



**Minutes of St. Vincent's Catholic School Council (SVCSC) Meeting
May 7 2018
School Library 7:00 p.m.**

In Attendance

Mrs. Uniacke (Principal), Heidi Blackburn, Tracey Martino, Wendy Glinski, Marilyn Barrett, Carolyn Holmes, Michelle Kent, Christiane Kyte, Tracy Sonnemann, Jasmine Von Horsten, Regina Dykman, Marise Pimenta, Diane Caldarelli, Melissa Grech, Marilyn Duarte, Muriam De Angelis, Mrs. V,

OPENING

Marilyn Barrett led us in prayer.

Council minutes from February 5th, 2018 were approved by Carolyn and seconded by Heidi.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

1. Catholicity:

- Sacraments: Confirmation mini retreat Mar 20th at the parish center (4:30-6:30). Gr 7 Confirmation April 7th @ 2 PM Andrew Parish. Grade 2 First Communion May 5th
- HCCEF fund raising – we raised \$1500 from civvies days, and Lenten initiatives. \$200 to go to Rosary Club
- Rosary Club Every Friday during Lent at first recess for Gr 1-8. Rosary Apostolate continued to visit each classroom once a month to learn to pray the rosary. Ended April.
- Holy Thursday Stations of the Cross done by Grade 6 on March 29th
- Catholic Education Week events “Renewing the Promise”: Author on Monday Gr 1-4, whole school mass on Tuesday at 10 AM @ parish. Thursday is volunteer breakfast, Donation assembly and the Walking with Jesus. Learning walk on Friday – classes will show their work on “Equity & Inclusion”
- May Crowning on May 25th

2. Curriculum:

- EQAO dates: May 23-25
- More Chrome books ordered (20) for Grade 6 next year
- Intervention program continues (Gr 3 and 6 after school)
- Scientists in the Classroom for all junior classes in April
- Mad science has started Wednesdays at lunch
- Author Visit May 4th "Rock and Roll Literacy" Sigmund Brouwer. Did a writing workshop with junior students afterwards.
- Grade 8 trip to Ottawa and Quebec May 14-17
- Award of Excellence ceremony – Claire
- Outdoor Ed: Juniors going to Camp Brebeuf May 18 Primary will be doing an end of year trip too TBD
- PD on math (PA DAY April 27) to help support our SIPSA (communicating thinking)
- Gr 7 Religion assessment May 28th

3. Home School Connection:

- Website & Twitter
- Kindergarten Parent Orientation Day April 26th 6:30 PM. Father Con came to talk to the parents that night as well.
- Book Bonanza May 4th
- Parent Engagement Night May 2nd (Author Ann Douglas)
- Fundraising initiatives (Bedding Plants Fundraiser)

4. Community Building:

- Aussie X – X Movement over 3 days (great feedback). Will be back in June 20-22
- Junior Battle of the books – going to regionals on May 10th
- Basketball finished. Boys placed 4th in Oakville. Girls recently won the STA feeder school tournament. Getting Track & Field going. Girls' Soccer tournament Wednesday at ND. Junior boys Basketball and girl's volleyball taking place at lunch and after school.
- STA leadership students here until May 18th

- Peace Team – Gr 7 & 8 students
- Civvies Day once a month continue
- Grade 7s had an STA Day on April 26th. Saw a play and visited the school.
- Festival of Harmony – Instrumental Band invited to the competition on May 18th @ HT
- ECO: Earth Week daily initiatives (lights off, reusable water bottles) & garden clean-up. Assessed/audited today to see what status we will receive.

5. Safety & Facility:

- ECO Green initiatives over PA
- 3 fire drills in spring. Bomb threat/lockdown drill as well
- Morning announcements around weather, yard zones & dismissal reminders
- Basketball poles reinforced and will be again. Waffle ball net (Primary) being replaced in Spring.
- Safe Schools Committee
- Updates on facilities: Library shelving and Lego wall. Looking to update furniture next year. New fire access signs installed.

CHAIR'S REPORT

- Board of Trustees Sanctity of Life Motion – the Board passed a motion to prevent schools from raising funds for charities whose specific activities do not align with Catholic teachings. Some registered charities on the prohibited list, including SickKids Hospital, are highly valued in our school community. Carolyn Holmes shared her letter to the Trustees regarding the motion, and the reaction from our school community. There was no response from the Trustees. Council members were urged to voice their opinions about the motion to the Board. CPIC will be meeting soon to discuss concerns about the agenda of the Trustees.
- School climate survey – The survey has now closed but we will review findings when they are made available to us.
- Parent Reaching Out Grant - Applications are due June 5th. Muriam has coordinated for the past 2 years on topics related to mental health. Typically, we are given approximately \$1000 for a learning opportunity for parents. Council expressed interest in a topic related to social media and digital citizenship (e.g., Screenagers). Muriam agreed to coordinate again.
- Council of Chairs meeting – Participants learned about meditation. Council was provided with a book by Matthew Kelly called “Resisting Happiness”.
- Volunteer of the Year Award – Nominations can be sent to Mrs. Uniacke.

- Year End Council Meeting – June 4th at Heidi's house at 7 pm to be followed at 7:30 pm by the annual council party for the school community. The Volunteer of the Year will be awarded.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Staff Update (no report)

Treasury Report (no report)

Parish Update (no report)

Volunteer Coordinator Update

- Bedding plant fundraiser – This initiative has so far raised approximately \$600. The amount will be given to Mrs. Uniacke's Principal discretionary fund (e.g., uniforms, trips for students who would otherwise be able to participate).
- St Vincent spirit wear for the graduating class (Class of 2018) - Carolyn Holmes coordinated an order of sweatshirts and the students will have them in time for the Quebec trip. Council was interested in making it available to the graduating class each year. Mrs. Uniacke reminded council that the official uniform provider would need to have an opportunity to bid on the contract.

Communications (no report)

Business arising

- School barbeque & Curriculum Night – Both are scheduled for September 13th 2018; the barbecue first, followed by curriculum night
- School agendas - Council queried whether agendas should be ordered for all grades or just for primary and junior. Intermediate students do not use the agendas. Mrs. V reported that the agendas had been ordered already for this year but the question could be revisited for 2019-2020
- Enrolment - Online registration will be open this summer for new students entering at any grade. Further reductions in student population are anticipated this coming year as a large grade 8 cohort leaves the school and a small Kindergarten cohort joins. Mrs. Uniacke indicated that the Board is not currently concerned about enrollment at St Vincent.
- Reorganization of playground space - Areas were recently re-divided and assigned to grades for safety purposes. Some students have expressed concerns that they don't have enough field space. Staff suggested that the students can voice their concerns to the staff.

UPCOMING COUNCIL DATES – see dates

| Date | Opening prayer | Closing prayer | Refreshments |
|---------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Feb 5 | Melissa | Regina | Angela Santos |
| March 5 | Tracy S | Diane | Tracey M |

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|--------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| May 7 | Marilyn B | Barbara | Marilyn D |
| June 4 | Tbd | Tbd | Carolyn |

CLOSING

Council said the Our Father together at the end.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Minutes Taken by Christiane Kyte Lanoue. Please report any discrepancies, deletions, additions or changes to same.