

## Holy Spirit Parent Council Meeting Minutes

November 28, 2017

**Attendees:** Angie Undheim, Melanie Thorne, Jodi Ostrosky, Dave French, Kim Pennock, Bernadine MacDonald, Ed Kucy, Marie Lueke, Lorna Zebedee

1. Meeting called to order at 1:51 pm, Prayer led by Ed Kucy.
2. Motion to approve minutes of October's meeting by Kim, seconded by Jodi, carried. Addition of KEYS Update to agenda. Motion to approve amended agenda by Kim, seconded by Jodi, carried.
3. KEYS Update
  - a. Today, the Minister of Health and Wellness visited both Holy Spirit and Lakeland Ridge to check out the KEYS program at our schools. Approximately 29 people attended including representatives from both schools and both EICS and EIPS boards. During the visit, the unique collaboration between KEYS, EICS, and EIPS was acknowledged and applauded.
  - b. Mrs. Healy's Gr 8 classes participated in Pet Therapy this week. Several dogs came into the class. It has been researched that animals help to reduce anxiety and stress.
  - c. Noted that it is Kindness Matters Week at Holy Spirit. One focus is to ensure that the term "bully" is being used properly. Another focus is learning how to be an upstander – people who stand up against bullying or mean/cruel behaviour.
  - d. Respiratory Therapists came to do a presentation on The Lungs, Smoking and Vaping for the Jr. High Students.
  - e. KEYS and Saffron are co-presenting a community wide presentation for parents on January 22, 2018 called Cyber-World: A Caregivers Guide to Raising Healthy Digital Citizens. The presentation will take place at St. Theresa Catholic School Theatre from 6:30 – 8:00 pm.
4. Business arising from previous meeting
  - a. EICS school board trustee Ted Passek will be acting as a liaison between the school board and our school. He cannot officially speak for the board until he has communicated back to them.
  - b. SAP almost ready for parents – hopefully within 2 weeks. The staff have had a chance to include their input.
5. Administration Report
  - a. Kindness Matters Week at Holy Spirit
    - i. Putting the focus on positive wellness – respect and kindness. Trying to eliminate the stigmas attached to mental wellness.
  - b. Last May/June the staff participated in a Fish Out of Water Project. In the staffroom there was a chart with every student's name listed. Staff were encouraged to put a sticker next to a student's name that they had a connection with. Those names that were without stickers directed the staff to areas that needed change. Every student has connections!
  - c. Our school body has a variety of groups that students can connect with. Some of the groups include SWAT, Student Leadership, Green Gurus, and Sports Teams. The availability of devices/technology has enabled us to be more connected, but less connected Face to Face. We need to be mindful of this change.
  - d. New 5-minute Wellness Break has opened new opportunities to talk about wellness, do some meditation, participate in an activity, and to connect with others and have wellness.
6. Teacher Presentation – Grade 3 presented by Ed
  - a. 74 students with our 75<sup>th</sup> joining us in January – 3 classes with 25 students each.
  - b. Science – started the year with the Life Cycles unit – we have never had butterflies in the Fall before, and we were sure to release them before the snow fell. Now enjoying the topic of Rocks and Minerals. We had Teacher Pet in to do a workshop.
  - c. 3P has a student teacher, Miss Bailey Whillans, who will be with the class until Christmas.
  - d. We have lots of fun Christmas – themed activities planned to include: Christmas Crafts, nativity activities, swimming, preparing for our Advent Mass, and we are going to see the ABJ drama production of The Ash Girl this week.
  - e. In the new year, we plan to partake in gymnastics activities at the North Edmonton Gymnastics Club.
  - f. All 3 classes have been dabbling in reporting evidence of learning **digitally** (digital portfolios) We will collaborate to determine the best practices for reporting student achievement.
  - g. Looking forward to appreciating the Ukrainian culture (which we study in Social Studies), in our Orthodox Easter Celebration. The students experience making pysanky, sweet Easter Paska, and partake in a Traditional Ukrainian Blessing.
7. Traffic Congestion
  - a. Discussion about parent council's possible involvement of finding solutions. Currently there are groups in the community that are lobbying Sherwood Park Council about improving crosswalks and traffic concerns in our school's area. Mr. Kucy, and Mrs. Gumpinger have been patrolling the morning drop off zone in front of the school with great success!

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm.