

St. Teresa of Avila (Elmira) CSAC

- Meeting:** Tuesday February 6, 2024 6-7 pm
- Virtual:** Google Meet – link sent by Paula Pizarro
- Attendance:** Paula Pizarro, Theresa Mendler, Lindsay Soteman, Madeline Langlois, Jessica Melady, Chantal Allen-Robbins, Michael Kuntz, Madeline Langois, Amy Nero, Julie Kuntz

1. Prayer

Led by Paula.

2. Old Business

a. Adoption of Minutes

Motion to adopt by Lindsay, seconded by Chantal and Amy. Approved.

3. New Business

a. *Volunteers for Shrove Tuesday – 217 students*

We hope to have enough griddles. Aim for 7, so then seven volunteers to make pancakes. Mr. Johnson is starting a cooking club, and the Grade 8's could help with making the pancakes. If the Grade 8s can come back for tear down and dishes, then that would be really helpful. The Grade 7s are hosting Mardi Gras in the afternoon. The children need to be back at the school at 11:20am, so we will be cutting it close for timing. Art Shine begins at 11:20am, and there are a lot of Grade 1's in that program.

Recess ends at 10, then at 10:05am the kids can start coming over. Last year we had them go through the serving line. We had two kids serving, one running syrup so it was contained. Volunteers should aim to get there to start making pancakes at 9am, and then start serving at 10am. If the kids are being served right at lunch, then why aren't we serving at lunch? We have to do two servings, and we have a lot of clubs going on right now (boys basketball, Art Shine, Games run on Tuesday), and we have Mardi Gras and are celebrating Valentines as well. Pancakes as a lunch is not substantial, so its not enough without something more. Paula has sent out a notice, and will send out a reminder that it is a snack and not a lunch substitute.

Last year teachers were looking for coffee, so is that something we can also have available?

Chantel is buying the pancake mix and the syrup at Costco and will deliver to the school so its there in plenty of time. Christine bought it last year, and talk to the local Foodland / Food Basics and was able to get a discount there as well.

Lindsay is going to check what supplies we might have left over from previous events. Chantal is wondering if locations are going to want a letter to show? Paula will create a letter for Chantal to formalize any ask.

Theresa notes that we should be doing a post even recaps from all events.

b. Maple Syrup Fundraiser?

Last year we did the fundraiser, and promoted the maple syrup festival. It only raised a few hundred dollars, but it was with the Knights of Columbus so that was a good connection to have. We should buy the maple syrup through them.

Paula can re-send the email from last year. It's a very easy one to do.

c. Christmas Lunch:

This year we had a lot of feedback that the Christmas lunch being quite bad this year. There was feedback that the potatoes were lumpy, the turkey was dry, the stuffy was watery, etc. If it needs to change for next year, then are there any ideas that can be brought forward at the April meeting around any other caterers that might be able to provide a meal. Lindsay notes that she personally received a lot of feedback from individuals. The hope is also that we might save some money. There is a discussion that there is a closed group of volunteers that isn't necessarily open to the general parent community. As a group, we do not have a lot of participation, but we do not have the capacity to make that meal. If we could get a quote for the turkeys cooked, that would be manageable, but last year we got a quote and it was a lot more than we planned.

Suggestion to send out a survey to the parents. There were some complaints, but there were very limited numbers that didn't order the meal because they didn't like it. It might be that some parents that didn't like it are louder than the rest. Other options are generally much more expensive. Right now our max budget is essentially \$12-1400 for 200 children and 10 adults. It is a good idea to send out a survey. Paula might be able to coordinate a survey going out through school cash.

4. Faith Focus

This week we are doing the palm burning liturgy. We are asking for dry palms from families to burn. Suggestion to Paula to send out clarification to families that the church

is asking for the palms from Palm Sunday. They didn't keep any aside, and need more palms for the burning.

A palm burning happens on the black top with all the children as part of the liturgy to prepare the ashes for Ash Wednesday. There is a shortage this year as the church has taken on another school. St. Boniface in Maryhill has been taken on by St. Teresa. Father Peter took over supporting both churches and schools last year.

St. Boniface is in Breslau, but the church is in Maryhill. Confirmation will be taking place for our students and St. Boniface confirmands at St. Boniface because that's where the Bishop will be coming to visit. This will be happening in May in Maryhill for the Grade 7s.

The palms need to be here by Thursday morning at the latest.

5. Principal Items:

a. Black History Month

FYI – we have a resource available through the board called My Place in this World. We have something on the announcements everyday about Black History Month. Teachers have been highlighting different individuals in different subjects.

b. Dance-A-thon

After March Break there will some things happening the first week back. The Lenten Mass is on Thursday. Paula is out one day for Administration. The following week is leading up to Good Friday and Easter. Cat 4 testing will begin. Would we consider Wednesday April 3? We go back to school on Tuesday after Easter, and have mass that day. Possibly Friday April 5? This would give time to plan at the March meeting. Planning will occur at the next meeting.

6. Budget

Not a huge update. The Christmas lunch cost about \$1600, and is offset with contributions of \$400 from students. Total cost is about \$1200.

Our current bank account is now at \$5,722.

Paula notes that we were supposed to get our money back from the Board savings account, but Michael notes it hasn't arrived yet.

7. Open Floor Questions

8. Adjournment

a. Theresa motions to adjourn at 7:16 pm. Amy seconds. Passed.

9. Next Meeting – Tuesday March 5, 2024 @ 6 pm.