

St. Bernadette Catholic School Council

Monday, October 1, 2018

6:30 -8:00 p.m.

St. Bernadette School Library

Present:

Jennifer Monte	Eleanor Riva	Christine Phillips	Francesca DiPaolo
Chantal Kelly-Neves	Julie Riesberry	Holly DeRoia	Diane Tassone
Glenna Stephenson	Sandra Cook	Chantal Phillipps	Melissa Monachino
Diana Palalas	Susan Bernardo	Marco Pizzolo	Rita Abou Halaka
Kim Sibley	Kathy Ventresca	Dale Rosha	Joseph Timothy
James McAskill			

Regrets:

Bruna Mancuso

Agenda:

1. Welcome & Thank You
 - Jennifer welcomed the group and called the meeting to order and council members introduced themselves
2. Introductions – Mrs. Riesberry and Mrs. Monachino
 - Welcome to the school community Mrs. Monachino
3. Prayer Service & Commissioning Ceremony
 - Mrs. Riesberry led the prayer
4. Acknowledgement of Role of Member of the St. Bernadette School Council
 - The role of the council and role of a school council member was reviewed based on the handout
 - The Catholic School Council acts as an advisory body
 - The St. Bernadette Catholic School Parent Council By-Laws were distributed and reviewed including the code of ethics, council procedures
5. Council Appointments & Roles & Committee Structure for 2018-2019
 - i. Appointment of Chair/Co-Chair – A motion was given for Jennifer to be selected as chair. All those in favour and all members voted yes for Jennifer to be appointed Chair of the council

Jennifer provided an outline to the council about the various roles within the council. Members are asked to email Jennifer about which committee they are interested in becoming part of. The following roles are outlined below:

- ii. Secretary
- iii. Treasurer- Finance/Fundraising
- iv. Parish Representative
- v. Teacher Representative – Dale Rosha & Isabella Pullman
- vi. Non-Teaching Representative – Noreen Shallow
- vii. Committees
 - i. Finance
 - ii. Marketing & Communication
 - iii. Education & Well-Being
 - iv. Social Justice & Outreach
 - v. Community Engagement/Volunteers
 - vi. Uniform
 - vii. STEM

- Marco has also agreed to shadow the Chair position this year, so he and Chantal Phillips will be well versed in the role of chair for next year.
- Diana Palalas will continue in the Treasurer role.
- Kim Sibley will be our new Secretary responsible for meeting minutes.
- Chantal Kelly-Neves has agreed to take on the Marketing and Communication lead and will be working on the Family Directory.
- Bruna Mancuso will be taking the lead on our Social Justice Committee.
- Glenna Stephenson will be our volunteer coordinator.
- Rita Abou Halaka is the new pizza program coordinator.
- The following committee requires members: STEM and Uniform
- A council member is encouraged to shadow Jennifer on Education and Well-Being (pro-grant and educational events primarily)
- Jennifer asked council members to review the committees and to please find something that appeals to each member and let Jennifer know what council members have interest to join.

6. Past Chair's Report & 2017-2018 Financial Review

- Jennifer reviewed a shared experience with community partners such as Halton Region public health nurses and community liaison police officers. These community partners can present to council and visitors on issues faced by our youth/families: i.e. risky behaviour, mental health, best parenting practices. The council indicated interest in inviting these community partners to speak at our meetings about the challenges members of the community are facing in order to support St. Bernadette school (to further support our teachers and administration to support our students and families)
- Jennifer also provided information about the status of the PRO Grant (not yet reviewed by the Ministry of Education); more information will be provided to council as it becomes available

- Yearbook issue has been brought to conclusion after much reflective thought, discussion, exploration of options to resolve this issue. In summary, the yearbook from 3 years ago was partially completed and due to circumstances the yearbook is not able to be completed. Parents will be reimbursed as \$10,000.00 has been carried forward on the budget and this will now be cleared. The volunteer parents were thanked for their tireless effort in working to resolve this situation, the volunteer parents worked exhaustively to solve this issue and their efforts are very appreciated. The yearbook is a school sanctioned activity and is overseen by the teachers and school; it is no longer school practice to have a parent organize photos for a yearbook. Mrs. Riesberry expressed a heartfelt thank you to the parents for working to close this issue.
- The October 22 election will be having St. Bernadette as a site for the voting. All are encouraged to research trustees and members and to vote. Mrs. Riesberry provided an overview of the role of the Trustee in voting on school policy and procedures that range from fundraising policy, programming, access to roof, uniform, school start time and buses and the use of Visa cards in financial matters.
- The document “Together in Faith” and togetherinfaith.com is part of the Many Gifts, Fully Alive program and was used in the teacher-in-service.
- Bishop Crosby diner is Nov. 7 and all community members are to email Mrs. Riesberry if they would like to participate in this event. It is a lovely evening with a dinner to support Halton Children Foundation which helps families in need.
- The treasurer indicated that we do not have an Opening balance for this year. This means that the owner/lead council member of each budget item will need to be vigilant to remain committed to the allocated budget. In summary, the financial statements for 2017-2018 had an opening balance of \$28,000.00 as not all of the money from previous years was used so it was rolled over and this money has been all allocated within last school year based on the school needs as directed by the school administration. STEAM didn’t spend all of the \$2000.00 last year. A question was asked in regard to the pizza days, if they are a fundraiser. Yes, the pizza sales are a fundraiser and the council agrees that a line can be added in the “write the cheque” letter and also in the pizza letter next year to ensure that all community members are aware of this.

7. Fundraising Campaign

- Write the Cheque campaign will be starting after Thanksgiving. Most of the money is collected by the end of October. The treasurer indicated that \$24,000 was distributed across all departments and throughout the primary, junior and intermediate divisions. The goal for this year is at least \$16,500.00. Parents in the community are also encouraged to invite grandparents/extended family to donate to the school. The school prefers online school cash or cheque. Mrs. Riesberry has a list of what is needed for the school between all departments and all divisions. The council discussed about various strategies to review and discuss in terms of ability to direct donation. Council members are encouraged to spread the word that if a member of the community would like to donate a large financial amount to have a conversation with administration of where to direct a donation. The principal has the discretion of the final parameters of all donations to the school.

8. Administration Report-Sharing of 2018-2019 Goals & EQAO Highlights and Next Steps

Administration Report - September - October 2018

Current Enrolment - 571	<i>Primary</i>	<i>Junior</i>	<i>Intermediate</i>
<p>Achievement</p> <p><i>PPM 155 states: "In order to inform their instruction, teachers must utilize diagnostic assessment during the school year. Diagnostic assessment is used to identify a student's needs and abilities and the student's readiness to acquire the knowledge and skills outlined in the curriculum expectations. Information from diagnostic assessment helps teachers determine where individual students are in their acquisition of knowledge and skills, so that instruction can be personalized and tailored to provide the appropriate next steps for learning."</i></p> <p>Measurable Actions:</p> <p>Student Success Meetings: each teacher met with both administration, both special education team members, literacy/numeracy support itinerant teacher</p> <p>Instructional Pathways: created by teachers to begin guided reading, writing</p> <p>EQAO: Math: Action Plan 2017-2019- Please attached</p> <p>IEP – teacher – parent consultation, Individual Education Plans sent home (30 days after first of school)</p>	<p>EQAO Analysis – creating of math action plan, creation of R & W goals</p> <p>Diagnostic Reading Assessment: To assess and document students' reading behaviours, comprehension and fluency and to determine a student's highest independent reading level</p> <p>Oral Reading Record: To assess and document students' reading behaviours, comprehension and fluency and to determine a student's highest instructional reading level.</p> <p>Ontario Writing Assessment: To assess and identify student strengths, needs, interests and attitudes in writing.</p> <p>Math Up: Common Assessment completed 1-8. Criteria analysis to be completed in early October. Link to Math Action Plan.</p>	<p>EQAO Analysis – creating of math action plan, creation of R & W goals</p> <p>Quick Comprehension Assessment (QCA): To assess students' reading comprehension development.</p> <p>Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System 1 & 2 To assess and document students' reading behaviours, comprehension and fluency and to determine a student's highest independent reading level. A supplementary vocabulary within context assessment is available for each reading passage.</p> <p>Ontario Writing Assessment: To assess and identify student strengths, needs, interests and attitudes in writing.</p> <p>Ontario Writing Assessment: To assess and identify student strengths, needs, interests and attitudes in writing.</p> <p>Words Their Way: assess students' spelling development using a developmental continuum</p> <p>Gap Closing: To assess students' numeracy development. To determine whole class, small group and individual focus for instruction and/or remediation in particular strands in mathematics</p>	<p>EQAO Analysis – creating of math action plan, creation of R & W goals</p> <p>Ontario Comprehension Assessment (QCA): To assess students' reading comprehension development.</p> <p>Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System 1 & 2 To assess and document students' reading behaviours, comprehension and fluency and to determine a student's highest independent reading level. A supplementary vocabulary within context assessment is available for each reading passage</p> <p>Ontario Writing Assessment: To assess and identify student strengths, needs, interests and attitudes in writing.</p> <p>Words Their Way: assess students' spelling development using a developmental continuum</p> <p>Gap Closing: To assess students' numeracy development. To determine whole class, small group and individual focus for instruction and/or remediation in particular strands in mathematics</p>

	<i>Primary</i>	<i>Junior</i>	<i>Intermediate</i>
<p>Believing:</p> <p><i>To ensure we create a catholic learning culture that is distinctly unique to Catholic faith. Creating future Catholic ambassadors</i></p> <p>Measurable Actions:</p> <p>Medals to represent Graduate Expectations Student Ambassadors selected (Shirts purchased) We Day School Improvement Day – focused on Learning Skills and where we are now Daily Announcements Communications home</p>	<p>Ontario Graduate Expectations</p> <p>The Catholic School Graduate is expected to be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A discerning believer formed in the Catholic Faith community 2. An effective communicator 3. A reflective, creative and holistic thinker 4. A self-directed, responsible, lifelong learner 5. A collaborative contributor 6. A caring family member 7. A responsible citizen <p>Focus on Faith – Essential Questions – see attached form</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed review of Learning Skills from past report cards. <p>Learning Skills – Planting the Seeds - Exploring Learning Skills and Work Habits from a Catholic Perspective</p> <p>The learning skills and work habits listed in Ministry policy (<i>Growing Success</i>, 2010) can be seen from a Catholic perspective. ‘Responsibility’ can be viewed as God’s call to the common good. The learning skills of ‘Organization’, ‘Collaboration’, ‘Initiative’ and ‘Independent Work’ become the processes to achieve God’s vision while ‘Self-regulation’ acts as a personal, reflective process of self-assessment. (share sample charts)</p> <p>SIP Discussion of Learning Skills</p> <p>Each homeroom teacher was asked to indicate “where the majority of students are achieving to today – in all areas Sharing of charts</p>		
	<i>Primary</i>	<i>Junior</i>	<i>Intermediate</i>
<p>Belonging:</p> <p>Ensure that a whole school approach is used to engage all school community members in developing and implementing practices that support safe, accepting, equitable, inclusive, respectful, healthy learning environments which models language and strategies reflecting a Catholic world view.</p> <p><i>Wellness Leader Student Leaders RAD Assembly Halloween Parade Equity and Inclusion Leader Mental Health Leader Healthy School Program Safe School Policy</i></p>	<p>If teachers implement consistent parent communication tools, then parents will have an increased understanding of student learning and activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Communication Plan being created and will be shared • Opening School Mass – school blessing and welcome tradition • Lunchbox Orders – everyday lunch option • Little Jammers – guitar program for Grade 1-6 students (Lunch 11:45-12:45) • Divisional Meeting – Code of Conduct “ensure the safety for all” • Rosary Apostle – being run through the Parish • Community Night and Student Achievement Night - well attended and great feedback • Volleyball Boys and Girls, Cross Country, Dance Jr & Senior • Halton Food For Thought Breakfast and Snack underway 		

Math Learning Environment at St. Bernadette Catholic School

We are not textbook focused ~ triangulation of data

Daily Number Talks – whether it be at the beginning of each math block or during some other part of our day, approximately 5 -7 minutes dedicated each day to doing a number talk.

Mathematics Learning Goals & Success Criteria – for each math lesson, students (& teachers) need to know what the learning outcome is: what are we learning and why? Learning goals should be displayed and referred to prior to a lesson and again at the conclusion of the lesson to reinforce concepts.

Use of authentic rubrics to communicate student learning: rubrics should be designed to specifically communicate student learning; in knowledge, understanding, thinking and application.

Mathematics Bell Work – for reasons not only of sound classroom management, but also for learning opportunities, bell work should be purposeful and clear. Authentic math bell work.

Math Manipulatives – Accessible math manipulatives available for students to utilize and help them conceptualize mathematics concepts.

Three Part Lesson Planning – research tells us that effective instruction in mathematics should follow the 3-part lesson plan design: before, during & after. Each segment of the three part lesson design is crucial, so proper planning and use of time is critical.

Mathematical Games – math games help solidify number sense understanding. Math games need to be formally taught to students and, depending upon their grade/age, should challenge them sufficiently to help strengthen number sense. Games need to be engaging and purposeful.

Small Group Instruction in Mathematics – much like we do for guided reading or guided writing, we need to meet with small groups of students as frequently as possible to help solidify and reinforce learning. Teachers need to build time into each math lesson to allow for this important small group instruction.

Four Step Problem Solving Model – consistency of practice across all grades is critical in helping our students develop a viable tool kit of strategies they can turn to when problem solving. Our 4-step problem-solving model helps students build this important tool kit. Students need to be aware of the steps in our problem-solving model and must be held accountable for using the method consistently and accurately.

EduGAINS - EduGAINS is a website that houses ministry developed resources to support policies and programs related to improved learning and teaching - Kindergarten to Grade 12 - in Ontario schools. Some topics include (Curriculum & Teaching; Classroom Practices; Assessment For/As/Of; Home Support; Paying attention to Math; Professional Learning; and Resource Collection)

Effecting meaningful growth and understanding of number sense in our students is going to take time.

9. Outdoor Movie Night – Wednesday, October 17 – 6:45 pm start

- Council members are encouraged to support and let Jennifer know if you can attend

10. Any other Business?

- Discussion that the Grade 8 Trip to Muskoka Woods is partially supported financially by the school, teachers and allocation of funds to support families in need to ensure an inclusive trip of all Grade 8 students at St. Bernadette; Grade 7/8 Ski Trip with school supports also took place last year; for any other school trips, parents are asked to discuss with the teachers

- Jennifer will send an email out with further details regarding goals of the council for 2018-2019
- Council members are also encouraged to connect with Jennifer with other ideas such as coding and any other ideas for events for the community

11. Meeting Adjourned at 8:25 pm.

12. Future Meeting Dates: Monday, November 5, January 7, February 4, April 1, May 6 at 6:30 in the library.