

ARCHBISHOP JORDON CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
School Council Meeting
MINUTES
Tuesday, December 02, 2015 at 6:30pm (ABJ Library)

ATTENDEES:

9 Parents

Admin: Brett Cox, Principal; Greg Lakeman, Assistant Principal

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Tracy Lockhart opened the meeting at 6:40 pm and had all the attendees introduce themselves around the room.

2. OPENING PRAYER – Maryanne Valentini

Maryanne led all attendees in prayer to start the evening.

3. GUEST SPEAKER – School Resource Officer Constable Jaclyn Whittington

- Brett Cox introduced RCMP Constable Jaclyn to the group and welcomed her to tonight's meeting and thanked her for making herself available.
- Constable Jaclyn is one of 4 officers who are the liaisons between the Sherwood Park schools and the RCMP. She is available to all staff and students when the need arises. They do lots of presentations to each High School and Junior High School in the Elk Island Area.
- Topics for discussion tonight were on Fentanyl, Cyber Bullying (the biggest issue) and E-Cigarettes

Fentanyl

- Also known as Beans, Greenies, Fake Oxy, Green Apples and Shady Eighties – these are distributed in a pill form and are coming into Canada from China via our western border. The drug arrives in a powder form then its mixed with other drugs and pressed into a pill for sale. Its 50 to 100 times stronger than any other opioids and as little as 2ml can kill an adult.
- Fentanyl is used for pain management and is legal with a prescription.
- This drug is quite accessible in Sherwood Park and costs as little as \$20 per pill. However in the less accessible areas it goes for \$50 to \$70 a pill.
- Most deaths are seen in first time users as they have no tolerance.
- What's been done? – Community awareness is the only way to combat this drug. Speak to our kids and make them aware of what's going on.
- Naloxone has been successful to reverse the effects of overdosing with little side effects. However, the key is to recognise what an overdose is as opposed to some someone who is passed out. An overdoes person cannot be aroused
- This drug is on the rise as in 2014 this drug was responsible for 145 deaths in Alberta. Currently for the first 9 months of 2015 it is responsible for 213 deaths. Of that number 55 deaths are from the Edmonton area alone.

E-Cigarette

- These come in all kinds of flavours and colours.
- Liquid nicotine – very deadly as it takes only 1 tablespoon can kill an adult.
- No regulations/laws in place as yet, however the kids are not allowed them on school grounds.
- The Elk Island Catholic School Board is busy introducing a ban in the schools. These are being treated the same as if a child under the age of 18 years is caught with a pack of cigarettes.
- A fine of \$115 is issued if a youth is caught smoking one of these in public.
- There is not enough information on the side effects known as yet.

Cyber-Bullying

- Bill C13 of the criminal code states that it's an offense to share an image without the consent of the person in the image.
- An inappropriate image such as nude or semi-nude photographs incurs an offense punishable to a maximum of 5 years.
- The SRC are encountering instances like this from Grade 5's and upward.
- They don't have to send the image electronically, they just have to show and tell their friends and they can still be prosecuted.

4. REVIEW OF MINUTES from October 29, 2015 meeting Minutes approved by Maryanne and the motion carried

5. ADMIN / PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – Brett Cox

- Brett handed out a colourful report on Accountability Pillar Overall Summary
- Overview of the Annual Education Results Report (generated 25th September 2015) and what the survey means. The report is based on responses from Parents, Students and Staff and gives an overall feeling about the school covering various topics.
- A parent asked how the school was addressing the issue of concussions sustained during sport which is quite a serious injury. Brett replied that the school looks at each case separately and for all head trauma the students are sent to a doctor for assessment.
- Parent asked for clarification on a rumour she had heard that there will be no room for Grade 9's next year; Brett clarified that there is no plan on changing the status quo of ABJ. Currently there are 1195 students in the school and ABJ can handle 1400 comfortably if the need arises. Currently there are 3 teachers who work off teaching trolleys that are mobile and can conduct a class where there is space available to do so. The school is also looking at investing in 2 more portables to accommodate the growing student body.
- Pool access was covered again, whereby there will be double doors to segregate the school from the community access. The pool area will be used mostly by seniors for their physical classes. It's been requested that they might

have access to the gym, the dance area as well as some class rooms located on that side of the school, but this is yet to be confirmed. The pool is only set to be operational in September 2016 and will be very basic in amenities.

- Parking was another issue raised as currently there is an issue with staff parking due to the construction still taking place. Once that construction is complete there will be allocated staff and visitor parking available which should sort out this problem.
- Upcoming events: Mass will be held next week Wednesday and all are invited. Every first Tuesday of the month, staff are invited to attend mass before school, but it's not limited to the staff and is open for anyone wishing to come and worship.
- European / international trips – no decision as yet on the 3 trips planned for the New Year. At this point it has not been cancelled but the school board will make a final decision shortly.
- The drama production “The Other Cinderella” was a big hit and Mr Malone is once again to be praised for the superb job done with the kids in putting it all together. They seem to raise the bar each time.
- The security system posed a bit of an issue for those staff and students who had to bring things back to the school after the production wrapped up. Mr Cox will be looking at resetting the system so it works efficiently for all who require access late in the evenings.

6. NEW BUSINESS / Student Council Leadership Report

- Tracy apologised for no Student Council Report but gave us a quick rundown of what is happening in December.
- Spirit week will take place the last week of school for 2015 being 14 to 18 December. There will be Eggnog chugging, Tacky Sweater, the Talent Show and much more
- There is a CEPAC – Catholic Education Parent Advisory Council – meeting which is taking place Tuesday December 8th at the Central Learning Services Office in Sherwood Park. Tracy Lockhart and Abigail Vincent will be attending and able to give feedback at the next meeting.

7. NEXT MEETING DATE – February 2016 was suggested but no firm date has been set.

- An email will be sent out once a suitable date is set.

8. CLOSING PRAYER – Maryanne Valentini let us in closing prayer

9. ADJOURNMENT at 7:56 pm