

AGENDA

St. Scholastica Catholic School Council Meeting

March 19, 2019 | 6:30 p.m.

Council Members:

Erin Sweeney-Hurd [(Principal)], Andrea Catalano [(Teaching Rep)], Tammy McNabb [(Non-Teaching Rep)], Aldrin Uy [(Parent Rep)], Anita Benic [(Parent Rep)], Deepa Dey [(Co-Chair, Parent Rep, Parish Rep)], Elaine Cowan [(Parent Rep)], Francine Fonseca [(Parent Rep)], Ioana Mintcheva-Dixon [(Parent Rep & Community Rep)], Kristina Stajduhar [(Co-Chair, Parent Rep)], Lisa Paulo-Alberto [(Secretary, Parent Rep)], Natalia Gorska-Anderson [(Parent Rep)]

Item	Owner
Welcome	Deepa & Kristina
Opening Prayer	Kristina
Minutes Approval	Deepa & Kristina
Principal's Report	Erin
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Uniform Update• Food for Thought Program Update• Spirit Wear Update	
Committee Updates	
a) Parish Rep	Deepa
b) Community Rep <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Book Drive Update	Ioana & Lisa
c) Shrove Tuesday	Kristina
d) Volunteer Co-ordinator	Anita
Fundraising/Upcoming Events	Kristina
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paint/Pottery Night• Kernels Popcorn/Terra Cotta Cookies• Year-End BBQ	
Future Council Meeting Dates	
✓ Wednesday, April 17th @ 6:30 p.m.	
✓ Wednesday, May 15th @ 6:30 p.m.	
✓ Wednesday, June 12th @ 6:30 p.m. (Catholic School Council Social Dinner)	

St Scholastica Catholic School

Council Meeting Minutes:

March 19th, 2019

Present Council Members:

Erin Sweeney-Hurd |(Principal), Aldrin Uy |(Parent Rep)|, Deepa Dey |(Co-Chair, Parent Rep, Parish Rep)|, Elaine Cowan |(Parent Rep)|, Francine Fonseka |(Parent Rep)|, Ioana Mintcheva-Dixon |(Parent Rep & Community Rep)|, Kristina Stajduhar |(Co-Chair, Parent Rep)|, Lisa Paulo-Alberto |(, Parent Rep)|, Natalia Gorska Anderson |(Parent Rep)| Aldrin (Parent Rep)

Guest Teaching Rep- Ms. Angela Casera- Thank you!!

Regrets: Anita Benic (Parent Rep), Andrea Catalano (Teaching Rep), Tammy McNabb |(Non-Teaching Rep)|, Jennifer Lee (MCRC),

Welcome- Deepa & Kristina

Opening Prayer- Kristina

Minutes Approval-Deepa & Kristina- Ioana & Lisa approved minutes

Principal's Report- Erin

Principal's Report

Catholic School Council Meeting #4 – March 19th, 2019

ACHIEVING

- Grade 2 Reading Intervention Program is still happening. Our Reading Intervention teacher was finished working with one group of Grade 2's and will be starting with a second group of Grade 2's (at a slightly higher reading level but still below benchmarks) at the beginning of April. We will aim to run a final Reading Intervention group for Grade 1's starting in mid-May.
- Teachers are still focusing on modelling and supporting "think alouds" and number talks in Math (which use the "think aloud" strategy)
- Registrations are streaming in for next year. As of today, we are looking at a total of 345 students from K-8. This is a stark contrast to where we started off in September at approximately 220 students. I do foresee many new registrations between now and the first week of September though and feel that our number will likely be closer to 400 in September.
- We are hosting the Milton Regional Public Speaking Competition here tomorrow night (March 20th). Our school's representative, Sebastian L.B. in Grade 4 will be speaking on

Poverty. We also have two students who participated in our school wide competition serving as our MC's for tomorrow night's event – Marissa A. in Grade 5 and Alina Z. in Grade 8. There will be ten competitors here all looking to take the Milton top prize for their speech.

- Mr. Sinclair, our Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT), the teachers and I have been conducting Student Success meetings where we discuss students who are struggling in various academic ways. These meetings help us determine next steps for interventions for these kids.
- Grade 3 and Grade 6 EQAO is approaching in May of this year. Our Grade 3 students will write the primary assessment over three days during the week of May 21st-24th and our Grade 6 students will write the junior assessment over three days during the week of May 27th-30th.

BELIEVING

- We had our St. Scholastica School Feast Day liturgy on Monday, February 11th. The Feast Day for our Patron Saint is on February 10th (which was a Sunday) and so the following day our Grade 3 students put together a beautiful liturgy for our whole school, which celebrated St. Scholastica.
- We celebrated Ash Wednesday, on Wednesday, March 6th. Father Jim came to conduct a liturgy for our whole school. Our Grade 4 students helped with this liturgy. All students received Ashes on their foreheads to mark the beginning of our Lenten journey.
- Our Lenten Food Drive supporting "Food for Life" will be running from April 3rd to the 16th. We thank Mrs. Pavelic and Mrs. McNabb's Kindergarten class, along with our Grade 8 Student Ambassadors for helping us to organize this for our school. We have asked "Food for Life" to distribute the food here in our own Milton community.
- Our official school opening and blessing celebration will also be taking place during Catholic Education Week on **Tuesday, May 7th at 10:00AM**. Please mark this date, as all Catholic School Council members will be receiving a formal invitation to this event. Please join us if you can arrange to be present. Bishop Crosby will be coming to bless our classroom crosses and school areas.

BELONGING

- This area is still our main area of focus
- Our regular Basketball Season has ended for our boys' team. They are just starting their play off-season now. Our girls' team will be going to their second of two tournaments tomorrow.
- We will have tryouts for a Grade 6-8 soccer team in April/May.

- Our intramural sports program continues over the lunch hours. It will run until the start of April.
- Our Snack Bin program funded by a grant from Halton Food for Thought is set to start at the beginning of April. We have put an order in for our first delivery of food and we have purchased bins for each classroom. A call out for volunteers will happen within the next week.
- The front atrium area of the school is open and complete (aside from some high surface cleaning). We look forward to our stage drapes and some additional gym matting arriving in the coming months.
- Many trips have occurred since January along with an electrical safety presentation and a school bus safety presentation here at the school
- Our school had a 100% participation rate in our board's "Valentine's for Vets" initiative. Students create Valentine's cards that are then sent out and distributed to those who have served our country (past and present).
- We recognized Pink Shirt Day to raise awareness for bullying on Friday, March 1st (should have been on February 27th but this was a snow day). We had all students in Grades 3-8 come together for a liturgy and we showcased our school's entries in our board's "See the Problem, Be the Solution" media contest. The winner for our school was a submission by a Grade 8 student named Dami. She created a fantastic short video on bullying.
- We had an AMAZING Shrove Tuesday event coordinated by Kristina Stajduhar. We got many parent and family volunteers and the kids enjoyed a pancake snack and drink up on our stage area. It was very well organized and the kids had a blast!
- Grade 8 Graduation Photos were taken on March 5th. Our Grade 8 Graduation Awards Board has also arrived and is mounted in the hall across from the trophy case.
- We had a staff team of seven staff members participate in the Halton Catholic Children's Education Foundation's 24 Fast from March 7th to March 8th. Our small but mighty team of seven staff members raised almost \$1300 for the HCCEF. This was a solemn way for us to enter into our Lenten journey.

Notes on Principal's Report:

- Encourage families within the community moving into the area to register for September as soon as possible as it helps with September planning
- Lisa to connect with Mattamy- as houses close to let families know to register
- May 7th- School Blessing- would be great to have Parent Council members present
- Ms. Casera made a suggestion for Shrove Tuesday next year- Bring your own Fork and Plate- Greener Option

Uniform Update:

- We had a 72% participation rate in our vote and so this tells us that this is an important issue for our families.
- Votes were counted by Erin Sweeney-Hurd, Lisa Paulo-Alberto, Ioana Mintcheva-Dixon and Elaine Cowan
- Vote was a **74% YES** vote for the implementation of a school uniform starting in September 2019.
- The “No” votes- voiced concerns on quality of ISW and cost
- Info going out to families on how to order uniform through ISW
- If we hear concerns of cost from families- please direct them to Erin- assistance is available and anonymous
- ISW contract is up this year- RFP to be completed

Food 4 Thought:

- Commencing in April
- Refer to Principal’s Report
- Bins have been purchased for each classroom
- Bins will have perishable and no perishable items
- The plan is to educate the students to let them know that the bin is available to them
- Erin thinks it would be a good idea to have Student Ambassadors to educate the student on the Food for Thought Program- Announcements

Lunch Programs:

- Lunch Programs are running well
- There was a bit of a hiccup with an order with Pita Pit, however a plan has been put into place moving forward

Spirit Wear:

- Trial was done to try out a provider in the fall- wasn’t very successful- trying another provider
- Spirit Wear cannot be used as uniform but rather on “Spirit Day”
- Optional to purchase Spirit Wear
- Timing to sell- council recommended the fall

Parish Update:

Link to Lent Schedule at St. Benedict Parish: <https://stbenedictparish.ca/lent-and-easter-schedule/>

Community Update:

- Book Drive- Updated Flyer distributed to the Council
- Drive to be done during the week of April 23rd - 26th
- April 26th sorting- sorting to be done by Council Members
- April 29th- Teacher MCRC shop
- Sale- April 30th- Kid's shop
- Erin said that flyers will be distributed to families via email and paper copy
- Lisa will print flyers for the boxes and bring in 12 boxes for each classroom
- We need to iterate that only books will be accepted

Shrove Tuesday:

- Very successful
- 8 volunteers
- Used 10 boxes of Pancake mix and 8 bottles of syrup using 6 griddles
- Gluten Free Pancakes were cooked at home and reheated- great idea!
- Children were super ecstatic- heard children say "it was the best pancake day ever!"

Volunteer Coordinator:

- A "Call Out" for volunteers is being worked on

Fundraising/ Upcoming Events:

- Planning future fundraising and community events
- Would like to move forward with a Community Event- Crock a Doodle-1st choice- May 2nd or April 23/24
- Fundraising- Cookies- April, Kernals Popcorn- May and Ice Dogs in June
- We need to start thinking about a big Fall Fundraiser- to be added to the need Meeting Agenda
- Not much time to put a Year End BBQ together- we would like to plan a Back to School BBQ- aim for second week of September

