

Our Lady of Fatima Annual General Meeting

Minutes for April 20, 2016

Present: Peter Wheatley, Gordon Lemaire, Adeola Adeyemi, Mary Abraham, Byron Ritchey, Patrick Singh, Danielle Hearn, Fr. Chisholm, Maria Katsionis, Sonia Cook

Recorder: Mary Abraham

(30 attendees)

Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm

1.0 Opening Prayer

2.0 Approval of Agenda

- Motion to accept the agenda as amended - Gordon
- Motion seconded - Byron
- Motion carried

3.0 Welcoming and information

- Peter welcomed the attendees and introduced the members of the PEC.
- He explained the organization of the PEC and its mandate.

4.0 School facts:

- Our school is one of 41 elementary schools that make up the Catholic Independent Schools of the Vancouver Archdiocese. It is the 3rd largest elementary school, and the only dual French Immersion and English stream school. There are currently 379 students enrolled in the school and there are 37 members on staff. Our tuition is one of the lowest.
- The major improvements over the last few years were listed.

5.0 Financial report

- A financial overview was given. The operating income for the school is just over \$2.72 million and budget expenses are about the same.
- A summary of the budget expenses was presented.

6.0 Maintenance report

- Monthly work-bees are held to help with general school maintenance and up-keep.
- Ongoing replacement of fluorescent ballasts and seismic restraint of ceiling fixtures and fans have also been accomplished.
- Planned improvements included replacing the light fixtures in the gymnasium and painting the exterior of the school, and constructing LAC offices.

7.0 PPH report

- To date, over 2029 PPH entries have been logged totaling 8339 parent participation hours.
- Approximately 90% of families participate in the PPH program.
- For next year there will be changes to the PPH program.
- The number of hours required has been increased from 30 to 40 hours per year.
- There will be five hours of mandatory parking lot supervision per family.
- Also, parents will be required to put two mandatory hours of participation towards the grade event for each of their children's classes.

7.2 PPH website,

- A brief demonstration of the new PPH website was presented.
- The program is already being used by several schools.

Our Lady of Fatima Annual General Meeting

Minutes for April 20, 2016

- Parents will be able to sign up for PPH opportunities and enter their own PPH which will then be approved by the coordinator.

8.0 Questions

- Questions that had been submitted by parents before the AGM were answered. (See Appendix)
- Some additional questions from the attendees were entertained as well.
 - Are events going to be posted at the beginning of the year?
Not everything will be posted at the beginning of the year. As much as possible will be posted including the mandatory parking lot supervision.
 - What happens if a parent cannot make a scheduled shift? For example a child wakes up sick and the parent is scheduled to do parking lot supervision that morning? Will parents be given a list of phone numbers of people who can fill in?
Some details still need to be worked out.
 - A parent asked whether coordinators would be given information or resources as to how to go about organizing their grade event.
Coordinators will be given a manual explaining what their duties are.
 - Concern was expressed about how families with both parents working full-time would be able to do the mandatory parking lot supervision.
 - Concern was expressed about being penalized for not meeting the mandatory minimums.
- There will be issues to work out as the new system is implemented.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:05 pm

Our Lady of Fatima Annual General Meeting

Minutes for April 20, 2016

APPENDIX

Q. Why were the changes to the PPH program ratified in November not distributed to parents in December of 2015 as suggested during the November PEC meeting?

A. *The November meeting set out the basic structure for the changes, however more detail as needed before a letter could be sent out. During the December 2015 meeting, we agreed notification needed to be sent to parents early in January in advance of registration. This included a narrative as well as an FAQ page in an effort to give parents as much information as they would need to understand the aspects of the new program.*

Q. Will the newly implemented mandatory hours be open to modification upon receiving feedback from parents?

A. *It is not likely that reductions will be made to the mandatory hours. We have implemented mandatory minimums in two key areas specifically due to inadequate participation from parents historically. More on this later...*

Q. How many families are in the school?

A. 294

Q. How many participate fully?

A. *Currently, 266 (90%). Year-end statistics won't be available until May 31*

Q. How many fall short?

A. *36 families are currently at 15 hours or less*

Q. How many do not participate?

A. *Not fully known until the end of the year*

Q. How many hours are needed to run the school?

A. *This depends on **how** we want our school to be run.*

- *We are not like the public system which has paid staff*
- *We are partially funded by the government, meaning we, as a community, have to make up the difference with tuition and volunteer hours from parents.*
- *If we contribute less, it will cost us more*
- *Without participation from parents, the enrichment of child learning will suffer. Class excursions, for example, could be cancelled without enough parent drivers.*

Q. Should families be allowed to contribute more than 40 hours?

A. *Some families already contribute more than their required amount. There is currently no rule against over-contribution. There are far more hours available than parents can satisfy under a 40 hour per year model.*