

## **OLPH School Council Meeting**

**Wednesday, April 19, 2023 @ 7:03 pm – OLPH School Staff Room & Google Meet**

**In Attendance:** Krystal Gaudet, Charles Ward, Heather Bonokoski, Nicole Siegel, Monique Gagnon, Brandy Walters, Amanda Gaudet, Angela Marple

**Staff:** Alyre Morin, Mme Gartner (teacher rep)

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**CALL TO ORDER** by Charles Ward at 7:03pm

**PRAYER** read by Mme Gartner and **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS** read by Charles Ward

### **1. APPROVALS**

**1.1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – moved by Monique Gagnon, seconded by Heather Bonokoski

**1.2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** from past AGM May 17, 2022 - moved by Monique Gagnon, seconded by Heather Bonokoski

**1.3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** from last meeting March 15, 2023 - moved by Monique Gagnon, seconded by Heather Bonokoski

### **2. REPORT**

#### **2.1. ADMIN REPORT (A. Morin/ Mme. Gartner)**

- We have two student teachers that will be wrapping up their practicum this week
- Linking Generations had their “Par-tea” – thanks to Mme Gagnon for all her work. Seniors are very excited & talk about it all the time.
- Irish dancers were in March 17, the students enjoyed the performance.
- 3 way conferences went well
- Twin day (spirit day) was fun for the students
- Miss Smith visited EPK & Madonna to discuss with Grade 4’s their options programs for next year
- Grade 5 students went on their 1<sup>st</sup> field trip to Fort Heritage – it was a very educational program
- Badminton is going in full swing
- French Immersion Easter Celebration at the Church was attended by all French Immersion students from OLPH along with EPK and ABJ students, Fr. Kris and Mme deChamplain-Good (Assistant-Superintendent)
- Grade 8 French Immersion Voyage Quebec trip is May 20-26, teachers attending are Mme Gagnon, Mme Tremblay, Mme Taylor and M.

Morin. Itinerary was discussed and will be shared with attending families.

- Planning for next year's grade 8 trip's parent meeting has been booked for May 30, 2023
- Teachers thank council for the recess sports equipment in the classrooms – the kids love it and it's nice to see the kids out playing
- Break the Rules Day went well, and everyone had fun
- Mother's Day Mass at OLPH – more information will come in the S'more at the end of April
- Grade 8 Farewell is June 16, itinerary was discussed will be shared with families in the coming weeks

## **2.2. CHAIR REPORT (K. Gaudet) – Year in Review - see attached**

### **3. ELECTIONS FOR 2023-2024 SCHOOL COUNCIL (C. Ward)**

**3.1. Chair** – Krystal is extended for 2<sup>nd</sup> term

**3.2. Vice Chair** – Charles is extended for 4<sup>th</sup> term.

**3.3. Secretary** – Nicole stepped down. Nomination of Monique Gagnon to fill position by Krystal, seconded by Amanda Gaudet, accepted by Monique.

**3.4. Treasurer** – n/a (executive of OLPHFA, not Council)

**3.5. Non-Executive Roles** we are looking to fill:

- **Special Event Coordinator** – This person would attend our executive, behind-the-scenes meetings to know about upcoming events, schedule those events, and work with our Volunteer Coordinator to arrange for number of volunteers required etc for all events. Preferably this person has a flexible schedule, in order to help with the events during school hours, but a lot of the arrangements can be done from home/after work hours
- **Volunteer Coordinator** – work with the Special Events Coordinator to schedule volunteers for various events
- **Hot Lunch Coordinator** – Amanda Gaudet will be returning to this role & will take over organizing the hot lunch volunteers

### **4. EXECUTIVE REPORT (C. Ward)**

- Break the Rules day was today, and it was successful! We will have final total of expenses and amount for Lurana Shelter donation in upcoming weeks

- Community Corner – provided gift cards to some families through our Family Wellness Worker, and they were very thankful

## 5. Upcoming Events (C. Ward)

- April 24 – Artist in Residence
- April 28 – Grade 8 ABJ Transition Information
- May 3 – Early Dismissal / Spirit Day (Hats on for Mental Health)
- May 4 – Star Wars Day
- May 5 – PD Day (No School) & Teacher Appreciation breakfast being catered in
- May 9 & 10 – Book Fair in the library
- May 11 – Performing Arts 7/8 shows “Newsies”
- May 15 – Track Meet for OLPH students held at Strathcona Athletic Park
- May 19 & 22 – No School
- May 20 – 26 – Grade 8 French Immersion trip
- May 24 – Next School Council/FA Meeting
- May 30 – Info night for 2024 Grade 8 trip (current Grade 7’s and their parents/guardians)

## 6. New Business

6.1. Inquiry raised about dress code, information to be found in the student handbook

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DnwcQLAsYG\\_2kiXRlcq5KIEEnMnkl-eT1/view?pli=1](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DnwcQLAsYG_2kiXRlcq5KIEEnMnkl-eT1/view?pli=1)

## 7. Adjournment - 8:14pm

Minutes taken and prepared by Nicole Siegel.

**Join us for our next meeting on May 24, 2023 @ 7pm – in person or online!**

**Stay connected to Our Lady of Perpetual Help School Council**

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**Email** Hot Lunch Committee: [olphschoolhotlunch@gmail.com](mailto:olphschoolhotlunch@gmail.com)

**Email** Treasurer/Fundraising Association: [olphfa@gmail.com](mailto:olphfa@gmail.com)

## **OLPH School Council Chair Report**

**April 19, 2023**

### 2022-2023 Year in Review

This past year was a unique experience, with challenges and learning curves we hope to assist us in future years.

We had excellent turn out from class reps and other parents attending our meetings on a regular basis. We think giving the option to attend in-person as well as virtually kept parent participation at an all-time high throughout the year.

#### Events:

- Corn Roast was a great success. We had many parents helping cook in the foods lab, other parents outside: explaining the reasoning for “l’épluchette”, assisting students in shucking the corn, and crowning our kings and queens.
- Shrove Tuesday was held on the same day as Carnaval, and we had another great group of parents flipping pancakes and serving the students and staff
- At the end of Teacher Appreciation Week at the end of April, we will be catering in lunch for our teachers and staff
- Pool Parties are booked for the year end (June 2 for Grades 7 & 8 and June 16 for Grades 5 & 6), where we hope to have great turn out once again
- We will host a Year End BBQ in June for all staff and students as well

#### Advocacy:

- Participated in CEPAC (Catholic Education Parent Advisory Council) all year, and offered suggestions, feedbacks and ideas on behalf of OLPH
- We are attending the ASCA AGM this upcoming weekend, where we will vote on important advocacy resolutions to bring forward to the Ministry of Education
- We had some strong opinions from both the French and English side regarding our dual track system and equivalence, and we hope to continue the discussions in years to come so that no one-side feels they are treated different or in jeopardy of losing their culture at the school or with EICS as a whole

#### Fundraising:

- With the help of our Hot Lunch Coordinator and Volunteer Coordinator, we were able to offer our hot lunch program again through Munchalunch, where the money raised from that went to support our operations and special events throughout the year
- From past fundraising years, our new playground is set to break ground this summer and should be complete for fall return to school
- We have continued with our Cobs and Save-On Foods year-long fundraisers, which brings in a small but helpful amount
- We offered Spirit Wear again this year, and have had requests for next year to “bring back the backpacks”!
- We introduced a new donation aspect through our hot lunch ordering program called Community Corner, with the funds donated used directly towards helping families in our school community during times of need. We hope we alleviated some struggle in the Easter season with the gift cards we were able to donate, as the families remaining anonymous to us with the help of our Family Wellness Worker.

#### Connection and Community:

- We always feel challenged year-to-year on the best way to communicate to parents, and this year was no different.
- We re-introduced sending out our own newsletters to highlight and promote our events, without getting lost in the school's own Smore, as well as increased our postings on social media.
- With that, we still only have about a 60% rate of our newsletters being read at all and are always open to suggestions on how we can improve communication.
- We are very appreciative of our group of volunteers, many of whom return week after week to make things (such as hot lunch) happen.
- We have asked for the school to help promote the Grade 8 Trip to the grade 7 students and parents this year, to hopefully increase awareness earlier, and information sessions will be happening at the end of May. As soon as a parent committee is formed for next year's trip, fundraising for next year could start immediately.

#### Final Thoughts:

This was my first year as Chair of any council. Prior to that, I was Vice-Chair at EPK for 3 years. I am grateful to my wonderful team of Charles Ward, Heather Bonokoski and Nicole Siegel, as well as Amanda Gaudet and Monique Gagnon for being the backbones of the hot lunch program and all the volunteers who have helped throughout the year. And to Mr. Morin and Mme Winland and all the staff for assisting me as I adjust to the Grade 5-8 format that is so very different from elementary!

I look forward to being a part of Council next year as well, and improving on all the great work we have done.

Krystal Gaudet

Chair, OLPH School Council  
President, OLPHFA