

St. Benedict Catholic School Council Virtual Meeting
February 1, 2021 TEAMS 6:30pm

In Attendance: Pia Bernardo, Candice Singh, Laura Breau, Tanya Le Conte, Michelle Culverwell, Josey Guerin, Christina Mackay, Kristi Mifsud, Artur Migdal, Derek Pinto, Stephanie Wilson, Renee Ledford, Pilar Dimaculangan, Kylie Dillon-Alcasid

Opening Welcome (Mr. Guerin)

Prayer (Mrs. MacKay)

Presentation from Mrs. Ledford - Black History Month

- Explains of how she will speak to the children during the Black History Month information carousels. She will tell her story and present a Black person of influence, that is grade appropriate and in student language.

Black History Month Upcoming Events

- Mr. Guerin shares that presenters will share a synopsis of what they shared with the students, with parents on Thursday, February 11 over a Teams meeting.
- Teachers have an area in a collaborative space to share resources.

Approval of November Minutes Mr. Guerin

- Edit December 7th for next meeting.
- Approved by Michelle Culverwell. Second by Christina Mackay.

Information Items

1. Student Presentation Derek Pinto – Reading of his Poem

- Derek read his poem. Shared that he was inspired by Amanda Gorman from inauguration to write poems. Amazing feedback from council members.

2. Health & Safety Update Students & Staff in the Building (Mrs. Le Conte)

- Ministry has permitted students with special needs to work with principals to come into the school if they cannot be accommodated online. We have 5-6 students who come into the building each day. SERTS and EAs are permitted in building to support these students. PPEs and self-screening protocol are implemented and followed every day by all staff members who enter building. Staff have a new form to fill in each day- confirming daily screening.
- Waiting on further update from Minister Lecce regarding returning to school (i.e. PPE protocols for when we return to schools).

- Moving forward, St. Benedict will follow the recommendation that both staff and students will wear masks, when social distancing cannot be maintained (i.e.outdoor recess, in all hallways, etc). –
- Waiting to see if there will be changes in mask requirements for students. Staff required to wear board approved medical masks.
- At the school level, when the government, public health, and/or the ministry makes decisions, we find out when announcements are made to the public.

3. Principal's Report Mr. Guerin & Mrs. LeConte

Achieving

Administrator Update

- St. Benedict is currently a two-administrator school until further notice.

Curriculum Update (new Math & PD)

- New math curriculum will look different on report cards. There has been PD for teachers. Social and emotional has been added but will not be rolled out on this report card due to lack of time and PD- due to COVID.

Term 1 Report cards (Tues. Feb. 23)

- Report cards will probably be encrypted and emailed out (like Progress Reports)

Technology Sharing

- 200 requests from families. St. Benedict has organized over 200 Chromebooks. Process is parents put in request for technology and school requests from school board.

Teacher Professional Development- lunch & learn

- We have been able to access the knowledge of St. Benedict staff and teachers who are comfortable with technology and platforms who have been able to support colleagues during this time. We have been able to provide lunch and learns, and collaborative learning spaces, to support each other.

Student Teachers

- St. Benedict is hosting a variety of student teachers, from different schools, this year.

Believing

Ash Wednesday (Feb.17-Liturgy with Father Jim)

- Father Jim plans to come in or be done virtually depending on the situation (if we are in school or still working remotely.)

- Pancake Tuesday (Twitter contest to win a curbside pickup Meal- i.e. from Sunset Grill)
- A St. Benedict tradition that we would like to continue. Trying to brainstorm ideas of what we can do on this day, given the nature of the times. Asked for feedback about Sunset Grill curbside breakfast meal giveaway. Parents can use Twitter or email to submit a photo of their family eating pancakes on Pancake Tuesday.

Update from Father Jim

- Inspecting church currently. Church will then open pending inspection. Will begin to catch up on missed sacraments and sacrament that are scheduled for this year.
- Holocaust Remembrance (liturgies and resources)
- Resources have been uploaded to the staff PLC notebook for ongoing use throughout the year during their virtual classrooms and throughout the year. Staff can access to upload and share resources with one another <Foundational Elements, Achieving, Believing, Belonging).

Virtual Council of Chairs

Belonging

HCCF Support

- Renamed from HCCEF.
- An organization that has support the St. Benedict community when needed. They can provide information about the exact amount from over the years.
- This past Christmas they supported two St. Benedict families at Christmas time. Gave us \$200/family.
- Participate in and support principal fasting. HCCF supports our St. Benedict Community when needed so it is a good organization to give back to.

Inside Out Kahoot Night

- (K. Mifsud) families are invited to watch the Disney Movie- Inside Out before hand and then participate in the Kahoot Night. To keep community connected and Inside Out has a nice message of feelings.
- Proposed Date is Tuesday, February 15th. Feedback given by parents recommends that Thursdays are not always best so they decided to schedule another evening for a change.

‘Feed Program’

- A parent from Queen of Heaven fills bins with Cobs baked products. Every Monday morning 6 bins are filled and delivered to St. Benedict. Families come

and get their bins of Cobs bread for the week. If you know a family who can benefit from this program, email Mrs. Le Conte or Mr. Guerin directly.

Bell Let's Talk

- Resources have been uploaded to the staff PLC notebook for ongoing use throughout the year during their virtual classrooms and throughout the year. Staff can access to upload and share resources with one another.

Daily Announcements

- Great feedback from staff to keep the connection with the school and keeps their days structured and scheduled.

Spirit Days every Friday

- (K. Mifsud) Keep things normal as much as possible while we are out of the school. Feedback from teachers that students are enjoying them.

4. Financial Update (Le Conte)

- Charitable Revenue from Angel Tree Donations \$1, 195.00 and we spent \$1, 680.00 on gift cards for families in the community.
- Dance-a-Thon deposited \$ 10, 339.00
- Expenses: poinsettias, paint to spray paint lines to cohort, expenses for Grade 1 Christmas crafts, grade 8 science projects, shovels to shovel snow, technology chargers (will be on next statement)
- Dec-Jan spent \$2, 596.23
- December Balance \$ 24, 052.27
- January Balance \$ 21, 456.04
- Differences between the 2 months: reconcile visa for gift cards

Statement incoming and outgoing are different due to circumstances of these times.

- Sacraments: (Kylie Dillon-Alcasid) Sacraments on hold but can we order sacrament student gifts- rosaries? Mr. Guerin says yes go ahead and order.

Action Items

5. Sub-Committee Reports

Learning Environment “switch over” update (Mr. Guerin)

- When we return to school, the shuffle will happen with minimal changes to classes.

Parish Update (Mrs. Dimachulangn)

- Emailing with Father Jim. Still waiting for inspection to open.
- Once lockdown is lifted, continue with putting together St. Benedict Church Commemorative Book.

- Solicitation Sponsorship: The hope is that sponsorship will pay for printing so that \$40 will go directly to the church. Will print 500 books. There are three levels of sponsorship.
- Will CSC be a sponsor for printing book? Michelle Culverwell recollects that CSC agreed to \$1000 sponsorship in previous meeting. All members present in the meeting expressed that they are in favour using hand-up signal on Teams.
- Cheque made payable to St. Benedict and given to Father Jim.
- Mrs. Le Conte will share information about the book in the St. Benedict weekly update.

Community Connections Update

- It has been decided that we will not go forward with school organized ‘virtual playdates’ due to concerns with safety and monitoring.
- Mr. Guerin will discuss with staff about brainstorming how ‘virtual playdates’ can be organized.

Questions & Final Thoughts

- If CSC knows of anybody in our St. Benedict community who is struggling, please reach out to Mr. Guerin or Mrs. Le Conte

Meeting Adjourned

7:59pm

Next CSC Meeting

Monday, April 5th, 2021 AMENDED March 29th