

# Mother Teresa Parent Council Meeting Minutes

October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Meeting Called:** 6:01pm

**In Attendance:** Aura Street, Cody Young, Courtney Helmer, Sarah Franchetto, Jennifer Ladouceur, Sheri Gizen, Jennifer Pinnell, Jay Pinnell, Jodi Breitzkreuz, Ariana Lecorps, Courtney Ritchie and Tiffany Vossler

**Additions & Approval of Agenda:** Approved with addition of budget meeting.

**Approval of previous minutes:** Amendment of minutes: Jay motioned to amend September 9<sup>th</sup> budget meeting minutes to also keep Jennifer Ladouceur as a signing authority on our bank account. Courtney seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

## **Old Business:**

Chip Fundraiser: The fundraiser is now closed. We went through School Cash Online for order forms and payment and it worked very well after a few questions were sorted out. Only staff had outstanding payments as they did not have an account, which wasn't a huge issue as they are all paid up. The only hiccup is that there will need to be two cheques cut when using this system, which may be a bit of a nuisance. However, there were huge benefits such as all parents already having an account to order, no fee and a great printout of order forms for pickup day. Munch-a-Lunch also offers a fundraising option that can be run through their website. We would need to pay a merchant fee, and some parents may need to set up an account. To see which one we prefer, we will run a fundraiser with it sometime this school year and compare between the two. Aura will investigate how the money from School Cash will be released to us and the timeline on that. We sold 211 variety packs, 38 cheese, 87 popcorn and 29 original. The cost of cheese, popcorn and original is \$6.72 per box and we sold them for \$9.50 and the variety pack cost \$13.09, and we sold them for \$16.00 each. Courtney is waiting to hear back from Old Dutch confirming pickup date of October 25th. With all that was sold she is also hoping for some recruits to help organize and distribute the day of. If the order comes in on the 24<sup>th</sup> Mrs. Helmer offered her class to help sort and there were a few more parent volunteers stepping up pending on the confirmed date.

Halloween Prizes: Last year we provided each classroom with a best dressed costume prize which was a gift card to DQ. Jodi motioned for us to provide 10x \$10 gift cards to RiverBee Books, one for each class for the best dressed costume. Ariana seconded the motion, and all were in favor. Tiffany will coordinate pickup of gift cards as she knows the owner.

### **New Business:**

InstaCakes: Jenn P introduced InstaCakes to council near the end of last school year. They have super cute Christmas options that would be perfect for selling in November prior to the holidays this year. There are two options: Cake and card kit which costs us \$9, and we would sell for \$15 for a profit of \$6, or just a cake kit which costs us \$6, and we would sell for \$10 for a profit of \$4. There is about a 2-week turnaround time so we would finish this fundraiser mid-November to guarantee orders back prior to Christmas break. An ideal pickup date would be December 3 or 4<sup>th</sup> as parents will be in the school for PT Interviews already. We will run this fundraiser through Munch-a-Lunch and see how it goes.

Food Drive: WILD 94.5 is looking for more businesses, schools and charitable groups to be a part of their Food Drive. They would organize pickup of all donations for November 20 & 21. We are excited to be a part of their collective and give new energy to our Food Drive that we usually host in February. We will start ASAP and will provide the school with a donation calendar for each day leading up to the 20<sup>th</sup>.

Report to Central Office: They need a copy of all the minutes, which should still be found on our website. If not contact Sheri to send them their way. Financial statements from September 2023 – June 2024 which Jay has copies of and will send their way. And lastly a report of all the school events for the last school year which Sarah will put together.

### **Parent Association Report:**

The school board hired 19 new teachers this school year as they are up about 3000 students. They are in a \$400,000 deficit however they knew it was coming so had a reserve to absorb some of it. The government funds schools the following school year the number of students that were enrolled so it is really hard on school boards to absorb that upfront cost, however they will see that adjustment next school year.

They are opening the 2026/2027 school calendar for review, if there are any suggestions get them in before it is passed.

Because of the bussing increase, the board is looking into purchasing their own buses for the board to use.

St. Pat's had food trucks at their meet the teacher night, which was a huge success as it had much of the community partaking as well.

Many schools are talking about creating a Social Media Rep to help engage the presence of parent council online as a platform to reach out to other parents.

There is a Grace Summit on October 25 in Calgary, if anyways is wanting to go the board will help with registration and fuel to get there.

There have been no reported problems with the new phone policy.

**Teacher Report:** Nothing to report.

**Principal Report:** Sounds like there will be another grant for Parent Council community building again. Aura is not sure if our left-over amount will transfer over again from last year however, they assume so as it has the past few years. Transportation Update: Southlands is now offering a per hour rate for bussing based on segments. The rate is \$90 per hour/per segment. So that means that if the school uses a bus to go to mass, they will be charged \$90 per bus and then again, another \$90 to return the students to the school.

**Budget Meeting:**

Jay motioned to accept the amended budget as follows:

Camp McCoy from \$1,309.50 to \$1,650.00 (\$61.11 per kid)

Christmas Concert from \$2,150.00 to \$2,700.00

Field Trip & Busing from \$1,365.00 to \$1,620.00 (\$180 per class)

Full School Busing Costs from \$2,750.00 to \$3,250.00

Plays & Events for Entire School from \$975.00 to \$850.00

Teacher Allotments from \$990.00 to \$950.00 (\$100 per class plus \$100 for library)

Courtney seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 7:18pm

**Next Meeting:** October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 6:00pm in Learning Commons.