

JJ Nearing Parent Council Meeting
Wednesday, October 21, 2015
6:30 pm

In Attendance

Kim Collister, Co-Chair	Heather Kapty, Co-Chair
Yvonne Dutton, Secretary	Cara Scott, Treasurer
Robin Shields, Compassionate Friends, Chair	Jan Maslyk, Principal
Layna Haley, Families & Friends	Gina Anstruther, Vice Principal
Bo Liron, Friends & Family	Allison Reinhard, Hot Lunch
Angela Thorpe, Hot Lunch	Mari Mar Ruiz
Jenn Nicol	Reg & Tasha Pfleging

School Council Email Address: jjnschoolcouncil@gsacrd.ab.ca.

1. Call to Order – Kim Collister

2. Welcome & Prayer

3. Introductions

4. Adoption of Agenda

First Motion: Angela Thorpe

Second Motion: Robin Shields

5. Review of Previous Minutes: Minutes from previous meetings can be found on the JJN school website, or by emailing the school council.

6. Trustee's Report: There was no trustee at tonight's meeting.

7. 40 Developmental Assets: Guest speaker, Linda Knoblauch from Family & Community Support Services, City of St. Albert presented the 40 Developmental Assets. She provided folders with more details on this program. It aims to help parents, schools, citizens be aware of the assets required for our kids.

8. Administration Report:

- Jan Maslyk (Principal) presented a handout entitled *2015-2016 JJ Nearing Results Report*. The handout summarized the school's goals for learning, faith, service, safety & respect & engaged learning. Our school did very well overall. The one page summary will be posted on our website.
- The new locks went home with the grade 4-6 kids for them to practice. Contracts for appropriate use of the locks will be coming home soon.
- Teachers and students are learning more ways to use the devices for school work. There was a discussion on the pros and cons of various devices (iPads, MacAirs, Chromebooks, etc.). The kids are good at helping each other out.
- A question was raised about how much time is spent on the devices. Jan Maslyk explained that kids do not spend much time all at once staring at the screen. They look away quite often to reduce eye strain. Jan estimated that classes use the devices for about 1 to maybe 1.5 hours each day.

9. Old Business

- a. **JJN Logo wear:** Kim gave the background on the logo wear. The group discussed whether we should make logo wear optional or mandatory; what items might be useful, colours, designs, payment options, cost, etc. Everyone agreed that we could use someone to coordinate this venture.

10. New Business

- a. **Budget and Financial Report** – Cara Scott advised that there is approximately \$6,839 in the account. This includes all the hot lunch money collected for this term's lunches, but not yet paid out.

Cara presented the budget for the 2015/16 school year. She went through it and explained what some of the entries mean.

Motion: That the 2015/16 budget as presented be passed.

First: Layna Haley

Second: Robin Shields

CARRIED

- b. **Review of Operating Procedures & Bylaws:** Kim provided copies of *JJ Nearing Catholic Elementary School Council By-laws/Operating Procedures*. A few changes were made from the previous version: only require 1 teacher to attend (not 2) and deleted committees that no longer exist.

Motion: That the By-Laws and Operating Procedures, as amended, be adopted by Council.

First: Cara Scott

Second: Allison Reinhard

CARRIED

- c. **Event update – Halloween Dance** – Layna provided the details on tomorrow's dance. There will be lots of activities and she has recruited enough helpers. A question was raised about whether school events, such as a dance, are required to meet a set of standards set by the school. In response to a question about event parameters and meeting school standards, Jan explained that all school events go through her first in order to make sure they meet the principles of our school -events must be affordable, family-friendly and reflect our Christian values.
- d. **Classroom sports equipment bins** – Current bin equipment needs to be cleaned, fixed and inventoried so that we know what new items are required. Heather has agreed to take on this project and requires some volunteers.
- e. **Volunteer Recruitment** – Usually, at the beginning of the school year, council sends home a form asking for volunteers for the various school events, committees, duties. Kim reviewed the list, asking each committee chair if they still require volunteers. She will update the list as required before sending it to the parents.

11. Committee Reports & Plans for Coming Year

- a. **Hot Lunch:** The committee is working on other options for hot lunch. Allison has been in contact with other schools about what companies they work with.
- b. **Year book:** No report.

c. Compassionate Friends: No report.

d. Families & Friends Fundraising: To date, we have received approximately \$5455 in donations to Our Money for Our Kids campaign. The group discussed ways to increase awareness – big thermometer at front of the school, website, routine emails, booth at parent/teacher interviews. The committee will discuss spending priorities at their meeting, immediately following this Parent Council Meeting.

e. Medical Needs: Kelly wasn't present, but did send in her report to Kim. The medical forms should be sent out sooner. Kelly is working on the photos for the poster. Some parents would like another option for the photos: opting out of photos because their child's allergy isn't severe enough to warrant it.

Meeting adjourned: 8:20 pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 18, 2015