

Our February 2017 meeting took place on the 22. We did our devotion a little different this time. We paired up and went on a Prayer Walk to different areas of the school and prayed for classes, teachers, and students. We have done this once or twice per year for the last couple of years and it is always something our Parent Council members like to do.

Heather Wall was present to give us a Trustee Report. She wanted to remind all of the Parent Council teams and all parents to continue to treat each other and administrative staff with kindness and to maintain respectful communication. There have been some issues that the board has been dealing with and several groups of people are very passionate about it. This includes the boundaries in Fort Saskatchewan and Sherwood Park and the potential closure of Ministik School.

The COSC meeting on Feb1 was an interesting one for anyone wondering about Cyber Safety. School Resource Officer Constable Jason Helgeson spoke about the challenges our schools and students are facing and some strategies to try and stay ahead of the issues. Some key points were educating children about safe use before they possess a device, teaching them to never share their password, and instilling a sense of responsibility for what they post. He suggested the “grandma test” – as in “would I want my grandma to see or read this?”

We had some debrief on a few events that happened since our last meeting in January. On February 17 the staff and council were very fortunate to be able to participate in a Blanket Exercise. It was a very informative and sometimes very touching presentation. In January, we posted our Parent Council meeting summary on the school web page for the first time. We are hoping to help other parents feel better informed and perhaps interest more people in getting involved on our council. We received an update on the status of our new playground. Our school is working with the surrounding schools to ensure the plan will not encroach on their space and a contract is being worked on with the builder.

In new Business we discussed the upcoming school auction on April 21. This is always a very big day for volunteers and staff at our school. The committee is in search of an artist to attend this year. There is a general call out for anyone willing and able to volunteer with set up the day of the auction. Secondly, the French Café is coming up in April as well and Parent Council and other volunteers are needed to assist with supervision so all staff can take part. Parent Council has already started working on our goodies for Teacher Appreciation week and we know how much the staff love all of it! Parent Council members are also preparing to provide a meal for our teachers on March 21 while they are taking part in parent/teacher. During these interviews we are hoping to spark some interest in recruitment of new Parent Council members for next year.

Some items we have scheduled to discuss at our next meeting include parking and Parent Council recruitment. Our next meeting will be on March 15.