

Calgary Christian School Council October 2015 Meeting

Meeting: CCS School Council

Date: October 8, 2015

Chairperson: Hendria N.

Time: 1330 - 1530

Secretary: Kyla J.

Location: ECRC

Attendees: Hendria N, Erin B, Alicia A, Leona S, Maureen T, Ken D, Jadan B, Gwen U, Craig W and 13 parents.

Item	Description
1	Welcome and Prayer –Hendria N. and Iris C.
2	Approval of Meeting Minutes May, 2015 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motion was made to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2015 meeting. Motion carried.
3	Introduction of Council for 2015 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hendria N and Erin B are co-chairs for the secondary. Hendria will be transitioning out of the role this fall. Elementary representatives are Alicia A and Iris C.
4	Online Police Check <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Process for online police checks was found to be challenging. Some parents were not able to utilize this format if they do not have a credit history or require fingerprinting. Police checks completed in person had lengthy wait times. It was suggested that parents who required fingerprinting should be required to do so every second year. The school does not keep paper copies but after data is compiled it is shredded. A master document is created that is shared with teachers/staff to ensure checks have been completed. This is the first year the on-line option has been available and it has been very time consuming for staff. Communications staff can print police checks if a paper copy is required for another volunteer agency.
5	Blessings and Burdens <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program exists to meet short term needs in the CCS community. Last year in review: in response to 53 events (births, surgeries etc.) they provided 110 items, 33 gifts and 45 cards. The budget for this program was \$600-700. Funds come from the annual fund and identified \$1500 as a healthy starting point. Any contribution to the program is accepted: cash, gift cards, meals. A communication gap was identified: the program does not always hear about opportunities to help. Issues of confidentiality were cited. Blessings and Burdens has a strict confidentiality agreement. Needs can be communicated via email which is monitored by one member of the program.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The program is looking for a new coordinator. Gladys would come alongside and mentor the new coordinator for the year. Information about the program was included in the previous newsletter and opportunities for involvement can be found on SignUp Genius.
6	<p>Staff Appreciation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volunteers are needed for the staff appreciation program: two coordinators and five assistants. There is flexibility in how to run the program. The budget for the program is \$600. This amount was not spent last year and Ken stated there was some flexibility in the budget. Information regarding these opportunities can be found on SignUp Genius.
7	<p>Drivers' Abstract Requirement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The rationale for annual driver's abstract requirements for secondary volunteers was questioned. This requirement from Palliser is for parents who are driving to an organized school function (ie. sporting event) to ensure appropriate insurance liability is in place. A parent stated it was an excessive requirement and it was noted parents incur a \$28 fee for this service. The school budget cannot cover these expenses for parents. The Palliser Driver form indicates this as a yearly requirement, however the Palliser procedure states renewals only required if there is a change. Craig will clarify this issue with Pallier school district.
8	<p>Opportunities to Partner with Glenbrook Elementary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An opportunity to partner with Glenbrook elementary was put forth. The opportunities include: grocery card program, clothing drive, farm to table program and parenting sessions. Different levels of collaboration are available and it was suggested that at a minimum Glenbrook's activities could be publicized. The information has been forwarded to the executive. Alicia will gather more information and discuss with Ken.
9	<p>Update from MS/HS Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jadan B provided an update on the Secondary. Staff Development is a focus this year. The notes from the Secondary Council Meeting can be found on the website. There are no plans to separate Elementary/Secondary Council meetings. This would pose scheduling difficulties for staff and the society as the meetings have been booked for the year. If additional issues are brought forth that pertain to a specific campus, there is fluidity in how the council meets.
10	<p>New Topics, Questions, Comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gwen Uittenbosch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlighted the favorable results from the spring PATs. The findings will be published on the website. Stressed the importance of literacy and is open to dialogue from parents on how parents can be meaningfully engaged in

	<p>literacy at home without burdening the parents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Each classroom will engage in acts of service this year. Information about class projects will be provided through class newsletters ○ Staff requires assistance to run extracurricular programs this year (i.e. Lego competition). Gwen will provide Leona a list of opportunities to post on Sign Up Genius. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Volunteer support is required for the seniors/grandparents lunch on November 13. Please see Sign Up Genius. ● Palliser board will defer the use of the SLA in grade 3 as the findings have not been found to be effective or usable. The board is seeking other options. ● A parent brought forth the concern that students in seventh grade were not well prepared for the transition to middle school. Variability in teaching styles amongst teachers was identified as some students were better prepared than others. A flex class has previously been offered to assist students but is not the same this year. The request for universal and consistent expectations was identified with an increase in communication between school and home. This parent will follow up with Jason. ● The request for consistency in the elementary was a theme that emerged: consistency with academic expectations, homework, Bible memory, e-teacher postings and microwave days. ● The Christmas Fair will be held Dec 5 and requires 160 volunteers. A crepe buffet will be held between 930-1330. Volunteers are needed for Winter Fair. The Fun Zone is a large revenue generator. The high school will provide students volunteers to help operate activities on the day of the winter fair. The Kids' Store will return this year. ● Dwayne Peace will be holding a parenting session at the secondary November 3, "Life's Challenges in Secondary School". ● Society meeting Nov.17 will focus on the how to increase involvement at the school. The theme verse for the year focuses on the concept that everyone must use whatever gifts they have to serve. This requires collaboration. Ken has posted more of his thoughts on this topic on his blog. ● Craig W identified an opportunity for school councils within the district to participate in a joint discussion. This meeting will be held November 23.
11	<p>Closing Comments, Prayer and Adjournment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Closing Prayer – Alicia A. ● Next Council Meeting: November 26, 7 pm at the HS Commons