**BUCPS Meeting**

**Monday, May 7, 2018**

**St. Theresa Catholic School Library**

**Meeting Minutes**

**In Attendance**

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| Clayton Starko  Christine Kope  Jordan Gulayets  Jennifer Lychak  Shelly Borowski  Lesia Lesoway  Gordon Marshall | Oksana Cokan  Jen Stav  Irene Sombyk  Lesia Pohoreski  Luba Eshenko  Betty Lou Bayduza  Crystal Wujcik | Iryna Faryna  Tracy Fehler  Sherriene Brown  Ulyana McNally  Shawn Haggarty  Shelly Tyrkalo |

**Proceedings**

* Clayton Starko opened the meeting at 7:06pm with a prayer. There was a quick roundtable of introductions.
* Minutes from the previous meeting, held March 12, 2018 were circulated via email prior to our current meeting and hard copies were made available tonight.
  + **Motion:** Jennifer Lychak moved the meeting minutes be adopted as presented. Seconded by Jen Stav. All in favour. Motion carried.

**Old Business**

* KEEN Creative Marketing Initiative –KEEN has come up with a website template and we will soon need to add content and pictures. We are definitely making some good headway and are excited at the progress. Clayton will be sending the mock up site to the UK Coordinators at each school to aid in adding content.
* Ukrainian Bilingual Program (Grade 12, 30 Level) – Vlodko advised that currently there are 11 students out of 12 that are planning on taking Ukrainian in Grade 12 next year. Clayton and Vlodko need to set up a meeting with ABJ Admin on moving this initiative forward. It needs to be resolved and finalized. Lesia provided some background information on where this movement came from. They have had past students come back to us saying that schools are not accepting their Ukrainian 20 as a graduate level course. It is accepted at the U of A, but not at any other post-secondary (like MacEwan University or Concordia).
* Pre-Kindergarten Program Update – Mr. Marshall reported that there are currently 12 children registered for the program.
* JV I-Pads Update – Mr. Marshall reported that in discussions with Pani Cokan, they have decided that because of the Chrome Books available in the school, that they are good at this time.
* Kindergarten Ukrainian Dolls – These have been completed and look fantastic.
* ABJ Ukrainian Mural – Vlodko reported that currently at ABJ in the main Common area is a French mural which was created by an artist and French Immersion students. We want to do a similar mural with our Ukrainian Bilingual students. The mural would be 6m by 3 m, which is double the size of the one that is in the entrance of JV. Vlodko looked at 3 different artists and the Karpenko's are interested. Potential Artists in Residence for October/November 2018: Iryna and Oleksiy Karpenko. He is looking at talking to the Art 30 students to see if they would help out. In the past, we have paid for all the supplies, and a $600 honorarium. We paid around $3000 for the mural at JV and this one came back at around $4000.
* 4/8/11 Update – All is going well and on track for the event in June.
* BUCPS Spring Food Fundraiser (Charlie’s Place) – All is on track from our end. Reminder to parents that order pick up will be on Tuesday, May 15th from 1:00-6:30PM at the JV Gym.

**Administration Reports**

* Jean Vanier – Oksana Cokan reported on behalf of JV staff.
  + National Conference for the Ukrainian teachers in an on-line format took place at St. Peter’s Centre on Saturday, May 5. Iryna Krynytska and Oksana Cokan represented the Ukrainian Bilingual Program at JV.
  + The Ukrainian Bilingual Teachers will collaborate on Friday, May 11 in the school library in the morning. They will be planning the next school year celebrations and special events, looking at the Ukrainian resources that Pani Cokan brought from St. Ts, planning makerspace activities in Ukrainian and talking about starting guided reading next year.
  + The Grade 4 class is working on their Ukrainian poems for the Mother’s Day Poetry Cafe that will take place in the school library on Friday, May 11 from 12:30 until 1:30. Invitations went home last week. Also, please save the date to celebrate Father’s Day on Friday, June 15. More details to follow soon.
  + Grade 4 Ukrainian students are getting ready for their 4-8-11 Celebration on Saturday, June 2nd. They have already completed their artwork for the programs. Now, the students are practicing 2 songs and going through the Moleben slides during Music. They are very excited about celebrating their success with the grade 8 and 11 students in the Ukrainian Bilingual Program.
  + Please save the date to celebrate Vyshyvanka Day with JV students on Thursday, May 17. Wear your favorite vyshyvanka to school or work on that day. The rest of the school will be asked to wear Ukrainian colours to support the students and staff in our Ukrainian Bilingual Program at JV. The Ukrainian Leaders are working on promoting Vyshyvanka Day in our school by creating special posters that you will be able to see soon.
  + The Ukrainian Bilingual Teachers will take part in a Technology Workshop at St. Martin’s school in Edmonton on Thursday, May 24 at 4:00 p.m. Lesia Lesoway will be talking about Google classroom activities in Ukrainian class. All Ukrainian teachers should attend this special workshop and support Lesia. Also, on Thursday, May 3rd, Lesia Lesoway and Luba Ischenko received their certificates for the Best Ukrainian teacher in the World competition. The recognition event was attended by Mr. Andrij Veselovski, Consul General of Ukraine in Toronto. Congratulations ladies!
  + On Friday, June 8, 32 grade 4 students from St. Martin school will spend the entire day with 25 Grade 3/4 students at JV. Pani Vyhovska and Pani Cokan have already planned fun and interactive activities for the students.
  + Every Monday and Thursday in the month of May, the Ukrainian leaders will pray and teach other students “Hail Mary” in Ukrainian.
* St. Theresa –Lesia Pohoreski reported on behalf of St. Theresa staff.
  + Guided Reading - 4 sessions have been piloted- Ukrainian Language Advisors Nataliya Nayavko and Oksana /, Mrs. Fodchuk and Mrs. Faryna as well as all UKrainian teachers
  + Bandura/sopilka update for grade ⅚ music next year (would like to purchase sopilky for grade 5’s annually)
  + Teachers met with author George Zerebecky from Saskatoon . He presented a new resource that is currently being used in other cities. (we purchased two sets for the ⅞ class UKR teachers for next year)
  + Several St. Theresa Ukrainian teachers and Mr. R. attended a National Ukrainian Teachers’ Online Teleconference on Saturday, May 5 hosted by University of Alberta - ULEC- Ukrainian Language Education Centre
    - Over 100 teachers across Canada participated- Toronto, Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Edmonton
    - Luba was invited to present a session about “Students at the Centre of the Learning Process” with examples of how portfolios are being used in the classroom for developing Ukrainian language skills
  + St. Theresa is the first Ukrainian program in Alberta piloting the use of student languages portfolios based the learning outcomes of CEFR. This pilot project is a Saskatchewan initiative.
  + Grade 8 class entered a Canada wide video contest “Learning Ukrainian Rocks!” It was announced at the conference that St. Theresa’s Grade 8 class won third place $75.00 in the grade 5-8 category. Winning videos will be published on line.
  + Upcoming Important Dates:
    - May 7 - Adoration Week begins (mass was held this morning)
    - May 17 - Vyshyvanka Day
    - May 23 - Grade 4 Parent Transition Night (6:00pm in the theatre)
    - May 28 - ABJ Band Performance (in gymnasium) at 10:00am
    - June 1 - Grade 8 Farewell (liturgy at 2:00pm)
    - June 2 - Grade 4/8/11 Ukrainian Bilingual Farewell
  + School enrollment projections for the 2018-2019 school year - 580 students
  + No staffing announcements on the VP position at St. Theresa
  + World Catholic Education Week - On May 10th, we encourage everyone to wear blue.
  + May 17 - Vyshyvanka Day (activities happening in the school that day)
* Archbishop Jordan – Vlodko Boychuk reported on behalf of ABJ. During this 2nd Semester, ABJ is offering Grade 11 Ukrainian LA class and also Religion 9 / Ukr Creative Arts 9 courses (every second day). Grade 10 students had their Ukrainian class during Semester 1.
  + Our past and upcoming activities:

1. Winners of the Reflection Contest - Three ABJ students from our Gr. 9 and Gr. 11 Ukrainian Bilingual classes have won the Reflection Contest about “Blood of Our Soil” Production/Play. Each of them have won $100 and this Reflection Contest was organized by AFUES.

2. Ukr 9 and Ukr 10 Carolling Funds. Thank you BUCPS for agreeing to store 2017-2018 Koliada - Caroling funds which were earned by Ukr 9 and Ukr 10 towards their trips to Ukraine in 2019-2020. Mr. Boychuk will have a meeting with the parents from those classes in the fall to discuss the details of their trips.

3. Ukrainian Mural at ABJ Common Area. Vlodko got a confirmation from Don Marceau, Acting ABJ Principal that ABJ is willing to contribute $1000 towards artist honorarium and also pay for the materials/supplies. Vlodko has approached Iryna and Oleksiy Karpenko to work with ABJ students during Oct-Nov. 2018 and they are interested in working on this project.

4. May 17th is Vyshyvanka Day so we are organizing a Ukrainian Day at ABJ and Student Council is involved.

5. Students from Grade 9 and 11 entered videos in a contest and the Gr. 11’s got Honourable Mention ($50) out of 39 submitted projects.

6. Students submitted work for the “Ukrainian Culture Through the Lens of Students” Photo Contest.

7. Attended the National Ukrainian Teachers’ Online Teleconference on Saturday, May 5 – phenomenal work presented.

8. There could be an opportunity for BUCPS to get the videos from ABJ and utilize them at the Open House. BUCPS to follow up with Vlodko.

**Treasurer’s Report**

* Casino Account Balance - As of May 5th, it is $8969.00.
* Current General Account Balance – Current account balance is $28,960.00. There will be some costs going out due to the upcoming 4/8/11 celebration, and other money coming in with our Charlie’s Meats fundraiser.
  + **Motion:** Jordan moved that his report be accepted as presented. Seconded by Jennifer Lychak. All in favour. Motion carried.

**Committees**

* Sadochok – Crystal Wujcik reported on behalf of the Sadochok Executive.
  + Things are going well and we had wonderful Easter celebrations complete with pysanky and paska.
  + Grad is planned and June 14th will be the last day of class.
  + Licensing came in and observed for their 2nd and final unannounced visit. Went extremely well.
  + Promotions - trying to keep Facebook page active to attract new students and sense of wonder about the program Twitter moving forward – can this be used for the program?
  + Need to continue to post in church bulletins and word of mouth
  + We are moving forward with our transition to EICS:
    - Angela Ewaskiw (Sadochok Executive) along with Gordon Marshall, Marg Schimpf (EICS Pre-K), and our teacher Brittany Ward, created a Sadochok inventory list. Agreed on a number, they purchased most items.
    - Deanna (Sadochok Treasurer) has deposited cheque of $3780 from EICS for the objects in our Sadochok classroom. When our books close, funds will be transferred to BUCPS. Not spending any of it this year, we are working within our own budget. Discussed purpose of funds moving forward; ear marked for future Ukrainian programming and building BUCPS program and resources. Possibly could be used for future promotions and advertisements?
    - Insurance is paid up until early July. Spoke with Gord, we are covered over the summer (\*official once they purchase the items, which they have but we need the policy for the students and teacher presently)
    - My understanding is there are currently 12 kids registered for Ukrainian pre-kindergarten next year
    - Contacted EICS to let them know that we won’t be renewing our rental agreement, as we no longer have to rent space
    - Marg confirmed a job advertisement has run for the Ukrainian pre-k teacher position and now has closed. We have posted and the posting is currently closed. (She said they had applicants who speak Ukrainian). Teachers on continuing, probationary contracts go first and then they fill the positions by interviewing. HR is working on this.
    - Close up June 14th, will work with Gord and Marg.
    - Discuss liaison position for the transition. I have a recommendation, who was a former and present parent (only one).
  + Touching base with Mr. Marshall, to help Brittany Ward get on EICS sub list (Ukrainian teacher and asset).

**New Business**

* Ukrainian Program Administrative Representation – Shawn Haggarty, Deputy Superintendent, reported on behalf of EICS. Peter R. has been the successful candidate for principalship at Holy Redeemer. Peter did bring up in the interview that he was the last Ukrainian speaking admin in the Ukrainian bilingual program and that his departure would leave a void. The interviewers asked him if this affected his willingness to take on the role and he said it did not. They felt Peter deserves this opportunity as he brings with him a variety of assets. He is sound in relationships (with staff, parents and kids), he is strong in his faith, he is a strong instructional leader (good ability to lead staff) and he has the ability to be full versed in the program. His departure leaves a void, as he was an admin that was grounded in the Ukrainian cultural piece.

Mr. Haggarty brought up that EICS is considering the position of a UK Language Coordinator, someone (a current teacher in the program) that would assist the cohesion between the 3 schools. He is unsure as to whether this teacher would be the one to attend ULECON meetings. He confirmed the Ukrainian teacher and admin pool is small and very competitive. Edmonton is having issues with hiring as well. He said that EICS has to continue to develop the skill sets and people in the program, and English administrators have to keep the cultural and language component at the forefront. He said that the posting will go up internally for the position. He thanked BUCPS for keeping the Ukrainian language program front and center and that he will coordinate divisionally a voice to action on these things.

Lesia Pohoreski brought up that ABJ has only a teacher who has volunteered to be the UK Coordinator and he is allocated zero prep time for this versus the Coordinators at JV and St. T’s. Mr. Haggarty followed up to say that this depends on the budget and how much time each school can afford as each is given an allowance. This position would be over and above what each school is given.

It was brought up whether the schools have a succession plan, so when admin moves on, etc. that there is a teacher within the school who has been groomed to take over. Mr. Haggarty said that senior admin divisionally does do succession planning but not within the schools. Admin stays 3-7 years per school. He said he knows it is an anxious time for admin now.

The idea of attracting individuals from other school boards was brought up as an idea to help out with some of our currents voids. Mr. Haggarty said that EICS has been successful attracting 1-2 individuals, but none for the Ukrainian program. St. T’s should be hearing soon as to who will replace Peter as Assistant Principal for next year.

* Ukrainian Kindergarten Registration – There needs to be a bigger push for promotion this year. Currently there are 8 fulltime, and 4 half time registrants. Mr. Marshall confirmed that EICS is no longer able to afford noon bussing due to budget cuts. EICS decided to take preliminary registrations and see what parents wanted for Kindergarten programming, instead of mandating full days like Elk Island Public. The English program currently has 14 fulltime, and 18 half day registrants. JV decided to run full days for Ukrainian Kindergarten because that’s what the majority wanted. Unfortunately this puts us in a catch 22, as 8 registrants aren’t enough to financially run the program. Mr. Marshall said that maybe he could look at making UK Kindergarten work at 15 registrations. The lack of noon hour bussing makes it difficult for parents to get their kids to and from school. Lesia Pohoreski brought up that 37 years ago the UK parents committee in Edmonton paid for cabs to get their children to school. It was brought up whether any conversations were had with the 4 half day registrants to see if they would consider switching to full days. Mr. Marshall said that Simone (JV Secretary) was supposed to be following up with them. Parents asked whether this should be done by the Principal instead, or even Pani Sombyk who can actually speak to the program and provide more information. Clayton even offered to help call the parents on behalf of BUCPS. It was brought up whether a Family Open House, where we could bring the kids together to meet Pani Sombyk, might be a good option. Parents brought up that creative options need to be looked at, for example even pulling the UK class together with the English full-time class and then potentially pulling out into Ukrainian breakout sessions. A parent brought up from an English program parents perspective that they may not be so willing for their children to do this, as enrolling in a second language program is a choice and they would not have a choice. Also, some more marketing initiatives need to take place to boost the programs visibility - maybe positioning the program as “Why Not Ukrainian?” and then list the many benefits like the doors that can be opened and the increase in brain chemistry that comes from learning a second language… perhaps a change in marketing strategy.

Mr. Haggarty advised that they are not allowed to accept donations for core programming (say if BUCPS wanted to donate money to ensure the Ukrainian Kindergarten program runs which was brought up by parents as an option).

Mrs. Bayduza shared that she taught full-time Kindergarten at Holy Redeemer a few years ago. She said that the Grade 1 teacher said that those Kindergarten kids were way more ready for Grade 1 the following year and were less tired - typically it takes until end of October or beginning of November for kids to get used to the full days and they were way ahead.

Mr. Haggarty said there is the option of broad advertising for the program – such as Facebook – and there is money divisionally to do this. He also advised that the best kind of advertising is word of mouth. Parents asked when the “drop dead date” was for the Kindergarten program and Mr. Marshall said that he has to submit a balanced budget by March 16th. Jordan reiterated to Mr. Marshall that we have to believe and trust that he is doing what’s best for the program. Pani Cokan asked Mr. Haggarty whether the division school board has any reserve funds for instances like this and he said that they do have marginal reserves but they are not for base instructional programming. It would have to come as a grant from the province. Mr. Haggarty closed in saying that the program has competing priorities - there is the possibility to combine the best of both worlds in the lean years, and there may be the potential that the money that was going to be directed towards the UK Language Coordinator for the 3 schools could go to JV for the Kindergarten program this year. Parents suggested that this may be a solution temporarily and could be looked at again the following year.

Pani Lesoway suggested that the Kindergarten parents need to get together to have a discussion. It’s not just a school, you are part of a family.

The discussion ended with BUCPS committing to initiate the planning of a Kindergarten Open House in early June. Details to follow.

* St. Sophia’s Golf Tournament Sponsorship – BUCPS was approached to support the event. A motion was passed to support with $400 as a Silver Hole Sponsor in addition to our reoccurring donation of door prizes that we've had in years passed. We will get the following:
  + Exposure through the St. Sophia social media event page
  + Recognition in an ad in the Sherwood Park News
  + Signage as a Hole Sponsor with the option to be present to promote goods or services at the hole
  + Name listed on golf cart name tags and on the TV inside club house

The BUCPS executive felt this was a great opportunity to get more awareness out about the organization and program. Because we do have the option to hand out information at the hole, BUCPS will be sending out an email to families looking for volunteers who may be interested in helping out. Golf tournament date is slated for Saturday, June 9th at Broadmoor Golf Course starting at 1:30PM.

* World FM Advertising – BUCPS has decided not to pursue any advertising with World FM at this time. We utilize them more for certain occasions like Christmas. We felt KONTAKT gave better exposure for the program.
* ADmazing Fundraiser Update – After initial discussions on the fundraiser this year, we found out that the books have increased in price by $5. That combined with the level of effort required for the fundraiser, BUCPS has decided to take a year off. A motion was made to revisit this fundraiser next year.
* BUCPS Advertising Initiatives (Newspapers, KONTAKT) –
  + Newspapers: We have advertised in the Sherwood Park News, Fort Saskatchewan Record, as well as put out information in church bulletins throughout Sherwood Park and Edmonton.
  + KONTAKT - A motion was passed by the Executive to move forward with a $1200 advertising campaign. This will involve creating a 30-second ad running for 3 months ($1000), as well as getting KONTAKT to develop an ad for us. It will take some time to develop, but then BUCPS will have something we can use in the future. This will cost an additional $200, and it usually takes 1-2 months to make it, plus some time to get CRTC approval via Toronto KONTAKT. We are also moving forward with getting an ad in the Community Announcements which come out every week. Clayton to follow up with Marko.
* UK Program Photographic Content for New BUCPS Website – Clayton will be emailing the Ukrainian Coordinators at each school to start collecting pictures and then he will set up Dropbox where they could upload their pictures.
* Available BUCPS Positions for 2018-2019 – Jordan opened it up to say that if anyone is interested in any of our roles on the executive, we'd love to hear from them. As well, we would like to get 2 volunteers for a Fundraising Coordinator and an Advertising Coordinator for the upcoming school year as it would help the current executive out tremendously.

Adjournment

* Clayton thanked everyone for attending.
* Next meeting date will be held on June 11, 2018 at JV Library.
* Clayton adjourned the meeting at 9:20pm.
* Meeting minutes recorded by Jennifer Lychak.