech competition it was mentioned that 4H has expertise in this area.

5. **New Business:**

a. **Tim Gelinski – School Board Trustee.**

Tim joined our meeting and highlighted three points:

- If there ever is a concern a trustee is there to offer support. Follow the right process by talking first with school admin and then a trustee (if needed). As a trustee, they want to be our school’s advocate.
- GSCS is an incredible school division. It is small enough to know each other but large enough to have access to supports.
- A trustee’s role is governance, but more importantly their role is to strengthen and protect Catholic education.

6. **Principal’s Report – Randy Strawson**

i. **Thank you to Randy and Kim** for stepping into the administrative positions while Cristin took an education leave.

Thanks also to the parents who are helping with the school nutrition program.

ii.GSCS CSCC & Trustee meeting on Gender Identity & Sexual Diversity

We had 3 participants from our CSCC and Cristin Dorgan Lee attend this meeting. At the meeting there was the presentation of 5 Goals that the school board has created as guiding principles in relation to sexual diversity and gender identity.

Goal 1: Strengthen our understanding and support of students who identify or who have family members who identify as gender and/or sexually diverse.

Goal 2: Foster meaningful connections with students, staff, families, and the wider community to support our growth as inclusive, safe and caring catholic communities.

Goal 3: Support school leadership by developing and enhancing administrative procedures related to human sexuality and family life, and equity and inclusion.

Goal 4: Develop a positive and comprehensive communication plan to support schools throughout the year.

Goal 5: Develop age-appropriate prayer and faith resources for both elementary and high schools to emphasize love and respect for all persons.

iii.Nutrition Program

We fed over 70 snacks and over 70 lunches in November to date.

Accessible finances for this program are from the division (\$1500) and \$550 from The Friends of St. V. These funds have not been needed at this point but they are budgeted for in the Friends of St. V. budget.

iv.Winter Clothes:

Our school counsellor contacted Dignity Fund from Kids Help Fund and was able to receive \$1000 to purchase winter clothing for students in need.

We are also receiving a shipment of coats from the Knights of Columbus. At this point it seems like immediate clothing needs have been cared for.

Action Step:

In fall 2024 we will plan to have a winter clothing swap during 3-way conferences.

Leading up to the conferences we will invite families to donate winter outer wear to the school. Families will be able to take as needed.

v.CSCC Movie Night Dec. 7

We are thankful for a very involved SRC. Seven students have volunteered to help as welcomers and to help in the canteen.

vi.Grade 7 & 8 national survey by Health Canada.

Our school was selected to have the survey done by our grade 7 & 8 students. There were issues with parents opting out and we have decided to do an active participation response from parents. Parents have to say yes to have their child participate.

vii.Enrollment

Grade 1-8 we are at 287. 289 is the number when a new teacher/classroom potentially can be added.

We are at 26 kindergarten students where the division typically splits classrooms.

However, due to lack of funds the division is not splitting the kindergarten classroom. The division is hoping for mid-year funding from the government with enrollments growing for the division.

viii. Student Retreat

The student faith retreat day will be Wednesday, December 20. The day will be led by Face 2 Face Ministries. The theme is Made for More.

7. Additional New Business

i. Christmas Concert

There was discussion about the Concert and why it is K-3 when in other years older grades have participated. Randy stated that the grades participating have varied due to classroom arrangements (ie. split classes) and numbers of classes to keep the program to an appropriate length of time.

ii. School Pictures

There was discussion about why there was a change in photographers this year (from LifeTouch to edge imaging). There was a general consensus that LifeTouch had better poses and packages. It was explained that the division has moved to a general contract for all schools rather than individual schools arranging their own photo companies.

iii. Book Fair

There was discussion about Scholastic Book Fairs and curiosity about why we have not had them in a few years. The book fair was most commonly run by the Teacher-Librarian. With the reduction and elimination of this position there has not been the book fair. The book fair can be run by parents but it needs a couple parents to take that lead.

Action Step:

Keep this topic on the table. If there are parents willing to spearhead this we should look to book the dates of the November 2024 3-way conferences, as that is a good time for parents to shop for Christmas gifts.

iv. Primary Playground Area

There was discussion about the lack of seating by the primary playground. Currently there is only one bench.

The sport court could also use some beautification. It would be nice to see some colorful painted activities for kids to use. Holy Family School has done a very nice job and could be used as a guide.

Lots of questions...How much does a bench cost? Who has to be involved in the bench process – city, school division, etc.? Would there be division painters that could paint our sport court?

Action Step:

Keep this item on the table. Early 2024 we will begin to look into the answers to these questions with a goal of updating/beautifying the park to happen in Spring 2024.

Would there be someone that wants to take the lead on this from the CSCC/Friends side of things?

8. Adjournment of CSCC Meeting.

1. Financial Report by Tanya Clarke

Current financial position is \$5334.07

Tanya presented the financial activity in our account. The most current activity being that of the gift card fundraiser. The revenue was \$28,280 and the cost of sales was \$27002.80 leaving a profit of \$1177.20. From this we purchased 10 \$25 cards to Independent for our Christmas Hampers. We also purchased \$100 to Indigo as prizes for the gift card fundraiser.

2. New Business

a. Movie Night

The family movie night will be Thursday, December 7. Doors will open at 6:30 and the movie will start at 7pm. We are thankful for a number of grade 8 students from the SRC that are willing to welcome families and work in the canteen. There is no admission charge but we are asking for Christmas hamper donations. Each class has been given an item to contribute so we are encouraging families to bring those items as their "admission".

b. Food Hampers/Winter Clothes/Family Needs

At this point the families that did have clothing needs have been provided. See the above CSCC minutes for greater details on this agenda item.

Motion: "That the \$550 from the budget that is allocated for the nutrition program can be accessed as needed."

Motion: Stephanie Penner

Second: Patty Fenske

c. Staff Christmas Thank You

We want to show our staff that they are very appreciated. We will bring Christmas baking to the staff room on Monday, December 18. Baking can be dropped off at the school that morning or at Luanne's place the night before. The following individuals have offered to provide baking; Shelan, Patty, Steph, Luanne, Andrea and Tanya. We will also purchase egg nog to go with the baking.

Additional Items...

a. Financial Gift from Operation Christmas YXE

Shelan and friends put on an annual fundraiser and then support various schools and organizations. This year they are putting some funds towards St. Volodymyr School. The amount is not firm at this point.

Action Step: Randy and Cristin will work at creating a "wish list" to be discussed before Christmas with Operation Christmas YXE.

3. Motion to Adjourn Meeting

Motion: Shelan Fournier

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 24 @ 6:30pm in the library