

# Mother Teresa Parent Council Meeting Minutes

October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023

**Meeting Called:** 6:02pm

**In Attendance:** Aura Street, Cody Young, Andrea Rota, Sarah Franchetto, Jay Pinnel, Jen Pinnel, Sheri Gizen, Tina Tuchscherer, Airana Lecorps, Shaela Knight, Jen Ladouceur, Jodi Breitreuz, Courtney Ritchie, Candy Roberts and Chelsea Peterson

**Additions & Approval of Agenda:** Approved with addition of Christmas concert ticket prices and bath bomb fundraiser.

**Approval of Previous Minutes:** Approved with spelling correction of Tina Tuchscherer's last name.

## **Old Business:**

**Much-a-Lunch:** We are up and running with 2 dates confirmed in October and 1 in November with 1 more being scheduled in November and 2 in December. Planning on 2 a month for the rest of the school year.

**Jerky Fundraiser:** This has been sent out and is due back Oct. 24.

**School Council Funds Update:** We have received a letter that the funds have been rolled over for another year giving us a \$1,182 budget to use. \$182 of that is left over from 2 years ago, \$500 from last year and we received another \$500 for this year. We had the opportunity to book Darcy Lang November 6<sup>th</sup> with this grant however we declined as we agreed as council the money would be better used to go towards our Healthy Snack Workshop in collaboration with the school's new FIT program.

**Cheque Writing Through School Cash Update:** Lisa has confirmed that there is an option to donate to Parent Council through School Cash. The only catch is there will be no tax receipts. This will show as an optional payment and will start shortly!

## **New Business:**

Christmas Concert Ticket Prices: The concert has been booked for December 20, 2023. With the bus price increases of approximately 50% per round trip and the anticipation that the rental of the Esplanade will increase as well we have decided to up the cost of tickets from \$7 to \$8 this year. If any families are not able to afford to go, please direct them to the office so we can cover the cost as we do not want anyone to not partake due to affordability. We are hoping this little increase will help offset the busing along with the the Rafflbox 50/50 and silver collection. Rafflebox will be up and running in November and we will keep it going until after the Christmas concert.

Bath Bomb Fundraiser: Tiffany has set up a bath bomb fundraiser out of Lethbridge to happen prior to Christmas.

**Parent Association Report:** They talked about the \$500 School Council Engagement Grant as well as some fundraiser ideas such as the coupon book which you get 50% profit of sales and St. Michaels is adding game night to the book fair in hopes to get more people through the doors.

**Teacher Report:**

Nothing to report. See approved teacher allotment & field trips in budget meeting below.

**Principal Report:**

Provincially Mandated Literacy & Numeracy Assessments: Two years ago, the school received \$25,000 to hire a teacher for 16 weeks to help assess and give students in grade 1-3 extra support from any implications that could have happened during the gap from Covid. Last year they received \$5,000 and this year they are planning for an even smaller amount. So far Grade 2 & 3 have been assessed and Grade 1 will be completed by November. With the smaller funding the school is not able to provide the same relief they did in the first year however they are still able to support these students in a different way.

Dibels Literacy Assessments (ISSP Grant): This Grant for Grades 2-6 is run out of Calgary. Only Mother Teresa & George Davidson school received funding in all of Medicine Hat for this initiative.

Unfortunately, the assessments used for the above program are not approved for this one so a whole other assessment needs to be done at the beginning, middle and end of the school year by children and their parents who are willing. The first set of assessments are scheduled to be complete by the end of the month.

Ice Skating: Ice skating for the classrooms will be booked ASAP and each class will be going twice. We are now looking at cost of \$120 per round trip compared to last year's \$85 bussing fees. We will go ahead and pay for the two ice times this fall however we may need to put out a fee of \$2 per trip on School Cash for the two swimming trips this spring to help offset the increase.

Kinsmen-a-Thon: If we would like to partake in any kind of a-thon (skate, read, walk, etc.) through the Kinsmen they will provide snacks, drinks and prizes. The school would get 43% of the funds earned and the activity portion blends well with the schools new FIT program so we will go ahead with one. Get your thinking caps on and we will discuss which one and a time frame at a future meeting.

**Budget Meeting:**

Camp McCoy: Increased budget to \$65 per kid to help with inflation.

Teacher allotment: Increased budget to \$150 per class plus librarian. Split classes would receive \$75 per grade in their class.

Field Trips & Bussing: Increased both to offset bus cost increases.

Jay motioned to amend the budget moving \$330 to Teacher Supplies & Equipment for Mr. Topp. Airana seconded the motion and all were in favor.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 7:42pm

**Next Meeting:** November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 6:00pm in the Learning Commons.