

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL YEAR END REPORT 2017-2018

1. Catholic School Council Name: St. Bernadette Oakville

2. Elected or Appointed Catholic School Council Members:

Agata Stelmach - secretary

Diana Palalas - treasurer

Bruna Mancuso – parish rep

Chantal Kelly-Neves – community rep

Susan Bernardo

Sandra Cook

Holly DeRoia

Francesca DiPaolo

Marie and Ron Giesen

Lavina Percy Dastur

Christine Phillips

Marco Pizzolo

Eleanor Riva

Dorota Roberts

Cinda Serianni

Diane Tassone

Kathy Ventresca

Vilma Von Buren

3. Elected or Appointed Catholic School Council Chair or Co-Chair:

Jennifer Monte

Chantal Phillipps

4. Meeting Dates for the Catholic School Council for the School Year 2017-2018:

October 2

November 6

January 8

February 5

April 9

May 7

5. Objectives for the Catholic School Council for the School Year 2017-2018:

1. Achieving:

- a. Enhance the 2st Century Technology Initiative by developing, in partnership with staff, a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) program for the students

- b. Emphasis has been placed on improving fluency in mathematics

2. Believing:

- a. Be mindful of all members of our community in all actions and decisions made by School Council. A commitment to social justice should govern the work of Council.
 - 3. Belonging:
 - a. Ensure fee and non-fee based initiatives and community events are accessible to everyone.
 - b. As a Council, we are mindful of mental health. We seek initiatives that support student, staff and parent community mental well-being.
6. Sub Committees/Initiatives:
1. **Finance** – set budget, report to Council on fundraising activities (Write the Cheque) and expenditures
 2. **Marketing and Communication** – created family directory for ease of communication within our school community, maintained white board calendar of events for student/parent information, organized Council coffee chats at school each term so parents might approach council members with concerns or questions
 3. **Education and Well-being** – hosted EQAO parent information night (to understand the exam and school results), sponsored two education based community events (Mathematics Evening and STEAM evening), procured \$1000 in Pro Grant funds, supported a Breakfast and Snack Program through Halton Food For Thought and expanded the breakfast program to service the FDK classrooms (budget of \$20,000 including government funding), hosted New Families Information session in September, prepared and presented two delegations to the Board concerning the Extended French program and Fundraising Policy amendments
 4. **Social Justice and Outreach** – organized Angel Tree to support families in need as requested by our parish, hosted Sacramental Luncheon for First Communion and Confirmation candidates, organized Shrove Tuesday pancake breakfast for students and staff
 5. **Community Engagement** – hosted Christmas Social, Pasta Night, Staff Appreciation luncheon
 6. **STEM** – hosted Mathematics family event, procured Pro Grant funding for STEAM event (event run by the Learning Tree), SGF funds were directed to purchasing LEGO robotics supplies for use in classrooms
 7. **Uniform** – met with In School Wear (ISW) management to address concerns raised by parents in the community regarding quality and availability of merchandise, requested and designed St. Bernadette uniform hoodie available for 2018-2019 school year

Beyond the regular work of our Council, this past year we reached out to Board and Trustee representatives to communicate our concerns over various issues and to advocate for our school community. We invited our Superintendent and Oakville Trustees to attend our November Council meeting as our school community had grave concerns regarding three issues: inconsistency with bussing and the change to school start and dismissal times, Extended French program staffing, and the uniform program (roll-out with new supplier). Our Council met with Superintendent Tim Overholt and Trustee Anthony Danko with the intent to inform them of our concerns and to see if those three situations might be improved. Also, our Council prepared two delegations to the Board to communicate our concerns firstly regarding the continuation of the Extended French Program in light of staffing shortages and secondly regarding amendments being made to the Fundraising Policy (Charitable Donations) without stakeholder consultation. Our Council has been quite vocal in representing the concerns of our school community (always with the interests of our students at heart) at the Board level in 2017-2018.

REPORT COMPLETED BY:

Jennifer Monte

Chair, St. Bernadette School Council

REPORT SUBMITTED ON:

June 25, 2018

DATE