

Catholic School Council Meeting #1 - MINUTES

September 30th, 2019: 6:30pm

AGENDA

Present:

School Principal- Erin Sweeney-Hurd
Teacher Rep- Jennifer Leung
Co-Chair- Natalia Gorska
Co-Chair- Ioana Dixon
Secretary- Lisa Paulo-Alberto
Community Rep- Kristina Stajduhar
Parish Rep- Deepa Dey
Parent Rep- Justene Thrasher
Parent Rep- Kristina Farris
Parent Rep- Elaine Cowan
Parent Rep- Francine Fonseka
Parent Rep- Aldrin Uy
Parent Rep- Nicole Fleten
Parent Rep- Tanya Palermo

1. Welcome and Introduction of Council Members
2. Appointment of Chair/Co-Chairs, Secretary, Community Rep and Parish Rep

School Council 2019-2020:

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 - Co-Chair- Natalia Gorska
 - Co-Chair- Ioana Dixon
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 - Community Rep- Kristina Stajduhar
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 - Parent Rep- Aldrin Uy
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3. Commissioning Prayer Service
 - School Council Members participated in a Liturgy
 4. Task: Review of By-Laws
 - Policy that governs School Council's work
 - Council Members to Review governing docs before next meeting

5. Declaration and Pledge
 - School Council Members signed Declaration Forms and pledged
6. Administrator's Report – Erin

Principal's Report

Catholic School Council Meeting #1 – September 30th , 2019

ACHIEVING

- We are settled in classes after having to do two major re-organizations (one during the last week of August and the second on the first day of the second week of school)
- We have doubled in size: 220 in September of 2018 to 445 as of today
- Divisional assemblies were held during the first full week of school (Primary 1-3, Junior and Intermediate)
- Ontario Student Record folders are starting to come in and are being reviewed by teachers
- Teachers are starting to do diagnostic assessments on students in the areas of Language and Math in particular (reading intervention programs will be starting soon based on the findings of reading diagnostics in particular – Grade 3 will be targeted first term)
- Individual reports for students who wrote Grade 3 or Grade 6 EQAO assessments during the 2018-2019 school year have arrived. These will be distributed to parents in the coming weeks (copy in the OSR as well). A general letter will be going out to all parents in the coming weeks as well. We did very well in Reading and Writing but Math will need to be a huge area of focus for us here as a school community
- Teachers will be starting to work on progress report cards soon
- Reporting dates: Progress:
 - November 20th
 - February 19th
 - June 24th
- We will be continuing many of our school improvement focus areas from last year (making thinking visible) but will be more closely looking at what we can do to improve the numeracy skills of our students across all divisions
- Our cross panel planning day between our school and Jean Vanier took place during the week of September 16th (planning of activities to support the transition of our Grade 8 students to Jean Vanier Secondary School)

BELIEVING

- St. Scholastica belongs to St. Benedict Parish
- No church yet (under construction)
- Weekend Masses held at Our Lady of Fatima School
- Our opening School Mass was held on September 24th (Mass led by our Grade 5's)
- Thanksgiving Liturgy will be held on October 10th at 11:15am in the Gym (Liturgy to be led by our Grade 1's)
- Thanksgiving Food Drive is starting this week (donations picked up by Food for Life)

- Parent meetings for Grade 2 and Grade 7 sacramental years have taken place
- Sacramental Dates:
 - Saturday, October 5th at 1:00pm: Grade 2 First Reconciliation (at the school)
 - Saturday, November 23rd at 12:30am: Grade 7 Confirmation (Our Lady of Fatima)
 - Sunday, April 26th at 2:00pm: Grade 2 First Communion (at the school)

BELONGING

- This continues as our main area of focus!
- Just as we have welcomed many new students and families, our staff has doubled in size
- Original staff have been spending time with our new staff to reflect upon our collective commitments and the mission statement that we developed together last year
- Working on focusing on putting our students first – calling them by their names, being the caring adults in the lack of parent presence, making connections with kids other than the ones in our own classrooms
- Our Back to School BBQ was a HUGE SUCCESS – thank you to all of last year’s CSC members who worked to make it such a great night!
- Chocolate Fundraiser – going strong! (no fund reports to share at this time)
- Website – Full implementation this year with weekly update reports being sent to families over the weekends
- Email and our Twitter account are also important forms of communication this year
- Class and Individual photo day will be this upcoming Friday – full uniform for all Grade K-7 students
- Fire Drills (two out of three that need to be held in the Fall term have occurred)
- CUPE job action sanctions are taking place by CUPE members at this time: SAFETY IS STILL FIRST!
 - Doubled- 445 students- 220 last year
 - CUPE- Job Action-will affect ECEs, secretaries, custodian library techs, cyc, non-teaching staff
 - Business as usual- and safety trumps everything
 - EQAO- Community Engagement to increase Math- Game Night- addressing Math concerns through council
 - BBQ raised just a bit over \$400
 - Full implementation of website- weekly update msgs are great, twitter and email- modes of communication

7. Committee Updates

Pizza and Milk – Erin- going well and has started up again

Chocolate Fundraiser – Erin - Chocolate Fundraisers- return back any chocolate not sold, ordered more but there are shipping charges

Hot Lunch Options – Erin- Hot Lunch- Adding an additional Hot lunch day? Council agrees that 3 days is plentiful but going to Looking at options for next yr if needed?

Uniform Committee - Erin

Uniform- some items on back orders- adding an athletic short- ask ISW to come to add a couple more uniform options- Erin will set up

Nov 11th - Indigo Night- 5pm-8pm- Kristina to send out sign up for the night- Kristina will be asking Starbucks if they can donate the coffee

8. Confirming Schedule for Future Meetings:

Monday, November 4th @ 6:30pm

Monday, January 6th @ 6:30pm

Monday, February 3rd @ 6:30pm

Monday, April 6th @ 6:30pm

Monday, May 4th @ 6:30pm

June ---? @ 6:30pm (Catholic School Council Social Dinner)

9. Discussion of next meeting committee updates/agenda items?

Any other future agenda items to be provided in advance to the CSC Chair for possible inclusion on CSC Agendas. The Chair will work in conjunction with the Principal to prepare and disseminate the CSC Agendas before each meeting

10. Other Business:

Dances?

Poinsettias? Maybe defer to Spring

Movie Days- purchase license and charging for food for profit?

Sub Committee- students- Grade 8 helping other countries- community outreach- Erin to look into it

Math Game Night? Mathletes- helping with Math- Problems- maybe looking into it?

Stem night and Spheros-robotics- Companies would run a station during the night and children would rotate through the gym- anyone on the council who would like to prepare a sub-committee? Think about it and come prepared for next meeting

How to support learning at home? EQAO- can we present as a council and support families

Christmas Event- get everyone together- let's look at planning

Do we want to create a council email address? Ioana to look into it and set up- New email has been created:

stscholastica.schoolcouncil@gmail.com

Meeting adjourned at 7:42pm

Hot Lunch- Adding an additional Hot lunch day? Council agrees that 3 days is plentiful but going to Looking at options for next yr if needed?