

Catholic School Council Meeting #1

MONDAY, October 26th, 2020 at 7:00pm

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introduction of Council Members
2. Appointment of Chair/Co-Chairs, Secretary, Community Rep and Parish Rep
3. Task: Review of By-Laws
4. Declaration and Pledge Document
5. Administrator's Report – Erin
6. Committee Updates

Fundraiser/Donation Drive – Erin and Natalia

Chapters/Indigo Book Night– Marlene Chorley

7. Confirming Schedule for Future Meetings:

Monday, November 30th @ 7:00pm

Monday, January 25th @ 7:00pm

Monday, March 29th @ 7:00pm

Monday, April 26th @ 7:00pm

June ---?

Discussion of next meeting committee updates/agenda items?

Any other future agenda items to be provided in advance to the CSC Chair for possible inclusion on CSC Agendas. The Chair will work in conjunction with the Principal to prepare and disseminate the CSC Agendas before each meeting

Meeting minutes Oct. 26, 2020 7 pm

Council members: Erin Sweeney-Hurd (Principal), Lisa MacLennan (Vice Principal), Jennifer Leung (Teaching Rep), Kristina Stajduhar (Parent Rep), Deepa Dey (Parish Rep, Parent Rep), Elaine Cowan (Parent Rep), Francine Fonseka (Parent Rep), Natalia Gorska-Anderson (Secretary, Parent Rep), Justene Thrasher (Parent Rep), Kristina Farris (Parent Rep), Lisa Paulo-Alberto (Co-Chair), Tanya Palermo (Co-Chair)

Elected positions for council this year:

Deepa Dey - Parish rep
Elaine Cowan- Community rep
Natalia Gorska-Anderson- Secretary
Tanya Palermo and Lisa Paulo-Alberto- co-chairs

By-Law review completed

Principal's Report

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ACHIEVING

- We are getting there!
- Teachers have had to spend much time this September on diagnostic assessments of students – Where are there? Where are their learning gaps?
- Teachers are starting to get a handle on where the needs are
- We have grown.....Year 1 - 220 students, Year 2 - 445 students and today we have 632 students (made up of 475 face to face learners and 157 virtual learners. This means that roughly 25% of our students are in the virtual school currently
- At the Opt In/Opt Out change over date of October 19 th we saw 23 students coming back to face to face learning from virtual and 18 students leaving face to face to move to the virtual school
- We have four of our staff members who are teaching virtually: Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Kawnik (Solimine), Mrs. Casera and Ms. Nogiec/Mrs. McGowan (half time virtual, half time face to face)
- We are also housing three other virtual teachers here within our school
- Ontario Student Record folders for any new students are coming in daily and are being reviewed by teachers
- Teachers will be starting to work on progress report cards soon and these will be going home on November 24th
- Main focus area for school improvement: filling in gaps.....teachers are well aware that our students haven't had traditionally schooling since March and there will be lots of things that will need to be re-taught and re-focused on
- Our virtual Curriculum Night will be this upcoming Thursday, October 29 th . It will start with a 10-15 minute MS Teams Live Meeting that parents will be sent a link to which will be led by Lisa

and I and then teachers are sending parents three separate meeting links. Parents can choose one of the meeting times to attend

BELIEVING

- St. Scholastica belongs to St. Benedict Parish
- No church yet (due to open mid December in time for Advent/Christmas)
- Weekend Masses held at Our Lady of Fatima School
- Our opening School liturgy was held virtually on September 29 th and was posted on our private YouTube site. This liturgy was led by our Grade 2's (English Track)
- Thanksgiving Liturgy was held virtually on October 9 th and a "Gratitude" message was posted on our private YouTube site. This liturgy was organized by our Grade 1's (English Track)
- The Sacrament of First Communion from last year and all of this year's Sacraments have not had dates established yet. Father Jim was hoping to know more from the Diocese office about the performing of the sacraments and also was hoping to do much of this in the new Church once opened. Dates will be forwarded to parents as soon as we have them

BELONGING

- This continues as our main area of focus but is proving trickier this year
- Just as we have welcomed many new students and families, our staff has grown in size too (both virtual and face to face teachers)
- Original staff have been spending time with our new staff to reflect upon our collective commitments and the mission statement that we developed together last year
- Working on focusing on putting our students first – calling them by their names, being the caring adults in the lack of parent presence, making connections with kids other than the ones in our own classrooms
- Website – Continuing with our weekly update reports (posted on the website) and notification being sent to families over the weekends
- Email, Website and our Twitter account are also important forms of communication this year
- Class and Individual photo day - no information on this yet
- Fire Drills (all three of our Fall drills have been completed) – in small groups
- Fundraising – no chocolate fundraiser due to the handling of the chocolate from person to person. Idea of a donation drive (this is a sub committee topic for later in the meeting)

COVID Re-Opening Protocols

- Board website is REGULARLY updated with information about COVID cases in our schools throughout the board, COVID protocols and questions that parents frequently have
- Students here are playing in designated yard zones to prevent mingling of cohorts
- One class of students in a hallway area at a time
- Limits on the number of students who can use the washroom at a time
- Floor decals and markings to denote areas for students to wait for washroom or water bottle filling stations
- Sanitization stations upon student entry at each door and sinks, soap and paper towels in classrooms
- Washing upon entry, when donning and doffing masks, before and after eating, and after recess times

- Masks worn at all time inside
- Our gym is reopening this week with strict sanitization practices and equipment cleaning
- Number of Kinder classes in the Kinder yard at one time has been reduced and this yard has been sectioned into two separate zones
- Illness procedure for students who are feeling ill at school is in place
- Only essential visitors permitted into the school and there is a procedure in place for a COVID assessment and potential contact tracing
- Generally things are going REALLY well – kids are doing such a good job with our procedures and with the mask wearing

Council Questions

- Will there be access to outdoor games or equipment? Outdoor play bins will be prepared for outdoor learning time, supervised by staff, not for use at recess
- Will lunch programs be returning? Grab & Go program currently on hold
- Locker use and lunch programs protocols will be reviewed by the board; no news at this time

Marlene Chorley: library tech

- Books are getting into students' hands
- Each classroom has been assigned a box; alternating boxes for quarantine, and only one student touches each book
- Story time: done virtually, some kindergarteners have been done outside
- Students can also reserve books online

Chapters/Indigo night

- Able to offer St. Scholastica family and friends one hour: Sunday, November 1st 5-6pm (one hour after close) specifically for St. Scholastica family and friends
- 20% of their sales will go back to St. Scholastica to develop library collection in the form of a gift card
- Pre-selected books will be available to purchase for the school if people would like to donate that way as well
- Book plates are still available for this year if people are donating

Fundraiser/Donation Drive

- Chocolate fundraiser cancelled
- Donation drive: Council would put together a letter speaking to the fact that fundraising needs to be done differently
- In the past, each case of chocolates was \$60 for school generated funds
- Technology is an area of need: face-to-face learners have very little technology left; virtual students are using much of the technology currently available
- Possibility of doing a fun element to donation drive: prizes, or some sort of a draw
- Council will make a decision on fundraisers within the next week and communicate those initiatives

Meeting adjourned at 8:30