

Updated

Present: Susan Drever, Anita Fegan, Annette Fegan, Monica Hurley, Kelly Nelson, Lina Mason, Sheeran Rush-Jeanes, Dawn Drakes, Tanya Carrington,

Special Guest: Maureen Day and Granville Anderson

Regrets: Eric Fegan, Valerie McCormick, Jackie Freeman

1. **Call to Order 7:05 pm**

Opening prayer: Susan Drever

Approval of Agenda: Anita Fegan and 2nd by Monica Hurley

Approval of Minutes: Dawn Drakes and 2nd by Anita Fegan

2. **Reports**

Student Council Report: Kelly Nelson

- Coffee House – SOS, Adopt a Village – half way to achieving goal
- April activities: dress down and spirit days, dance, dodge ball tournament, multicultural day
- Dodge Ball – Grades 11 and 12 - \$10 each player and money will go to Adopt a Village
- Multicultural Day – Foods from different countries and kids pay and try the foods from different places.

Trustees Report:
Granville Anderson

- Balance budgets – programs not cut
- Hope to add more in technology
- EQAO scores up and hope to keep them up
- Granville thanked all the council for volunteering

Maureen Day:

- 15 years on council
- Support Policy Development – Council participation – Policies on Board's website – a few of them "lock down" and "dress code"
- Communications – review audit – basic plan started by end of year – top six priorities been approved with one exception
- Parent Involvement Grant

- Characteristics of a Principal
- Challenges re budget cut
- Stewards Committee – addressing future of Catholic Education – defend Catholic Education
- Kindergarten all day
- Equity and inclusive education
- New Leaf Program
- CD – Stewards of the Gifts – Institute for Catholic Education – left with the school. Very interested CD showing the start of Catholic Education and is available for anyone who would like to borrow it.
- Cuts – bussing and wage freeze

Staff Report: Monica Hurley

- Communications – Six of Mr. McDaniel's Communications Technology students will compete in Skills Canada - Ontario Qualifying round on Saturday, April 17 at Georgian College. Bill Owens, Anne Cairns, Christina Beeton and Chris Simon will compete in 2D Character Animation and Will Campbell and Kaleigh Johnston will compete in TV/Video Production. If the students place top 3 then they will compete in the Ontario finals in Waterloo.
- Grade 12 Communication students are working on creating a TV broadcast called “The Roar” to be shown on the big screen in the main foyer and on you tube.
- White Pine Program – 41 active participants – 19 students have read 5 or more books which make them eligible to vote. 17 have signed up to attend the White Pine Awards Ceremony at Harbourfront Toronto on May 12. John Boyne the author of “The Boy in Striped Pajamas will be the feature story teller at this event.
- Art Department – The Visual Arts Teacher has nominated one high achieving student as one of the Clarington's Faces of the Future. Watch the local paper to see who has achieved this honour.
- Students from the Visual Arts Program will again be going to Ontario College of Art and Design on May 7. This annual trip exposes students to aspire to post secondary options in the visual arts field.
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- Production of Annie – May 5, 6 and 7, 2010 – the first time St. Stephen's has done a musical – Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students.
- 2010 Grad Banner Theme this year is “Rejoicing in Hope”. A group of dedicated students have already begun design plans on this banner which is the centerpiece to the graduation celebration.

- The Art Club runs an Open Studio every Wednesday after school to support the artistic activities of the students who are in the art courses and everyone is welcome. It is more of a drop in than a club as students can work on their portfolios, discuss future plans with the teacher and work on both curricular and extra curricular art projects.
- Guidance has advised that Fleming College on April 20th at 1:00 p.m. will be doing a presentation to students who are locally developed/workplace preparation pathway about post secondary opportunities at Fleming. Parents are welcome to attend.
- Post Secondary Financial Aid Presentation, covering OSAP, will be held on May 28th at 9:40 to 11:05 – Parents are also welcome.
- Co-Op – Next year 60 students who have expressed an interest in a 2 credit coop and 20 who are interested in a full-day, 4 credit placement. Coop teachers are in the process of interviewing all interested students and getting them prepared to apply for the positions in our community.
- Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat Meeting in Barrie – Rob Morrison and Monica Hurley attended. The purpose of the meeting was to speak to the head of the Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat to let the ministry know how teachers perceive the programs to help with student achievement. We found that all school boards are dealing with the same issues: absenteeism, mental health concerns, lack of resources. Mary Jean Gallagher, the ministry rep, said she would speak to the Minister about our concerns with regards to student success.
- E-Learning Pilot project – **School objectives:** - To increase student achievement, focusing on key strategies that promote higher order thinking through access to materials, collaboration and assessment strategies provided within the LMS. Reducing student achievement gaps will be achieved through continued collaboration, peer conferencing and professional dialogues as the process creates an on-line professional learning community within the LMS.
- **Board Objectives:** To ensure that students have a positive and safe learning experience when using a digital environment through the application of our Catholic Virtues and to improve the overall level of students' literacy skills and to provide access and promote the success to all of our students' learning needs through technology.
- **Curricular Focus:** To support student achievement of the English expectations which include targeting higher level skills required to attain those expectations. Critical literacy extends beyond print literacy into the realm of media and on-line content in all forms. This pilot will assess and emphasize students' development of higher level thinking skills, including critical literacy skills, to enable students not only to understand, appreciate and evaluate what they read and respond at a deeper level, but also to help them become reflective, critical, and independent learners.
- **Religion:** The cross displayed in the foyer is a joint project of Mr. Sawa's grade 11 world religion class and Mr. Oliver's welding class. The cross is about a journey into the wild, a journey into our selves.

- **Chaplaincy** - Lenten Project: Alternative Income (pigs, goats, sewing machines) Thinkfast, Vow of Silence, May 7 is Grad Retreat, May 13 is Students Helping Senior Day

Principal's Report: Sheeran Rush-Jeanes

- Accessibility Checklist – Head Custodian and Principal went through the checklist and forwarded results to the Board
- March Break Trip to Italy – 20 students
- Community Threat Assessment – Safe Schools – Training for team members
- March 30, 2010 was the Opening and Blessing of Addition to St. Stephens.
- Graduation meeting was April 8, 2010 – overview to students, ballot for Valedictorian, info re graduation retreat, grad awards committee
- McCarthy's mobile – April 12, 2010 – replace defective pants, buy uniforms etc.
- Grade 10 Literacy Testing – April 8, 2010
- Presentation of Internet Safety for Parents held on April 8, 2010 presented by Detective Norton
- April 16, 2010 will be hosting Clarington Children's Services Meeting – for all elementary and secondary schools in Clarington – overview of all agencies in community and what support they give
- Earth Week – April 21, 2010 – CAW speaker for Grade 11
- April 23, 2010 – Student Trustee Speeches – 2 candidates from St. Stephens
- April 27, 2010 – Part of Pilot – Assessment for Learning – Dr. Ann Davids
- April 20, 2010 – Midterm marks due – Reports go out on April 26, 2010
- Newsletter – articles need by April 19, 2010
- Upcoming events: Social Evening for chairs – May 19, 2010; Parents Aware – April 27, at St. Peter's in Peterborough; Parenting your Anxious Child & Teen – May 26, 2010 and School Advocacy – May 16, 2010 at Cobourg Public Library.
- Safe Schools – Bill 157 – to be dealt with at May's meeting.

Chair Person's Report: Susan Drever

- Susie forwarded letter to the Board with respect to Preferred Characteristics of a Principal.
- Received letter with respect to Graduation Award – Will discuss the amount at May meeting.

- Pete's Men Wear in Bowmanville will give the school 5% back if graduation attire is bought from their store – Susie pass along info to Student Council.
- Received invitation to participate in a newly formed Student Achievement Committee. Any parent wishes to be on the Committee, please fax application to Linda Barnett no later than April 22, 2010 (Fax: 705-748-9884)
- Newsletter – People for Education – left with Parent's info at school for any parent wishes to read it.
- Received fundraising brochures
- Internet Presentation – April 8, 2010 – Poor attendance only 10 people showed up. Received grant from Ministry \$500 for presentation – Durham Police did not charge for presentation – Susie suggested a donation to Durham Police for one of their organizations – Deferred to May meeting.
- Another presentation will be given at Durham College on internet safety on April 28, 2010 – Please call the Durham Police Department to reserve your seat – limited space available
- Jackie and Dawn provided Susie and Sheeran with info on Anti Bullying Program – School already had presentation this year on bullying - Sheeran will keep information for another time.
- Plays to be held at Good Sheppard – Big Bad Musical on April 21 and 22, 2010 and Holy Trinity - Back to the 80's – The Totally Awesome Musical on April 29, May 1, 6 and 7, 2010
- Highlights of Council to be sent to Board by April 20, 2010.
- OAPCE Conference – May 15, 2010 in Niagara Falls.

Treasurer's Report: Anita Fegan

- Approximately \$494.25 in account – update at May meeting

CPF Report: Susan Drever

- Nothing new to report

Parish Rep Report: Tanya Carrington

- Respect for Life - sale of Belgian Chocolate Easter Eggs was \$765.00.
- Clergy Appreciation Dinner – May 1, 2010 – tickets \$25.00
- Spring Concert – May 16, 2010 at 2:00 p.m.
- Stand for Life – May 13, 2010 – Bus to Ottawa costs of \$30.00
- Spring Mission – May 2-4, 2010 in the evening – Topic: "God as Divine Gardener" given by Brother Mickey O'Neill McGrath. Please call office to reserve your spot.

New Business:

- Nothing to Report.

Discussions for Next Meeting:

- Safe Schools – Bill 157 – to be dealt with at May's meeting.
- Received letter with respect to Graduation Award – Will discuss the amount at May's meeting.
- Treasurer's Report – Confirmation of what is in each account.
- Susie suggested a donation to Durham Police for one of their organizations – Deferred to May's meeting.

Adjourned: Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting: May 11, 2010

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