

**Vital Grandin Catholic Elementary School Council
Minutes for December 5, 2012 Meeting**

Present:

Bonnie Troppmann
Rachel Demeter
Donna Hansen
Tanya Hoffman

Staff:

Marina Lotoski
Leisa Townshend

Trustee:

Jacquie Hansen for Dave Caron

- 1. Call to Order** – Meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.
- 2. Welcome/Prayer/Introductions**
- 3. Adoption of Agenda** – Donna moved to adopt and Tanya seconded. Voted and passed.
- 4. Adoption of Minutes** – Donna moved to adopt and Tanya seconded. Voted and passed.
- 5. Administration Report**

See attached report.

Education Plan has been put on the website. There are five different documents loaded. Accountability Pillar, School Goals, all listed on the website.

School Expectations have been determined in 6 different learning areas in the school. Input from the students is now taking place. Expecting to have first assembly in January, with a video to show on expectations. Also looking at putting together a leadership team of students who would create videos, be role models and provide positive feedback to the students.

Playground equipment is too slippery. There will be times throughout the year the students will not be able to play on it now. We are looking at a coating to put on making it safe.

6. Trustee Report

Jacquie Hansen attended on Dave Caron's behalf.

October 17th meeting "We Day" in Calgary projects throughout the division regarding social justice.

Trustees came to VG in November. Participated in a tour of the school. It was pyjama day. The Trustees got a sense of what is happening in the school.

The division met with Minister and advised him of our successes. Our division is one of the top performing in the province. Challenges were also addressed including the funding formula for

children with diverse needs. The government has determined 10 factors when determining funding and our division only meets 1 of the factors. We are advocating for reviewing the formula because we are losing 25% of our resources for children with diverse needs. This was our main message to the Minister. There may be a time that parents are asked to advocate.

329 FTE staff this year and we had a decline in enrollment this year.

Meeting took place with parish priests. Holy Family priests are not prepared to have instructional masses.

Provided a copy of their Education Plan for 2012-2015 and went over the Annual Education Summary. These documents are contained on the division website.

7. Chairperson Report

On the January agenda will be vote on providing a supper for the second night of interviews.

Nomination for teacher awards due February 8, 2013 and will also be on January agenda.

Follow-up item in April – do we want to amend by-laws to include class room rep definition.

9. Committee Reports

Friends - \$5500 already raised. AGM took place with Rachel Demeter as Chair; Bobbie-Jean as Secretary; Donna Hansen as Treasurer.

Upcoming fundraising - WEM with Father Jan for Galaxyland; Hockey items at Christmas Concert; Pizza and Cookie Dough. Buying a popcorn maker for fundraiser once a month.

Spirit – Winter carnival possibly.

Church Liaison – Not in attendance.

Playground – Mentioned above regarding slippery equipment. Working with company to provide additional equipment. Funds available in account.

Garden Committee – Marina will send Tanya list. Tanya will donate the frames.

Fowler – Medieval Lunch for grade 8s. Grade 8 students attended at VG to read written stories to grade 4 students.

10. Good News

VG Choir performed at Holy Family Parish for Women's League Christmas Dinner.

11. New Business

School Photos – one negative comment will continue with Icon.

Heritage Fair – Will be sending home a letter. There will be a lunchtime club for those who want to participate. It will be done outside of class time. Those kids who do participate we would

have a LTTA session to come in and judge it to allow for the process. It will no longer have an impact on their marks. It will be an extra-curricular activity for those who want to participate.

12. Next Meeting

Next meeting January 9, 2013.

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Follow- up Items

Item	Completed
Marina to provide Tanya with list of contributors to garden for frames.	
Tanya to arrange for Alberta School Council Association presentation.	
Evergreen Wish List document to be posted online.	
Posting of updated Three Year Plan.	
Possible amendment to By-Laws to include definition of Classroom Representative Positions.	
Discussion regarding School Photos.	Done
Motion on providing dinner the staff on second night in interviews in November.	
Possible Nomination for Excellence in Teaching Award.	
Lunch Program review – March 2013.	

School Council Administrator Summary –November 2012

1. Our grade 2 students completed their last catechism class during lunch hour today. Grade 6 students participated in 6 lunch hour sessions, and grade 2 students participated in 8 lunch hour sessions. This was a great way for the school and church to work together to meet the needs of our students receiving their sacraments this year.
2. Students were entertained at the Alberta Opera performance of Sleeping Beauty. This is one of two cultural performances that have been booked for the 2012/13 school year.
3. We were very happy to get a chance to meet with most parents and students during the parent-teacher interviews in November. This is a great opportunity for parents and teachers to continue to work together to assist students in meeting their learning needs.
4. The Youville seniors came to buddy read with our grade 4 students on November 22nd. They will come once a month to visit with our students.
5. LTTA (Learning Through the Arts) artist have been in working with our grade 1 - 4 students, and are now starting at the elbow instruction with our grade 5- 6 students. (projects include photo journals for gr. 3, Interview films for Soc. St. in gr. 2, focus on color in gr. 1, using digital media, & stop motion video for simple machines in gr. 4). In grade 5 & 6 students are working with animation to learn Soc. St. outcomes.
6. Began working with 5 & 6 students on “Planning for Post-Secondary Studies”, a document provided by the Alberta Government to give parents and students the information and tools needed to start the process of career planning.

December Events:

- a. **Advent celebrations each Monday @ 8:45 am**
- b. **V.G. School Choir concert @ St. Albert Parish – Tuesday, December 18th, 7:00 p.m.**
- c. **Christmas story and imovie – Wednesday, Dec. 19: 2:00 – 3:00 pm**
Students will join in the gym to share a special Christmas story, and view our December imovie
- d. **Whole School Christmas Performance & Sing-Along – Thursday, Dec. 20, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.**