**Holy Rosary Catholic School Council**

MINUTES OF MEETING – January 16, 2017 – 6:30 p.m.

**Chair: Cathy Choma, Principal**

**2016-2017 Council Members**

Michelle Bradshaw Julie Ruston Sonya Tonkovich

Briana Hamlet Rose Ryan Kim VanNieuwkoop

Cathy Hope Julie Ruston

Tiana Arruda Newns Sarah Sheehan

Parish Representative: Bonnie Sparks

Teaching Representative: Tara Wilson

Non-Teaching Representative: Ann Marie Nicholson

Community Representative: Sheila Slattery-Ford

**Absent – January 16** - Bonnie Sparks

**MINUTES**

**1. Welcome and Opening Prayer**

**2. Approval of Minutes and Agenda** – Approved by Rose Ryan

**3. School Uniforms**

School provider has changed to In-School Wear. Three locations – Oakville, Burlington and Milton (soon to be open). They currently have no items in stock pending a final approval of the quality of the school crest. This issue should be resolved in the next few days. Mock up sweatshirt was passed around. Discussion was held on what other types of clothing they offer. Michelle will bring uniform vote information package to next meeting for new members of council to review.

**4. Principals Report**

***Catholicity/Focus on Faith:***

* Advent Mass on November 29th, Grade 3-8 Advent Confession on December 6th at the Church
* Joy day was December 8th, our Faithful Fury Club organized activities by grade in the library and students participated
* March 1st is our Ash Wednesday Liturgy K-2 9:30 am will be a liturgy, 4-8 10:15am Mass
* Christmas Food Drive, Tree of Hope was a huge success approximately 18 families with gifts and gift cards for the holidays-so appreciative, Poinsettia drive raised approx. 800 dollars to support the tree of hope
* Faithful Fury club went shopping and filed stockings for the mom’s in the HUB, winter coat drive
* Catholic Education Week is the first week of May…the theme this year is *Walking Forwards Together.*

***Communication/Newsletters and Monthly Highlights:***

* week at a glance has changed format…these will be posted on the school website too
* Monthly calendar being sent out via email at the beginning of each month
* website is being completely overhauled…all updated info has been sent to the board and we are in the cue

**December/January Highlights:**

* Breakfast with Santa…what a great event!
* Basketball teams have been picked for both boys and girls and their season begins next week
* Assumption Bands visited on Dec 13th and entertained the students
* Christmas Celebrations were a huge success and BIG turnout
* Pizza day, Lunch Lady Thursday, milk have all started up again Snack program is up and running again
* stamp club once a month for students in Grade 3-8
* Homework club for Grade 6-8 runs at lunch hour
* French clubs begins this week for our students in Grade 4-8
* Lego Club continues
* the Hockey team has a tournament this week will be attending another one in mid-February
* Floor hockey teams will compete in tournaments at Assumption and St. Christopher at the end of January
* Little Jammers will begin on February 1st and will run for 12 weeks -March 24th once a week during lunch in the library for students in Grade1-6
* Scott Graham Kids 4 Kids leadership program will run on Wednesdays after school for 5 weeks beginning January 23rd
* Parent Info night is tonight for our Grade 8 trip to Camp Muskoka
* Code of Conduct Assemblies - week of January 23rd
* Kindergarten Registration Jan 24th and 25th
* Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition and ND on January 21st
* Shrove Tuesday is Feb 28th – Grade 8 students will cook pancakes for students
* Public Speaking Competition Grade 4-8 on February 27th in the PM
* Hosting the Board FOS public speaking competition on March 29th

***CURRICULUM***

***School Improvement Plan and E.Q.A.O. 2014 Results:***

* School Improvement Plan team met on November 4th to establish our goals and revise our School Improvement Plan for 2016-2017; plan is being revised and will be available on school website after Feb 13th
* Board Renewed Math Strategy-highlights
  + What to Look For Resource-Continuum of Numeracy Development-Addition/Subtraction
  + Number Lines-mental math strategies, a model to represent their thinking and solutions
  + Number Talks-support the development of flexible and efficient strategies for addition and subtraction
  + Counting on Fun: Multiple Games for Sum Fun-embeds Math in DPA
* Intervention programs to support closing gaps-RTI programs in place to support students LLI, Empower, Lexia, Leaps and Bounds. More Lexia licenses were purchased for the school (10 licences, 3 year term…paid for by our Superintendent Tim Overholt $1500 dollars

***Report Cards:*** ***Grade 1 to 8***

* go home on February 23rd
* no formal interviews at this time
* Kindergarten is being in serviced on new report cards next month

***Other updates:***

* Mrs. Choma passed around financial report for review. Teachers are requesting new technology as IPads and tablets need replacing. Mrs. Choma will prepare a report on what is needed. Michelle Bradshaw requested a balance between technology and non-technology needs for our budget.
* Christmas concert parking was an issue. Michelle Bradshaw suggested we contact Burlington Bylaw officers for parking waivers for special events.
* Mrs. Choma advised in a separate email after the meeting that the Indigo Adopt A School program raised $1,600 which will go towards new books for the library.
* Michelle Bradshaw suggested that Parent Council representatives be present at Kindergarten information night in May.

**5. Uniform Swap**

Briana suggested uniform swap be held at end of January. Uniform sub-committee will meet to sort out the uniform items and Briana has clothing racks that can be used. Important to get uniform items in as soon as possible. Mrs. Choma will mention in next weekly bulletin as “Save the Date’”. Tickets will be given out to people who drop off items and get first pick. Swap will be held February 2, 2:30-8:00 p.m. in the Library as the Hub is busy on that date. Change rooms will be available.

**6. Breakfast with Santa**

Breakfast with Santa was a success and the feedback was positive. Thanks to everyone for their help including Briana for reviewing the files with new event leader Tiana, Rose for scheduling volunteers and Michelle for sharing knowledge of previous events. Despite the concerns with having the breakfast the morning after the Turkey Roll, everything went smoothly as tables were already set up and everyone was organized. The committee will meet and discuss improvements for this year. Date is set for December 2, 2017. Santa, Mrs. Claus and the photographers have already been booked.

**7. Drum Fit**

We received a $2,000 grant for a parent engagement event. Last year we did yoga night and literacy talk. This year we are having Drumfit come on January 27. All students will participate. There will also be a one hour parent/student event on Thursday, February 9 and Thursday, February 23 where kids will be able to share this experience with their parents. Possible times will be either 6:30 or 7:00 p.m.

**8. Selection for School Principal**

Selection criteria for a new principal is updated yearly for the Board. Two forms were passed around – a Board summary on what we are looking for in a principal and the other document described how submissions were done in previous years. Michelle stressed the importance of Council’s input as last year’s response was lower than desired. A group email will be sent to the Council for their input which is due February 1. Michelle and Briana will discuss our votes and submit a report to the Board by February 10.

**9. Community Update**

* Partnering Aldershot – Holy Rosary will send article to Sheila for inclusion in the neighborhood bulletin due on January 26. Article written last year by students was erroneously credited to School Trustee so Sheila will ensure this does not happen again.
* 72 families were supported at Christmas for Toys for Tots. Food for Life delivered same day so families also got turkeys with their gifts. This year Sheila will recommend families she knows from the Hub for the Lions Christmas party at St. Matthews. A meeting of outlets that help families in need at Christmas will be held so more families can be supported equally.

**10. Parish Update**

* Candlemas – Father Martin will be blessing candles during the morning Mass on February 2, which is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. The blessed candles will be available for people to take home at the Masses on the weekend of Feb 3 and 4.  A donation of $5 is suggested.
* February 3 – Feast of St. Blase – Father Martin will bless throats after the morning Mass.  The blessing of throats is a prayer that asks God to deliver the person from every disease of the throat and every other illness.
* February 11 – Knights of Columbus Valentine Dinner and Dance – more information will follow in the bulletin
* February 28 – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
* March 1 – Ash Wednesday

**11. Other Business**

* Psychologist Dr. Jean Clinton will be doing an upcoming talk on brain/child development. Other schools have put together money for this lecture.
* Sports for U still has openings for children looking to play sports on Saturday mornings from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. This program is organized by the YMCA and is available at no cost to children ages 9-12.
* Many thanks for another successful food drive.
* Mr. Sub is being discussed as an additional lunch alternative. Mr. Sub was chosen as they will guarantee nut free as opposed to Subway or Pita Pit. Forms will go out to parents and trial will start for the last Friday of each month. Will try to start in February. Mrs. Choma and Briana will meet with Mr. Sub to iron out details.

Parent council has been invited to join a meeting of the Assumption Parent Council being held January 18 at 7:00 p.m. HCDSB is presenting future prospects for Assumption. Assumptions’s Parent Council has been working for the last five years on a new school proposal. Mrs. Choma and Michelle Bradshaw will be attending.

Next Parent Council Meetings are April 3 and June 5