



St. Thomas More Junior High School

School Council Meeting Minutes

November 18, 2024 @ 6:30 PM (In Person and TEAMS)

In-Person Attendees: Kevin Myskiw (Principal), Michael Pagacz (Vice-Principal), Nicole Cooper (Chair), Sarah Lartey (Vice-Chair), Erin Solano (Secretary), Kim Holder (Fundraising Coordinator), Directors at Large - Lyndsay Boileau, Savannah Palmquist; William Kitson (Teacher), Gerrilynn Pavone (Teacher); Domingo Barretto (Parent), Lianna Chan (Parent)

Online Attendees: Kathy Borden (Parent)

1. Call to Order - 6:33 PM (Cooper)
2. Opening Prayer (Myskiw)
3. Treaty Six Acknowledgement (Pagacz)
4. Approval of Minutes from October 21, 2024

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES: Sarah

SECONDED: Kim

MOTION PASSED: Minutes from October 21, 2024 were approved

5. Principal's Report (Myskiw)

Events

- Grade 9 activities
 - **Feeder High School enrolment**
STM guides students and parents into Catholic high school enrolment with visits to St. Francis Xavier and Archbishop Oscar Romero High Schools. Enrollment numbers are very high in Edmonton's high schools, students may have less choice for enrollment. Understanding the expectations of high school helps students focus on their future, what options they can choose and how many credits they need to graduate. Archbishop MacDonald High School requires a grade point average of 85% and higher.
Parents who wish to learn more about high school feeder schools can visit escd.net and locate a school or type in an address.
 - **Career Fair Field Trip**
Ms. Pavone will be taking the Grade 9 students, during the day, to the ECSD career fair field trip, next Wednesday, November 27. The school division is recognizing so many great career paths in the province.
 - **Choir concert**
School choir is singing at the Dec 12 hockey game.

Ringette Academy

- Ringette academy is struggling. 5 students are registered in grades 7 and 8. Currently there are no students registered for grade 9. The program needs 10 students in order to continue. The Silver Ring Tournament is this weekend and the school is creating advertisements and will have students attending the event in Terwillegar to encourage registration into the program. May need to evaluate the viability after registration numbers are in as there isn't a large pool of elite ringette athletes in Edmonton. The

ringette program could be supplemented with other recreation options if parents are worried about burnout from training.

6. Special Order - Requests for Funding

Principal and teachers in attendance discuss their funding requests with SC for consideration.

6.1. Basketball Court

- Myskiw - STM staff have been discussing the resurfacing of the outdoor basketball court. St. Rose spent \$120,000 redoing theirs. Palmquist has extensive experience in working with the CFEP grant and offered to help the Principal with the process, if interested.

6.2. Science Program

- Pavone - Brought forward several requests for consideration that would better equip the science lab, make student learning easier by increasing access to learning equipment and create more opportunity for teacher/student interaction. Each item was discussed in detail.

MOTION: Approve up to \$2400 from the AGLC account on new scales: Lindsay Boileau

SECONDED: Sarah Lartey

Discussion: Digital scales for both science labs will allow students hands-on experience measuring density.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION: Approve up to \$1500 from the AGLC account for the purchase of the dishwasher and the cost for installation: Nicole Cooper

Discussion: Having a dishwasher would mean less time washing dishes for students and teachers, more time planning better lessons, spending time with students. The tap would also need replacement.

SECONDED: Savannah Palmquist

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION: Approve up to \$400 from the AGLC account for the purchase of a telescope: Nicole Cooper

SECONDED: Kim Lartey

Discussion: Students study space in the month of January. Teacher would like a telescope which would allow for an astronomy club for the month of January.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION: Approve up to \$1025 from the AGLC account for the molecular model set: Nicole Cooper

SECONDED: Savannah Palmquist

Discussion: Requesting a boreal science molecular model student set (15 sets). District provided 6 sets, but isn't enough for a class with 30 students.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION: Approve up to \$310 from the AGLC account for CENCO spectrum tubes x3 scope: Nicole Cooper

SECONDED: Sarah Lartey

Discussion: Cenco spectrum tube, hydrogen/nitrogen gas spectrum. Asking for 3 tubes to add to their collection.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION: Approve up to \$800 from the AGLC account for flip charts : Nicole Cooper

SECONDED: Kim Lartey

Discussion: Flip charts make a difference and have made the static electricity labs easier to facilitate.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

6.3. Future requests

- Sensory Room - has a school-wide use. Teacher will look through the room for opportunities for improvement.
- Music - the music room may require around \$5,000 to replace expired equipment.
- Construction - the construction teacher may have future requests for the workshop.

Chair encouraged these requests to be brought to a future SC meeting.

7. Old Business (Cooper)

7.1. Insurance

- Insurance remained unchanged.

7.2. Appreciation

- The Chair expressed her appreciation for the teachers present at the meeting.

8. New Business

8.1. Alberta School Council Association (ASCA) Grant

- Cooper - The grant can be used for the council or parent engagement. Teacher expressed favour for parent engagement. The Chair has researched the following options:
 - Family Center Teen Workshop, 3 hours (6 – 9 pm) \$1050. The council can put \$500 towards this option. Discussion included concerns regarding the time commitment. Might be too intensive, in comparison to an info session.
 - Triple P Parenting

8.2. Parent Engagement

- Cooper - The council would like to encourage parent engagement. Ideas discussed include:
 - Engagement survey
 - Use Google docs, in different languages, if possible. Ask parents what is important to them, what can the council work on, workshops we can bring to the parent community. Savannah and Chair will collaborate in finalizing the survey.
 - Promotion of 2026 Casino fundraiser
 - Parent involvement with the lunch program

8.3. School Open House, January 30, 2025

- Cooper - SC will be present at the open house, with the Chair saying a few words to parents. Principal encourages SC attendance as seeing a healthy active council shows a healthy school.

8.4. Communication with school community

- Lartey will help with the SC Instagram page. Ms. Pavone is the admin for the school instagram page and will copy and repost SC posts on the schools account to cross-promote content.

9. Open questions, comments, concerns from parent community

- None brought forward.

10. Next Meeting Date: January 20, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. (in person and online)

11. Adjournment 7:34 p.m.



St. Thomas More Junior High School

Fundraising Association Meeting Minutes November 18, 2024 @ 6:30 PM (In Person and TEAMS)

In-Person Attendees: Kevin Myskiw (Principal), Michael Pagacz (Vice-Principal), Nicole Cooper (Chair), Sarah Lartey (Vice-Chair), Erin Solano (Secretary), Kim Holder (Fundraising Coordinator), Directors at Large - Lyndsay Boileau, Savannah Palmquist; William Kitson (Teacher), Gerrilynn Pavone (Teacher); Domingo Barretto (Parent), Lianna Chan (Parent)

Online Attendees: Kathy Borden (Parent)

1. Call to Order - 7:35 p.m. (Cooper)
2. Approval of Minutes from October 21, 2024 (Cooper)

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES: Sarah Lartey

SECONDED: Kim Holder

MOTION PASSED: minutes from Oct 21, 2024 were approved

3. Treasurer's Report (Cooper on behalf of Cumberland)
General Account Balance - \$ 4,628.79

- No withdrawals or deposits in October 2024.

Casino Account Balance - \$ 79,072.57

- GIC's were invested and interest accrued October 31, 2024.
- \$36,902.36 is available to spend in the 2024/25 year.

4. Old Business (Cooper)

4.1. Account Signatories

- Lartey and Cooper are the official account signatories.

4.2. Purdy's Chocolates

- This fundraiser will be wrapping up on December 1, 2024. SC will push over social media and a print hand-out will go home over the next two weeks. A big thank you to Kim Holder.

5. New Business (Cooper)

5.1. Healthy Hunger

- Approved with Academy - Delivery 1145 am - Students taking the bus will come get their meals during 5th block and the others will be served at lunch - Need volunteer parents for this - Start canvassing for help. Principal encourages the council to utilize leadership students. Teachers can order for themselves.
- Edo - Dec 13 - (\$13/dish for full size- \$8 for kids portion)
- Pita Pit - Jan 10
- Rice Bowl Deluxe- OPA- Booster Juice- Taco Time

- 5.2. Hot dog day
 - Cost effective lunch option (\$2) - Mr Borchart will support and advertise throughout the school. Need four volunteers to cook; date to come.
6. Open questions, comments, concerns from parent community
 - 6.1. Purdy's - Is assembly required?

Yes, the order will come at the end of the day and then 3-4 parent volunteers will organize the bagging. Orders need to be printed and organized. Dec delivery 10-13. Student pick up 16/17th, students will take home and distribute.

 - Myskiw - Office staff will help with calling kids to the office to pick up their orders.
 - 6.2. Emails on behalf of SC

Myskiw - requests emails to be sent through the office on the councils' behalf. The school can also remind parents through text about council initiatives.
7. Next Meeting Dates: January 20, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. (in person and online)
8. Adjournment @ 7:52 PM