

## St. Christopher Catholic Elementary

### School Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday September 25<sup>th</sup> 2018, 6:30 pm

#### ACTION ITEMS:

- Josh to send email asking members to sign up for various committees
- Committee reps to start planning Danceathon fundraiser (goal of early prizes!)
- Classes to start planning themes for Danceathon fundraiser
- Gord to discuss idea about classroom parent representatives at upcoming staff meeting
- Gord to provide financials report at upcoming meeting(s)
- Gord to provide generic email to parents regarding Civvies day funds collection for year
- Council reps and parents urged to go and vote on October 22<sup>nd</sup> for Burlington trustees
- Gord to communicate how events (e.g., pizza day) translates to school funds to parents
- Genni (teacher rep) to discuss coupling Civvies/Spirit Day with more messaging/activity

#### ST. CHRISTOPHER'S SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERS – 2018-2019

Bastos, Belinda
Brechin, Jen
Bucik, Antonietta
Bujan, Jen
Butt, Genni (Teaching)
Cataford, Sabrina
Cerqueira, Alm (Support Staff)
Cukina, Snjezana
de Sousa, Celine
DelBove, Janelle
Ferko, Nicole
Ferreira, Mary
Garside, Ary
Gilbert, Kathleen
Huckle, Tamara
Hukari, Violetta
Hunter, Josh
Iannaci, Jill
Lucas, Monique
Marasco, Mel
McCarles, Gord (Principal)

Recine, Jen
Tracz, Elizabeth
Wasson, Kevin
Wildbore, Lily
Wong, Tara

- **Regrets:** Jen Recine, Mary Ferreira, Snjezana Cukina, Belinda Bastos, Tara Wong

**PARENT COUNCIL ELECTION:**

- For each position, individuals can self-nominate, or individuals can nominate them. If more than one person for a position, a secret voting process takes place. The following notates the position representatives for the 2018/2019 school year:

<b>Principal Rep</b>	Gord McCarles
<b>Chair</b>	Josh Hunter
<b>Teaching Rep</b>	Genni Butt
<b>Support Staff Rep</b>	Alm Cerqueira
<b>Parish Rep</b>	Ary Garside
<b>Community Rep</b>	Celine de Souza
<b>Secretary</b>	Nicole Ferko

- Code of Ethics was reviewed
- Everyone agreed to ensuring a positive and co-operative environment and that hostile, degrading, humiliating, or aggressive behavior will not to be tolerated
- Failure to follow code of ethics may result in removal from council
- Voted on it – Passed 17 – 0
- Everyone in attendance recited and signed the pledge

**IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES**

<b>Proposed School Council Meeting Dates</b> (6:30 pm in the Library)	<b>Council of Chairs</b> (For School Council Chairs and Admin only)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tues. Sept 25, 2018</li> <li>• Tues Nov 6, 2018</li> <li>• Tues Dec 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018</li> <li>• Tues Feb 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wed. Oct 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018 (St. Christopher’s, Burlington)</li> <li>• Wed. Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 (St. Joan of Arc, Oakville)</li> <li>• Wed. May 22, 2019 (St. Scholastica, Milton)</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tues Apr 2, 2019</li> <li>• Tues May 7, 2019</li> </ul>	
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## FUNDRAISING AND SUBCOMMITTEES

- The following fundraising/community building activities were mentioned as options to be discussed at upcoming council meetings. Fundraising would be to help either raise money for the school or for local charities/families in need. **A sign-up sheet will be sent out to council members.**
  - Danceathon on October 31<sup>st</sup> (*Fundraising for school*)
  - School lunches (*Fundraising for school – school staff to run*)
  - Poinsettias (*Fundraising for school*)
  - Bingo (*Community Event*)
  - Family Fun Day (*Community Event*)
  - Tiger Trek (*Charities*)
  - Spirit Days/Civvies Days (*Charities*)
- More spirit wear (e.g., hoodies) was suggested – try and provide opportunities to wear to school.
- One-time fee through cashonline for Civvies day (i.e., generic wording on charities given that the Sanctity of Life Motion has not been resolved)
- Student council will help to identify charities of interest
- Many positive responses about the Family Fun Day last year and high success (break-even)
- A suggestion was made to do something to couple meaning of Spirit/Civvies days for message to resonate stronger with students (e.g., anti-bullying in February)
- For the Danceathon, several ideas were raised including having a theme per class (e.g., sports) and donating gifts related to those themes and then gift baskets created, creating early hype about the gifts (e.g., announcements, in the office earlier), and keeping with the idea of donating teacher’s time (e.g., day with Mr. Biliado, day with principal)
- Poinsettia fundraising is an easy, lucrative fundraising option (simple sign up and delivery)

## PRINCIPAL’S REPORT & OTHER

- Council of Chairs:
  - All welcome to attend October 17<sup>th</sup> at St. Christopher’s (space is limited, notify in advance)
- Student Number and New Teachers:
  - Currently have 408 students (~10% cross-boundary)

- New gr. 7 teacher allowed us to remove split classes (6/7 and 7/8) and now have two gr. 6, two gr. 7, and two gr. 8 classes
- Mrs. Johnston: Teacher of the Arts
- Mr. Daly: Grade 7
- Mr. Bozzo: (pronounced *Boat-So*) Grade 7
- Mr. Caancan: (EA)
- Mrs. Heath: (now permanent secretary)
  
- New Communications this year:
  - Parents Week at a Glance – sent home Fridays at 4 pm (snapshot of following week)
- Financial Report:
  - 22 laptops purchased for classrooms (each teacher will have by end of week)
- Christmas Play:
  - Last year, Council decided to outsource only every other year
  - As such, internally organized this year (Mrs. Bucannon will run it) and no fees
  - Some concerns about charging for tickets for last years outsourced event
  - Date to be sent out soon
- School Agendas:
  - Provided this year again for free (~\$3000 per year)
  - Possibly charge next year if school council is on board (free for those in need)
- Sanctity of Life (Approved Charities)
  - The proposed donation policy changes are still being debated at the board level but the Board has decided to allow the former *status quo* (i.e. Principals and School Councils decide where to donate) unless the Board decides otherwise.
  - Last year fundraising money was given to the originally intended charities
  - Ideas raised about funds going to more families in need (rather than just one family)
  - Uncertainty if we can do Christmas Shoe Boxes
  - Current intention is to refer to Policy Committee meeting October 23<sup>rd</sup>, after the trustee election (Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>) but before the new board takes office (Dec 1<sup>st</sup>).
- Rosary Apostolate:
  - Board has informed should not have this during class time as it takes away from Religion curriculum
  - Alternative times will be set up for parents and students who want to attend (TBD)
- Athletics:
  - Volleyball and cross-country starting
  - Some concerns over new try-out process for cross-country this year as less kids involved (i.e., 10 boys/girls per grade, no Saturday meets)
  - If community reaches out about concerns, we are urged to reach out to the school board
- Halton Catholic School Board:
  - New Director – Pat Daly
  - Two losses (superintendents) with one replaced
- New Provincial Government:

- Province has released a new interim Health and Physical Education curriculum based on the curriculum last taught in 2014.
- Will have limited impact on Catholic schools who teach the curriculum expectations of both the old and the new sex ed curricula through a Catholic lens (the *Fully Alive* program).
- The interim curriculum makes relatively minor changes to the other aspects of the Health and Physical Education curriculum.
- The province has announced it will be consulting on a wide range of matters including not only the Health and Physical Education curriculum, but also improving math and life skills, standardized testing, removing cell-phones in classrooms, moving back to traditional math (vs. discovery math), etc.
- There will be online consultations, telephone town halls, and opportunities for parents to hold forums (more to come)
- Goal is to have revisions made to the curriculum by September 2019
- Parish Report: Parish church is looking for altar servers grades 4 and up
- Class Parent Representatives:
  - An idea was raised that to help improve communication, one parent representative for each class can act as a go-between teachers and other parents
  - Benefit is to free up teacher time and increase connectivity amongst parents and school
  - Parent reps could be involved in helping to coordinate volunteers for class field trips, help organize class themes (e.g., Danceathon idea), and help teachers with other items
  - Gord will take this idea to the staff and report back at next council meeting