

# Catholic School Council Administrators' Report

## January 18, 2021

### **Believing**

#### Parish Update

Registration forms for First Reconciliation/First Communion and Confirmation will be coming this week to be sent to the parents of students in Grades 2,3 and 7. There remains much uncertainty around ceremony dates/times. Once we have clear direction from the diocesan authorities and the government, we will be able to formalize things.

We commemorated Remembrance Day with a Virtual Peace Liturgy led by Mrs. Weishar's Gr. ½ class and weekly virtual school-wide liturgies throughout the Advent season were led by Mrs. Schumacher, Mrs. Coccia and Mrs. DiCenso's classes.

With Mrs. Lawrence's support, we delivered a huge food donation to the Salvation Army prior to Christmas. We also collected over \$800.00 in gift cards to directly support GA families during the Christmas season.

### **Achieving**

In November, we introduced a new process for online scheduling of parent-teacher interviews which was a big success at a low cost.

In December we purchased a total of 70 Chromebooks to support online learning. 27 Chromebooks from School Generated Funds and 43 Chromebooks from our Board Budget. The Board supported our technology needs with the delivery of 70 Chromebooks. Delivery occurred over the Christmas holiday and distribution occurred the first 2 days back to school in January. We have supported over 100 in-person learners with their technology needs so far this month. Anyone who has need of a device should reach out directly to Mr. Hawken.

#### Learning Environment Survey Results

Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> was to mark the switch date for those students who opted to change learning environments. Results indicated that, again, no class/school reorganization was necessary. The switch date will not occur until schools resume face-to-face learning.

#### Grade 4 Gifted Screening

In December the Canadian Cognitive Aptitude Test (CCAT) was administered to all Gr. 4 in-person learners and the option to attend school for the screening was given to our virtual Gr. 4 learners. This is an annual assessment for students in Grade 4.

#### Intermediate Dance Off Competition

The Grade 7 and 8 students celebrated their dance unit by creating a class dance for the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Intermediate Dance Competition. The dances were recorded and uploaded for viewing. Each staff member (and their class) was invited to vote on the

winner. Congratulations to the winning class -Ms. Natale's Gr. 8 class. Ms. Rykhoff's Gr. 7/8 class was runner-up.

## **Belonging**

### Spirit Days

In November, we celebrated solidarity with Bullying Awareness Week with a wear blue spirit day and the Celebration of International People with Disabilities Week with a wear purple spirit day.

In December we celebrated Advent, the Season of Preparation with a Cozy Clothes Day and a red, green and white spirit day.

### Equity and Inclusion Initiative – Anti-Racism and Anti-Black Racism

Mrs. Stephens and Mrs. Filice are inviting families to participate in our first Equity and Inclusion Initiative with the Celebration of Black History Month. The 2021 theme for Black History Month is **“The Black Family: Representation, Identity, and Diversity.”**

Those interested in participating are asked to share a family story, tradition, celebration, recipe, favourite storybook etc. to be shared with the school community throughout the month of February.

### CYC Initiatives

Mrs. Pipe has created an interactive classroom for families and teachers to use with students that supports mental health and well-being. It will be posted weekly on our website in our Promoting Wellness section of the Weekly Update.

Mrs. Pipe continues to support students and classes virtually during the school closure.

Halton Women's Place presentations take place in 10 classes throughout the school on a range of topics from mental health to self-advocacy.

### Staff Wellness Initiative

The Board is promoting staff well-being through the Staff Wellness Initiative. GA has a staff wellness committee led by Mrs. Pipe (CYC) which is tasked with developing a plan to improve staff morale. Various events involving arranging hot beverages to staff before school, 2 staff retirement celebrations and order-in lunch days in support of local businesses were held. A special thanks to Mr. Gyles for delivering a pre-Christmas beverage (from Starbucks and Tim Hortons) for staff the last week before the holiday.