



Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic School  
School Council Meeting Minutes  
**Thursday, October 7, 2021**  
Virtual on MS Teams ~ 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

**PRESENT:**

John Susi - Principal  
Paula Durand - Vice Principal  
Lisa Messom - Teaching Staff Representative  
Christine Gaudet - Teaching Staff Representative

**Parent Representatives:**

Andrea Boudreau	Melissa Bickford	Maryam Farahani	Valerie Foster
Melanie Gaddi	Victoria Gagne	Heather Gaudet	Krista Hinsperger
Juwon Ogunmwonyi	Jelena McFadyen	Julie McLaren	Jess Mitchell
Lena Ding	Rachel Petch	Ivonne Pineda	Raffaela Profiti
Stephanie Sage	Nancy Taddeo	JoAnn Toomath	Laura Van Dyk
Vanessa Van Moorsel	Adele Bagnoli	Roxalia Munoz	Marcus Cassolato
Christina Tsui			

1. Opening Prayer – P. Durand
2. Welcome and Introductions – All
  - Welcome to our new Vice Principal, Mrs. Durand
  - 27 parent representatives including 9 new to council this year
3. What does a Catholic School Council do? - J. Susi
  - Consensus Building
  - What's beyond the scope of the School Council? - Activities that benefit the school and school community. Council members take ideas from our parents to the meeting.
  - Communications on Council: Email distribution list – Email communication will be coming from Principal, Vice Principal or Co-Chairs
  - Creating a School Council – official declaration form online has been submitted by all council members.
  - Catholic School Council membership – This HCDSB requirement has been changed from maximum of 2 non-Catholic council members to a majority of members must be Catholic.

4. Role description and the selection of:

- a. Co-Chairpersons: **Adele Bagnoli and Laura Van Dyk**
- b. Secretary: **Melanie Gaddi**

5. Nominations for:

- i. Parish Representative: **Roxalia Munoz** – Roxalia to inform Father John Schnurr.
- ii. Community Representative: **Victoria Gagne and Valerie Foster**
- iii. OAPCE Representative: **Stephanie Sage**  
(Ontario Association of Parents for Catholic Education is a group that maintains a broader connection with parents province wide. There is an annual OAPCE conference held in the past years.)

6. Establish committees and Chairperson for each committee.

Roles/responsibilities of each committee

NOTE: HCDSB Policy for Parent Volunteers – Full Vaccinations are mandatory

- a. Volunteer Coordinator: **Juwon Ogunmwonyi**
- b. Pizza Day: **JoAnn Toomath**, Maryam Farahani and Juwon Ogunmwonyi
- c. Milk Program: **Heather Gaudet**
- d. Salad Bar: NA for 2020-21
- e. LunchBox Orders: **Maryam Farahani**
- f. Healthy Snack Program: **Krista Hinsperger**, Rachel Petch and Juwon Ogunmwonyi
- g. Halloween Dance-a-thon: **Heather Gaudet, Jelena McFadyen**
- h. Pancake Tuesday: **Victoria Gagne**, Jess Mitchell, Nancy Taddeo
- i. Media Contact for Special Events: **Nancy Taddeo**
- j. Pasta Night: NA for 2020-21
- k. Family Fun Night BBQ June: TBD for June
- l. Uniform Exchange Committee: **Vanessa Van Moorsel, Lena Ding**
- m. Staff Appreciation Luncheon: **Julie Maclaren, Victoria Gagne**,
- n. Yearbook: **Krista Hinsperger**

7. Principal and Vice Principal's Report

**a. Re-energize; Re-engage; Resilience**

Theme this year: 3 Rs. Need to energize students, being excited about school, back to routines. Applies to staff and parents too. Going back to things in the past that we all love. Re-engaging parents, volunteers, students with clubs and sports. Slow and measured approach in following safety guidelines. Being flexible and adapting and being positive to change. Resilience will help us throughout the year. Being able to work together when times get challenging.

**b. Virtual School Liturgies and Rosary Wednesdays**

Continuing to celebrate our faith, virtually. Thanksgiving liturgy today. Short rosary liturgy for the next 3 Wednesdays of October, via Teams.

**c. School Organization and Enrolment:** Students learning remotely vs. in-class

- 546 students total: 222 English and 324 French Immersion Students. 10 students in Virtual school

- Major reorganization after 2 weeks of school, communicated to parents via email. FI: Down 3 teachers total. 1 teacher on mat leave and the board didn't find a qualified replacement. Other schools in the same position (12 French positions board-wide need to be filled). Board slowly filling positions. After first week of school, another FI teacher resigned to accept another job in a closer school board. Another French planning time teacher has been injured; status getting re-assessed every 2 weeks and the board isn't able to find a French replacement either. Her supply is teaching in English. Had to reorganize due to the loss of 2 FI homeroom teachers. School commitment that all FI students need to have a qualified FI homeroom teacher. Board average classroom size is 25 students, so we had the ability to combine smaller classes. We lost two FI classrooms. Resulted to one surplus English teacher so we were able to add her to the English stream of classes and they now have all straight classes. Two combined classes in FI. No cap/lottery currently for entry level grades (HCDSB Early FI in Grade 1 and Extended FI in Grade 5) in the FI program. HCDSB is experiencing the effects of the expansion of the HCDSB French Immersion program and lack of qualified French teachers.

#### **d. Fundraising Budget Estimates and Overview for 2021-2022**

Draft Financial Plan was reviewed. This will be posted on our school website.

JoAnn: Concerned that the estimate for pizza revenues need to be lower due to possibility of having a new pizza provider. Will likely be more costly due to our really excellent deal with Pizza Pizza in the past. May need to adjust pizza revenue projections. Our Pizza committee chair will evaluate pizza supplier.

JoAnn: Did the board provide more funding to purchase computers? Last year, we budgeted for 10 computers, this year we are budgeting for 20. Need to replace a lot of them that are 7+ years old and becoming obsolete and too slow. Board provided us with 30+ computers to loan out to families last year during school shutdowns. We loaned another 120+ of own computers. This year, each class would have 4 to 8 computers/iPads (Higher grades have more allocation). Lisa: Primary classes are struggling with the old iPads. Grade 3s are included with the Bring your own device policy and it really helps. Lisa has 4 Chrome books and 1 iPad so any additional units would be very helpful. Due to possibility of switching to remote learning, teachers are incorporating devices into the students' learning. Some iPads are first generation and the new apps cannot be downloaded in these old units. Browsers are harder for primary students to use compared to the apps.

JoAnn: Staff Appreciation amount is too high? Used to be \$250, now \$900. John: 55 to 60 staff members (including custodians, secretaries, Lunch Time Supervisors). Two years ago, the parent committee asked council to approve more money when we did the luncheon at school in past years. John will get estimates from the committee.

JoAnn: Need to add Cobbs Bread to the budget. JoAnn to follow up if we have a cheque with them.

Laura: In touch with Pizza Pizza and Ginos. Ginos willing to label student names, put them in bags, easier on logistics. Also heard from other schools, even though its more expensive, it is well received. Pizza Pizza seems like a fairly good price.

Laura: Do we normally buy gifts for first communicants, confirmands? In the past 9 years, we have purchased and provided sacramental gifts. We didn't spend the money last year due to the cancellation of the sacraments because of COVID. We also made less money last year as there was no income from lunch programs. John: We can continue the gifts, add to budget and seek council approval at next meeting.

John: Defer the approval of the budget until we determine the pizza revenue projections and also add the sacramental gifts. Laura to work with pizza coordinators to share current quotes.

Juwon is offering assistance with decorations for graduations. John: In the past, gr. 8 parents did the decorations.

### **e. Upcoming Events**

Thanksgiving Liturgy and Terry Fox run today

Fall Food Drive - Grade 8s leading

Rosary Wednesdays

Halloween on Oct 29th

Intermediate Intramurals Volleyball – lunchtime (Plans for Junior students in future)

Child and Youth Counsellor, Mr. Thomas is planning Primary Games club at the library. Grade 5/6s will be helping to lead. Class by class due to COVID. Mixing cohorts is allowed with masks and social distancing

### **8. School Council Discussion and Feedback:**

#### **COVID questions:**

HCDSB Return to School Policies as per the Public Health Dept. (on the HCDSB Website) as this relates to SHOJ implementation

- a. Melissa: Guidelines in pickup at the office. Parent buzzes, secretary signs out the child. Secretary confirms with child to identify the adult picking up.
- b. Roxalia: When a child travels outside of Canada and comes back, what would be the protocol with school (virtual is not an option as child is in-person). If student needs to quarantine, teacher has to provide work to these students - post in D2L/parent to pick up work from school. Student can have access to some of the learning. Marks shouldn't be affected as the marks are given for work/observations to reflect their progress over the entire term.
- c. Laura: Recess grids? John: There are 2 grids: 1st Grid only utilizes yard and field. 2nd Grid is during pavement only recess. This is when we use some area of the East parking lot when the field is too wet/muddy. Teacher supervising at all times. Grids are far enough from the streets. No balls during pavement only recess.

#### **Stranger Situation:**

- a. In the news and online news yesterday. John and staff are quite concerned. Both times, staff intervened, and police were notified.
- b. Extra security measures: reviewed stranger safety with students; extra duties by P and VP; police presence in our parking lot; marked and undercover police in parking lot.

c. Victoria: It would be good to share details to parents via the weekly newsletter.

**Other Questions:**

a. Maryam: Boom card app for supporting FI kids. Teachers were paying for the licenses on their own. Christine Gaudet can suggest other apps that are more cost-effective. FI teachers will look for more options that can be shared with parents. John or Paula will check with French Consultant on the benefits of this program.

b. Krista - Picture Day. Heard that other school(s) have already had a Picture Day. Board put a hold on it before but now has approved. New policy in place (vaccinations required by photographers). The photography company is in the process of setting up new dates with schools. We have not been provided with a date yet as all schools' photos have been delayed since the beginning of the year.

9. Next Meeting – Wednesday, Nov 17 at 6:30pm in Teams

10. Closing Prayer by P. Durand

11. Adjournment at 8:30pm