ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL COUNCIL|Minutes

## Meeting date | time Oct. 5, 2021 | 6:00-7:00pm | Meeting location Virtual via Teams

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| Meeting called by | Julie Riesberry |
| Type of meeting | November Council Meeting |
| Facilitator | Julie Riesberry |
| Minutes | Alice Pawlowska |
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 | Attendees: Julie RiesberryMike SchleeJess Dsouza (absent)Lisa Soroko Alice Pawlowska  |
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# Agenda topics

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| 1-Introduction |  |  |

* First Council Meeting of 2021/2022 school year
* Small council team again this year. We are missing a Parish representative. Julie is looking into another school to act as Parish rep.
* One nominee interested, but no forms submitted to date.
* Initiative to recruit more council members this year. Beginning with Kinder and YMCA.

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| 2- Believing  |  |  |

* Moving forward with believing initiative.
* Supporting Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations
	+ What does it mean to be an Ont. Catholica Grad?
	+ Initiative supported through Curriculum and via Bulletin Board posts
* STEM at St. Michael’s
	+ $5000 investment in Robotics
	+ Previous years we had $0.
	+ We purchased six (qty: 6) Botlies (mini robots) with focus on coding for grades K-8.
	+ We purchased six (qty:6) wonder robots (;arger robots) with focus on commands through coding. Purchased for $700 each. Wonder robot will be piloted through grade 7 class for programming.
	+ Qty: 18 Spirrow – largest purchase for coding.
	+ Plan for robotics is to catalogue and get them out to students to play and learn and teach each other and even teachers.
	+ Teachers will use half a PA day to learn through play as training.
* Lego wall was purchased all new.
* This year we purchased 35 new chromebooks for distribution.
* Last June we loaned a total of 75 computers for virtual learners.
* Alice to follow-up if Samuel donation laptops are still a possibility for 2021/2022 school year and advise principal.
* We have a new gym floor and new gym equipment
* New learning garden outside
* Library books have been updated
* New office furniture in Principals office
* HVAC has been updated
* Leak issues in gym being resolved this week. Status to be advised on next meeting.
* Currently our school has no mask exemptions
* Safety is still our schools top priority
* Enrollment: total 246 students
* Virtual: 11 students
* All 246 students are out at recess this year, in cohorts.

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| 3- MISCELLANEOUS |  |  |

* Bus Transportation – largest issue
	+ We are sharing busses with Montclair
	+ Montclair has different masking rules and we are the second pickup which raises concerns with our parents.
	+ We are working with Halton transportation to resolve this.
* School visitors: 3 step process
	+ Proof of double vaccination
	+ If no proof of vaccine is available, a valid test within 24hours is acceptable.
	+ Awaiting direction what test types are acceptable, rapid or other.
* Hygiene
	+ Ongoing issues in women’s washrooms
	+ Current solution – custodian checks washroom on hourly basis
* Extra-curricular
	+ Through parental consent
	+ Uniforms not ideal – unisex, potentially looking at upgrading
	+ School trips are currently not on schedule as transportation costs are high, and covid is impacting and impeding volunteers
	+ Ski trip is pending at this time. To be reviewed and announced at a later date.

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| 4-Achieving |  |  |

* School is recognizing that there are learning gaps from K through 8.
* Grade 8 completed a common task for math to identify gaps and strengths.
	+ Data expected next week
* School engaged in programs to aid rading, writing and math.
	+ Some programs include:
		- Lexia – reading license for in-risk readers
		- Mathology
	+ Homework is deemed non-essential for k-8.
	+ Not being pushed as method to merge learning gap
	+ Homework is on individual basis and teachers are encouraged to individually access need if required for a student.

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| 5-Fundraisers |  |  |

* One major fundraiser allowed per school
* Principal is suggesting write the cheque campaign.
	+ Upon discussion council recommended to provide parents/community with option to write a cheque is participation in fundraiser is not of interest.
	+ Given that our community demographics for fundraising have been known to be low.
	+ This year, will be the first of such kind, and will act as a target for future years.
	+ Deadline by End of November, 2021.
* Other fundraising ideas:
	+ Solicited coupons to be raffled off (by council members)
	+ Pasta Wednesday (all food must come individually packaged).
	+ Pizza Tuesday (alice to follow-up with local pizza vendors and look into individually packed slices and pricing).
* Community Engagement Ideas
	+ Virtual science night
	+ Bring in speakers such as authors.
	+ Family pumpkin carving night
		- Alice to look into pumpkin suppliers/wholesalers, deliveries, costs.
		- i.e. distribute to families before Halloween
		- host a carving night and submit pictures to select a winner per class.
		- Pumpkin to cost i.e. $5/pumpkin and have a pumpkin drive by pickup.
		- Alice to advise no later than Tuesday next week

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| 6-Coming Up! A look Ahead. |  |  |

* Oct. 29th – Halloween dressup fun fair at school
* Dancathon

NEXT MEETING: November 1, 2021

Meeting Adjourned