

**Present:** Susan Drever, Dawn Drakes, JoAnn MacKenzie, Jackie Freeman, Mark Joly, Erin Harris, Shannon Everest and Heather Robinson. Trustees: Granville Anderson and Peggy O'Toole

**Regrets:** Lina Mason, Student Council

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

Opening Prayer : Mark Joly "For Seeing Young People as Individuals"  
Welcome Trustees: Granville Anderson and Peggy O'Toole  
Approval of the Agenda: JoAnn MacKenzie 1<sup>st</sup> Heather Robinson 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Approval of Minutes: Jackie Freeman 1<sup>st</sup> and JoAnn MacKenzie 2<sup>nd</sup>

## REPORTS

**Guess Speaker** – Trustees: Granville Anderson and Peggy O'Toole

- Trustees thanked us for invitation to attend meeting.
- New Director starts May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011
- Board is advertising now for new Superintendant of Schools
- Both Boards facing declining enrolment. Our board down 500 students compared to KPR down 7,000 students approximately.
- Consideration is being made to amalgamate more services between the two boards.
- Traffic studies are presently being completed to consider reducing speed to 40 km in school zones along busy streets for example: Longworth by St. Elizabeth School
- St. Stephen and BHS are the only French Immersion Secondary Schools in Clarington.
- Possibility that students from McGillvery may come to St. Stephen in future as they have 80% French Immersion.
- Trustees advised they are not currently being notified of our school plays.

**Student Council Report:** Erin Harris on behalf of Council.

- Girls Night In Thursday April 14<sup>th</sup>, many activities, no charge as using Speak Up grant
- Earth Week Next week. Many activities planned including: Monday: Lights Out hour, Tuesday: Green Shirt Day, Wednesday: Litterless Lunch and Thursday: Garbage Hunt.
- Water Bottle Free Campaign: Students who committed to discontinue using water bottles were given a reusable water bottle courtesy of a Speak Up grant received by the school. This was very successful and well received by the students.
- St Stephen has 2 teams going to the Enviromentalthon.
- Dodge Ball tournament is being organized again this year.

**Staff Report:** Erin Harris

- Miss Spoelstra advised that the full practice Literacy Test ran well and we were complimented on success by representatives.
- Author , Richard Scarsbrook, came into the school today and offered students a workshop on creative writing. These students were part of the Grade 12 Writer's Craft course.

- Read-A-Thon raised \$900 for Good Samaritan Fund.
- Mrs. Clarke one of the Librarians is running a Poetry Café on May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011 in the Library.
- Students and Mr. McDaniel are in the process of creating and implementing a Broadcast TV Show to be shown in the school foyer called “From The Lion’s Den” They are hoping to produce 2 shows per week with help from the grade 10 students in Comm. Tech classes.
- Skills Canada: 6 students are going to compete in the 2D animation contest hosted in Barrie on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011.
- Play: Drama Department is putting on a play entitled “Schoolhouse” which will run May 5,6 & 12,13 at 7:30 pm \$6 for students, \$10 for adults.
- Music Department is hosting a show on May 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

**Principal’s Report:** Mark Joly

- Literacy Test: Confirmed that practice testing was very successful.
- A request has been made for Compact Fluorescent Lights for the Old Gymnasium due to the amount of usage the Gym receives. This would save a lot of money and reduce time to warm up each day. JoAnn advised that based on her business review there is a 2 year payback time on this type of retrofit and would be very beneficial as well because we are an Eco-School.
- Advised that our Gyms are used 7 days per week as well as most evenings.
- Confirmed our Regional Representative is Heather Robinson
- Video Conferencing: We were advised that Holy Family has the facilities to host video conferencing should meetings begin to be hosted via this method.
- Enrolment is estimated at 900 students for fall, would like to see 1,000 in an ideal situation.
- Course Selection is complete, timetable preparation will begin in about 3 weeks.
- E-Learning Courses are available for certain circumstances and in the future we will have someone in to discuss and explain who they are best suited for and what we have to offer. Currently there are 12 ELearning courses with 240 students enrolled. There are two types of courses: OERB- Librarian can explain and LMB which is more like correspondence but must be completed at school.
- May 3<sup>rd</sup>, Midterm Reports and ENewsletters will go home.
- Graduation Committee: Meetings were held April 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, Next meeting will be May 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:35 pm. Council invited to attend. Dawn and JoAnn accepted invitation.
- Graduation Date: June 29<sup>th</sup> @ 6 pm.
- Catholic Education Week starts May 1<sup>st</sup>, focus will be placed on Hospitality, Understanding, Wisdom, Justice and Gratitude. Litergy will be held on Wednesday.
- St Stephens will be donating to the Knights of Columbus for the Children’s Hospital Charity.
- Skills Specialist High Major has good enrolment for fall.
- Engage Media: We would like to attract the media to attract students to our school.
- Uniform Survey: This will be mailed next week.

**Regional Representative:** Heather Robinson

- Attended Parent Involvement Seminar and brought back Information Packages to be available in office.
- Pro Grant Deadline for next year is May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Application can be completed online.
- Discussed ELearning as covered in Principals notes above.
- Advised Ottawa District School Board has 21,000 ELearners at present, and also that their website is a wonderful tool to use for finding Parent Involvement ideas.

### **Chair Person's Report: Susan Drever**

- 50/50 Winner was Shannon Everest, she won \$36.00
- New Catholic Director of Education is Greg Reeves effective May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011, John Mackle to retire April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011.
- We received a letter to request donation for Graduation this year. Usually we give \$500 but since we do not have that much we will donate \$300 towards Graduation. Motioned: Heather Robinson, Second: Jackie Freeman. All in favour. Carried.
- Pro Grant that was originally received for Health Expo has not been used. Mark to determine if we are able to defer or use in an alternate fashion. He will advise.
- New Chairperson for the Board for Special Education Advisory Committee, elected Feb 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Camille Parent. (male)
- All day Kindergarten sites for 2012 school year that have been added are Good Shepherd and St. Francis for the Clarington Area
- Chair Appreciation Dinner is May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Council Highlights must be submitted by April 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Policy Reviews: Need feedback by April 26<sup>th</sup>. Forwarded to Heather Robinson for consideration.
- 2011 OAPCE Conference is to be held May 13/14 in Burlington. Board will sponsor up to 5 parents who wish to attend. Names must be forwarded to Linda Barnett, by April 18<sup>th</sup>. Theme is Celebrating Parent Partnerships in Catholic Education.
- 12 students chosen to represent Catholic Board in Leadership Conference in Niagara Falls . Jonathan Legere and Charlotte McGrath represented St. Stephens.
- St. Josephs Catholic Elementary School in Cobourg will be presenting on April 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. "Ronald Morrish speaking on Secrets of Effective Discipline."
- Grand Opening of Northumberland Cares for Children.
- Dawn and Susie attended a Dinner and Presentation, in Peterborough on May 6<sup>th</sup> where the focus was "School Council 101" presented by Eric Roher, a legal representative.
- Susie will be representing the High Schools for the Board at the Symposium for Catholic Education on May 15/16<sup>th</sup>.

### **Treasurer's Report: Susan Drever on behalf of Lina Mason**

- Previous balance in General Account was \$185.25
- Received \$36.00 from 50/50 draw and \$106.75 from uniforms
- Present Balance in General account is \$328.
- Motion made to give \$300 towards Graduation Award. Motion made by Heather Robinson, passed and carried by all present
- \$28 left in General Account
- \$47.96 in SC PRO Grant account to be added to donation for Graduation Reception. Motion: Susie Drever, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jackie Freeman, All in favour, Carried.
- SC Parent Involvement Account: \$500 for Health Expo

### **CPF (Canadian Parents for French) Report: Susan Drever**

- Le Club is going very well at St. Joseph's French Immersion Centre. This program is available for students in both French Immersion Programs in Grade 2 to Grade 4. Two students from St. Stephens French Immersion Program are helping out with this program.
- A camp will be offered during the summer. Details to be determined.

### **Parish Representative Report: Jackie Freeman**

- Thanks was given to school and community for support on behalf of Labanowich Family.
- Elementary Schools preparing for Sacraments
- CWL News: Convention to be held weekend of April 30<sup>th</sup> – May 1<sup>st</sup>. Starts at St. Francis, then St. Stephens and finishes at St. Joseph's Parish.
- Father Paul liked the idea of Water Bottle Campaign our school ran so much that they have also adapted this concept for the church and their supply sold out in two weeks. More on order.
- Elevator Fund: Goal will be reached once all post dated cheques are cashed by May 31<sup>st</sup>.
- March For Life: May 12<sup>th</sup> at Parliament Hill, bus departs St. Joseph's at 7 am if interested.
- Youth Group: Mondays from 7pm to 9 pm for Grade 8-12 is doing well.
- Next Week is Holy Thursday Seder Dinner and will have Guest Rabbi Jerry Steinberg in attendance.
- Father Paul has asked parishioners to attend at least one of the Stations of the Cross Journeys. April 1<sup>st</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and Good Friday after the 7 pm Mass.
- St. Francis Knights of Columbus Yard Sale is May 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Gifts for women and children are being accepted at the Convention. New articles of clothing, toiletries etc are all welcomed.

**NEW BUSINESS – Defer Pro Grant to be discussed at next meeting.**

**Adjourned:** Meeting adjourned