



St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School Council Meeting – October 2nd, 2017

Minutes

Members in attendance: J. Del Guidice, V. Santaguida, M. Paterson, K. Zangrilli, A. Balkowski, K. Truyens, R. Barakat, C. Reitzel, C. Nieuwendyk, M. Witter

Principal began with a prayer – You are the Light of the World

- ✓ Introductions around the table with the new Catholic School Council Members
- ✓ Elected or Appointed Catholic School Council Chair and Co-Chair 2016-2017: Mrs. Baines and Mrs. K Truyens
- ✓ Agenda – approved
- ✓ Declaration and Pledge signed and witnessed by Mr. M Witter
- ✓ Review of the Code of Ethics for the CSCMs
- ✓ St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School Council Bylaws – as per the Ministry of Education Selection of: Chair/CO-chairs, Secretary, OAPCE Representative
- ✓ Principal commented on he does value parent input on how to move the school forward, however the principal will make the decisions that best suit the school
- ✓ Principal will update the website and parents and the manner on which the parents can communicate with CSC (recommended that they use a convenient email by the School Board)

AS PER HCDSB, the role of the PRINCIPAL TO COMMUNICATE THE FOLLOWING:

(Principal to seek parents' opinion on these 3 things once per year) (November meeting)

1. -school uniform vote
2. -report and discuss student achievement
3. -code of conduct updates or what parents would like to see
 - ✓ School Council of Chairs (Council Chair and Administrator attend to discuss wider issues in the board CPIC- Catholic Parent Involvement Committee)
 - ✓ School posts agenda and weekly update to the wider community
 - ✓ Program reaching out grant was approved and Principal shared this \$1000 grant
 - ✓ Principal asked if anyone is interested in chair or co-chair and secretary, the council sets the agenda
 - ✓ Mrs. Truyens asks if you must be Catholic to be chair (affirmative)

- ✓ Mrs. Patterson volunteered to be Secretary
- ✓ Mrs. V Santaguida has volunteered to be co-chair but can't make all the meetings
- ✓ Mr. John DelGuidice and Mrs. V Santaguida will both co-chair
- ✓ OAPCE – Ontario Association of Parents and Catholic Education – Mrs. Zangrilli
- ✓ Discussed the email account specific to the CSC
- ✓ Principals discussed

-what has been going on in the school Achieving, Believing, Belonging

-5 new staff members, 360 enrolment, Kindergarten largest group of students in the school

-all classes are reasonably sized (class sizes p, j, l)

-Ms Franks, Ms. Fernandes, Ms. Cupido, Ms Alissa Ricci (half kindergarten and Arts Teacher), Mrs. Breda Blazevic, Ms Shannon DiRenzo ECE

-EQAO results very pleased with results, link to EQAO websites. Grade threes at or above reading and writing (math decrease of 12%). Grade 6 results (reading, writing) cohort data when comparing grade 3 and 6's demonstrated increase and have shown improvements. Math went to 80%, which is well above board percentage. Our school is trending upwards. Pleased with results and the support from parents and families and compliments to students and staff. A lot of value on Learning Skills and report card data. The good things that go on in the school every day are what are valued. EQAO is a snap shot. Achieving, Believing, and Belonging.

-Achieving virtual learning sessions in mathematics

- ✓ Believing – Faith Day for Staff – “Do you Love me?” Cathy Reitzel shared this new information about what is happening at school with regards to our faith, unpacking this in Friday with staff
- ✓ Mr. Witter shared the school's pastoral plan and provide the students with an opportunity (grade 8s will lead us with the theme of Empathy this month). Each month there is a specific theme or a Grandfather Teaching. Grade 8's have been working on their presentations and students taken on that role and lead the school. Halton Food For Thought – Ann Marie Melchionna added an explanation about the initiative (70 students interested in salad bar lunch as well as many staff members). Mr. Witter communicated that is not his intent to make the money or raising prices to bring money into the school.
- ✓ PALS
- ✓ \$5000 grant for playground games. Junior students taking on a leadership role and encourage cooperative play amongst our primary students
- ✓ WE club and Student council promoting Walk to School this Wednesday
- ✓ Cross country and volleyball teams are being organized
- ✓ Intrasports introduce these sports to students

- ✓ intramural sports intermediates to start and then lead junior and primary students (Mr. Culhane to lead this) to run over the lunch hour

Any other questions because sharing from the Principal is complete.

- ✓ Curriculum Night and community BBQ feedback?

-parents had a good time

-food truck went well, a bit of a line up at times

-Mrs. Zangrilli suggested having a booth for next year to encourage other parents to join the council.

-3 time slots for parents who have 3 children (some teachers had more formal presentations and other were less formal).

-Principal was very pleased with the turn out (waiting for caterer to let us know how many families came out). Parents feel that it is a great way to start the year. No money goes back to the school. Great things about it was that parents don't have to pay ahead of time. Council agreed to book it again for next year.

- ✓ Fundraising? Dance-a-thon?
- ✓ Only 1 major fundraiser (\$436 in the council account) SGF- council money, pizza, pita, HST gets returned. SGF gest spent on or for the students.
- ✓ Ms. Blazevic trained for Empower \$2700 because children made many gains (SGFs)
- ✓ June 26th report ending balance was \$25, 484 and posted on the website.
- ✓ Approved for the new kindergarten play space. May or June. Expanding the yard. Base budget and works with design company
- ✓ TD grant for our outdoor classroom, outdoor sun shelter (pergola).
- ✓ Explained learning commons STEM learning
- ✓ Apple ipad minis, portable laptops, librarian actively involved. Microsoft School (through Karen Truyens) some perks and moving in that direction. Lots of exciting things happening.
- ✓ Kim Zangrilli speaking about fundraising (maybe a change next year). Explained what the job is an easy thing to do.
- ✓ Revenue between 4000 and 8000. Or should we do a Valentine Dance-a-thon?
- ✓ Leave it as is and then survey parents next year (Patterson).
- ✓ Zangrilli suggested a date night, but is there a liability?
- ✓ Spring Fling? Carnival Night
- ✓ Family Movie Night?

Chair and Co-Chair decide to keep the Dance-a-thon and put the other things on the agenda for next meeting

Principal ends with saying that people can only do what they can do. Very sensitive to people giving what they can. Whatever we make doesn't matter. It's about equity and inclusion. If we don't need to do one, we don't have to fundraise.

- ✓ Suggested St. Francis Water bottles, cookies, and a school wide pizza party.
- ✓ Labels for the day of the dance-a-thon. Raising school goal \$5000 target so that we can have a school wide pizza party! \$15 a child. Goals to support kindergarten classroom and adding to our base budget, learning commons, Lego, additional portable devices Principal to send via email.
- ✓ Mrs. C Nieuwendyk suggested not putting a target amount that each person should raise due to sensitivity of family finances.
- ✓ Bishop Crosby November 1, 2017 if council wants to purchase a table. We can make a donation. Put this out to council or send a donation on behalf of our CS council. Halton Catholic Children's Foundation. HCFF
- ✓ Mrs. Patterson suggests that we should be voting and that everyone has a say
- ✓ wreath \$60, pancake Tuesday, water bottles, dance-a-thon, busing, pins and bible - All agreed

End in prayer – Cathy Reitzel

Meeting ended at approximately 8:30 p.m.