

Minutes of the St. Andrew Catholic School Council

Date: April 25, 2018
Time: 6:30pm
Location: Library, St. Andrew Catholic School

In Attendance: Lorraine Boulos, Emilia DeSimone, Elisabeth Michienzi, Christine Krueger, Susan English, Kelly Williams, Nancy Harrison, Simone Jez Kendra Paiement, Patricia Nadal-Droog, Louisa Oliveira, Kelly Williams (VP), Marguerite Murad Fuoco

Regrets: Mary Soler, Marion Bastiampillai

Greetings and Opening Prayer

Susan E. opened the meeting, by welcoming all. Kelly W. (VP), led us in the opening Prayer for Mindfulness

Approval of Agenda:

Motion put forth by Elisabeth M., second by Emilia D.; motion carried.

Business Arising from our last Meeting:

Lunch Box Orders: Kelly W (VP). reported that the response has been overall very good and that Lunchbox has been very accommodating in looking after any issues. The older students are managing the distribution to each classroom and generating approximately \$185 in profit for school funds.

- a) It was suggested and decided to add a different venue for Thursdays and that administration would ask student council on which one should be added.
- b) PRO Grant: Susan E. had asked for ideas from council for submission of the application by the June 5 deadline. "The Learning Tree" was suggested as it is an excellent parent engagement vehicle and additionally it incorporates the provincial focus on math. The organization would come to the school and run the event, and there is no additional work for school staff. Council voted, and the majority of council were in favour of submitting this idea for our application. It was also discussed to schedule the event earlier in the school year so that students could benefit from what they learn for the balance of the school year. Wed. Oct. 17 was selected as the date and Lorraine B. will book the gym in advance for this purpose. Also, it was decided that Tues. Feb 5th, 2019 would also be blocked off for a 2nd parent engagement night, as we always have Thursdays available.
- c) BBQ Review: May 31, 2018: Kelly W. confirmed they are in the midst of taking inventory of the existing prizes and that all is proceeding on schedule. The next BBQ meeting is scheduled for May 9th and that information is being sent home to parents on May 1st
- d) Student Council Updates: Kelly W. (VP) advised that council has planted a vegetable garden in pots that started from seedlings. Student council also led an assembly to honour the victims of the Florida shootings which involved a liturgy and ended with a silent symbolic walk around the playground. The focus of this event was about being kind and having empathy for others. On the same day, the Grade 7's also had their dance and were given ice cream sandwiches at the end. Lastly with the Speak Out grant monies student council received, they purchased T-shirts for council members as well as for the Safe School Action team.
- e) Family of Schools Joint Council Meeting Apr. 9th: Susan E. provided a recap of the meeting, explaining that there was an exercise concerning social media. There was discussion that in future, there could more time dedicated so that we could expand further on more topics, and engage with the other schools more. Following the 30 minute session, the Social Media presentation with Chris Vollum took place. Lorraine B. advised council that Chris Vollum will be presenting to St. Andrew students on June 18th, with 2 separate Junior and Senior student presentations.
- f) Parking Issues: It seems that problems have dissipated with less snow, but remains problematic with the dangerous layering of cars in multiple lanes in the kiss n' ride area. It was decided that Lorrain B. will contact the Town of Oakville to determine what action can be taken to ensure only 1 lane of cars drives through the Kiss n' Ride area.
- g) H.C.C.E.F. Charity Golf Classic Donation: There was discussion that at the BBQ, the names of 2 willing students would be selected from a draw, to golf with 2 teachers. This would be in lieu of the gift card and basket that council usually supply. A motion was put forth by Elisabeth M. and second by Susan E., for Council to cover the cost of our St. Andrew foursome.

Administrators' Report/ Lorraine B. see Appendix A

Lorraine B. reported

Financial Report

Emilia D. reported. Many expenses have been posted since our last meeting such as: purchase of soccer balls, Safe Student Action supplies, Parent Engagement supplies, Chris Vollum event, 1st Communion event, Confirmation lunch, Speech awards, Compassionate needs for the Grades 7&8 Ski trip, folding cycles and pizza for the dance-a-thon winning classes as top fundraisers. Overall the budget will need to be juggled to where the funds are most needed.

Halton Parish Rep Retreat Update

Christine K attended. She reported that other schools struggle as well with attendance of parent engagement events. Christine also advised us of the "Mothers of MMOG" which is a mother's group, led by the women who started the Youth Ministries as an initiative to get families back to attending church. They are also trying to have more young people involved in the "Youth Rally" as it is a powerful and motivating experience.

HCDSB Changes to the Policy Surround School Fundraising for Charities and Non Profits

Susan E. reported with a brief overview of the changes to the policy and what has transpired. She wanted to ensure that all were aware of the changes. The Board has asked for feedback and encouraged council members to respond to the email received Apr 13'18, requesting parents and students to vote on the HCDSB website. There was consensus from council for Susan E. to send a letter to the Board and the Ministry of Education on our behalf, addressing our disagreement with this proposed new policy on banning fundraising for specific charities.

New Business for Future Meetings:

- BBQ recap
- PRO Grant Application Recap
- Parking issue (north parking lot) resolution
- Budget Review
- Professor Jamz Fundraising option

Closing Prayer

The closing prayer < Our Father, was led by Lorraine B.

Adjournment

Since there was no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Next meeting Date: Wednesday, June 20th, 2018

Location: Library, St. Andrew Catholic School

**St. Andrew School Council Meeting
Administrators' Report for April 25, 2018**

Item	Information
Catholicity	<p>Currently in Easter Season</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We had our Easter Liturgy put on by Mrs. Vukovic's and Mr. Smith's Classes. • May is the month of Mary – special Marian devotions • Our Rosary Apostolate are continuing to visit us, we are now in the process of planning our Spring Marian celebration which will take place during Education Week • Our OCGE Awards and Grit Awards were given out at our Easter Liturgy. Our next OCGE Award will be for those students who are Collaborative Contributors • Catholic Education Week – flyers went home today; the information will also be posted on our school website. • We will have a school mass for grades 1-8 on Monday, May 7th at 10:00 at MMOG church. We will be walking to the church weather permitting. All parents/guardians are welcome. • First Communion occurred on Sunday, April 22nd, it was beautiful • Confirmation Luncheon at the Mandarin occurred Tuesday, April 23, Br. Luke and Fr. Thomas met with the Grade 7's beforehand, and then joined the students for lunch. They all received bookmarks. • Soap for Hope Campaign – hugely successful • Walk with Jesus – Thursday, May 10. 18 children will be going from grades 6 – 8
Curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We had our Public Speaking Competitions, one student represented St. Andrew for the English competition, and three students represented St. Andrew for Junior, Extended, and Intermediate. Nathalie Turgeon won the Junior Award. • Currently preparing for EQAO – Mrs. Mihalides, Miss Penwarden and Mr. Smith have Learning Support Programs occurring before school. In addition, Mrs. Chiarotto has a schedule to work with small groups of students to help them prepare throughout the month of May. • Dates for EQAO- Grade 3 May 29th – May 31st. Grade 6 – May 23rd, May 24th, May 28th, and May 29th. • Gifted Open House on May 2nd. • Classroom teachers are booking out our Learning Commons more regularly and using it for more creative purposes • On Thursday, we will have our New to Kindergarten Parent Orientation Evening • We will shortly begin the task of making up new classes for next year. As always, we can expect changes to teaching assignments, so we don't encourage parents to request specific teachers. • Transition planning for Secondary school is ongoing for our Grade 8 Students • Learning Support Programs for Grades 3 and 6 students have been going on for the last two months, Mrs. Chiarotto is also in the process of helping support students in preparing for EQAO in addition to doing reading intervention with our primary students. • Our Lexia program is going very well, several students have made gains of a grade or more in their reading levels. • Empower Reading program with Mr. Mule continues as does our BBBS Homework Club

Culture and Community

Change to Bell Times

- Supervision in the morning has had to change from 8:30 am to 8:35 am start time. School start time is 8:50 not 8:45 am

Health and Wellness

- We have booked Chris Vollum to do two presentations on June 18th, one for Junior students and one for Intermediate students. This presentation will address how to use Social Media so that it supports mental health and well-being.
- Dental screening for our Grade 2's and our FDK students are in the process of happening this month
- Hearing and Vision testing occurring this month also for those students who have signed up
- Grade 7 Spring vaccinations took place this week
- Team Unbreakable – running on Saturday, May 12th, 2018

Student Voice

- Our Safe School Action Team organized a 4/20 Intermediate Solidarity Walkout – our Grade 6 – 8 students had a walk out on the anniversary of Columbine in solidarity with their American peers. They organized a Liturgy with a focus on inclusion, empathy, and belonging. Officer Scott was the invited guest of honour.
- New t-shirts purchased for all members of our student government

Clubs and Teams

- Boys and Girls Basketball teams are currently in the playoffs, our boys won their game yesterday evening while our girls lost, so on Thursday, our boys will be playing for gold and our girls will be playing for bronze at Jean Vanier.
- Tryouts for Boys and Girls Junior Basketball teams are now going on
- St. Andrew Hockey Team played in two tournaments in February and March
- Best Buddies is drawing to a close
- PALS will be starting up again shortly
- ECO Team is currently having a "Pitch-In" week and are cleaning up the grounds and neighbourhood, spring mulching will begin soon

Playground

- I have requested to get brown patches reseeded and fenced off
- New soccer balls have been ordered
- We are waiting for a quote for the paint on the blacktop

Talent Show

- Mrs. Hill is organizing the school talent show. Auditions will be beginning soon
- We are hoping to get a piano from Lumen Christi, I am currently in the process of determining how best to move it.