

## St. Theresa Parent Advisory Council Meeting Minutes January 21, 2025

### Attendees:

Holly Zacharko, Laurie Leeder, Emma Olson, Pedro Rodriguez, Pierre Ouimet, Kara Gettings, Tana Currie, Kim Pennock, Allison St. Germain, Nina Hart, Jodi Ostrosky, Mike Clair, Rosie Conrad

Meeting called to order at 6:31pm by Kara

1. Opening prayer and land acknowledgement – Pierre Ouimet
2. Approval of November 26, 2024 minutes – Holly approved, Nina seconded
3. Approval of Agenda – additions, update from BUCPS – Holly approved, Kim seconded
4. Presentation from Emma Olson, Mental Health Capacity Building Partner
  - a. Here last year, going and introducing roles and what to support. MHCB, hired through SC, partnership with Recovery Alberta and EICS and SC, preventative program to improve the mental health of students. Cover a variety of topics, go and teach a lesson in the classroom, have to be booked, Mon to Thurs every second week with St Theresa. All get the same programming, redesigned. Started understanding the brain this year, what is the neuroscience behind and what impacts that. Now moving into relationships, perspectives, tough conversations then self-awareness after and emotional regulation. Mental health literacy. At lunchtime call it grow with the flow – Emma and Wellness Worker do mindfulness activities. Connect learning to parents/caregivers at home, if see something happening with kids at home, can do additional resources and workshops, or even a club that may be helpful. Connected with family resources network as well. Three year program to build capacity, but if see a need can do a limited amount of work, still connected. Emma.olson@eics.ab.ca
5. Teacher's Report – Pedro Rodriguez
  - a. One request, jr high homeroom teachers are requesting funds for year-end field trip to West Ed - \$20/student.
6. Parent Council support for teacher requests
  - a. After last meeting discussed by email about how we want to disburse the funds for teacher requests, consensus that we should give money for the whole school. Lunch club supplies, theatre seat replacement, cabane de sucre, dance competition, yes to pathways, ukeleles already bought, triathlon treats, did add the west ed waterpark field trip, thinking \$10/student for birch bay. Targeted fundraiser for the library both the couches and the books – this will change to offset the funds for the larger field trips.
  - b. Pierre indicated school generated funds, most have a 0 balance with a place holder, but do have some active and can't carry too much of a balance, so there are some funds to spend. Ice ticket sales for performing arts for the plays is a healthy fund. Library recovery fund also - \$4100 – will take out some to buy furniture. Anything from school council will help.

7. Trustee report – Le-ann Ewaskiw – n/a
8. Principal's Report - Pierre Ouimet
  - a. Last meeting was in November, so not a lot of special activities – Advent mass, since then the first day back was Feast of Jordan celebration at St. Sophia, before break and now in report card mode. Before next meeting is the Flying Fathers, on February 13 at the Randy Rosen arena is where it will be hosted, district is organizing, St T and OLPH will partner on Feb 13 event, it's in the afternoon. Format is having 10 students from St T and 10 from OLPH to play the whole game. Whole school from each going, the next day will be Holy Redeemer and a school from Ft Sask.
  - b. Semester 1 coming to an end – leadership group that Mr. Hebert has taken on, now will be grade 7 for the second semester, more tied to George Miok program for the second semester.
  - c. Moving open house to Feb 27 which is a change. For the month of Feb will be active in promoting the school to generate more population. Next year projection is 502 students.
  - d. Assurance survey has come out yesterday, for students/parents/staff. Encouraged to fill the survey out – be honest with remarks.
  - e. Staffing changes – struggling to fill EA positions, Emmanuel Will he is a teacher in Germany but the certification process can be difficult so working as this now. Andrea Dumich still here for Mr. Davison until he returns, Ukr Bilingual – challenging staffing, in fall Ms. Kostyuk went on a leave and is gone for the rest of the year, in her absence had a retired teacher for a few weeks, brought in Mrs. Pohoreski to teach Ukr to the jr high. Trying to find a teacher to replace, Mr. Olynyk went on leave in December and likely away until March. Able to secure a Ukr speaking teacher from Ukraine – still working on certification as well, supporting the Ukr program, covering Ukr language and Ukr religion.
9. Hawk's Nest concession update
  - a. Last Friday concession was opened, grade 5 and 7s were able to go, next concession is Jan 31 will open to all grades, some hot items – skittles and twix. All items were two dollars. Will also open for the Valentines day dance.
10. BUCPS update – parent council representing the bilingual ukr students. In past years strong relationship between the two councils, promoting the unity between the two. Some of the challenges with the staffing, looking to strengthen relationship again. Promoting councils, to try to get the numbers up. Andrea Chmilar – email at BUCPS. 91 students in the program.
11. Next meeting – February 18, 2025
12. Adjournment – at 7:30pm Kara