



## St Vincent Elementary Parent Council Meeting Minutes

February 24, 2020

Meeting began at 7pm.

In attendance were Ms Uniacke, Mrs VanHooydonk, Regina Dykman, Sharon Moore, Michelle Kent, Gina Millington, Barbara McCarter and Patricia Glynn

Opening prayer was led by Mrs VanHooydonk.

Minutes approved by Regina and Seconded by Sharon.

Principal's Report:

### Catholicity

- This Wednesday – the Grade 1s will lead the Ash Wednesday Liturgy
- On Monday March 2<sup>nd</sup> our Grade 4 students will lead a Liturgy reflecting on Black History Month
- Mrs Glinski's Grade 6 class will again lead our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Day. This is always a highlight of the year. Thank you to Mrs Glinski and our parent volunteers. Students are encouraged to bring in a toonie donation in support of our Lenten Initiatives
- Catholic Education Week will be held May 4-8<sup>th</sup>

### Curriculum

- Intermediate division recently went on field trips to the Ontario Science Center
- "Mathify" has been introduced to our Grade 7&8 classes. Mathify is a resource for kids to access at home

### Community Building

- Civvies days/Topsy Turvey Tuesdays continue and are lots of fun
- Pink Shirt/Anti Bullying day will be this Friday Feb 28<sup>th</sup>.

### Finance

- Final items earmarked from Dance a thon have been purchased – specifically special seating.
- We have also purchased a student work bike which will be set up in the SERT office and allow kids to work while expending some energy

### Council Chair's Report

- CPIC (Catholic Parent Involvement Committee) Regina attended the most recent meeting with Ms. Uniacke last week. All Catholic schools within our Board were represented. Topics discussed were:
  - Halton Catholic Children's Education Fund which supports families within our own School District who need financial assistance – clothing, uniforms, school trips etc. Principal must submit an application to draw from this fund. All but 2 schools in the district have pulled from this fund. All funds come from sponsorships and fund raisers. The next fundraiser is a golf tournament in June.

- Equity & Inclusion – discussed what the Board is doing to ensure equity & inclusion within the board and schools. Efforts and learning are woven into activities throughout the school year.
  - Social Media & youth – particularly targeted advertising...how to identify it, talk to kids about it etc. Also discussed the importance of parent involvement and engagement with their children.
- A Parent Engagement Evening will be held this Thursday at 7pm at St Thomas Aquinas. Sherry Campbell will give a presentation on “Raising Resilient Children”. All parents and caregivers are encouraged to attend.
  - Patricia Glynn – Chair of the school’s Literacy Committee provided a look into what her volunteers work on throughout the school year:
    1. Organize library – re-shelving books, changing displays etc
    2. Author Visits (in person and virtual)
    3. Scholastic Book Fair. This year held at Welcome Back BBQ night
    4. Forest of Reading – Ontario Library Association. Books by Canadian Authors which have been nominated. Kids sign up to borrow the book, read it and they then vote on their favorite
    5. Cover to Cover – Friendly reading competition within division. Classes compete against each other to see who reads the most
    6. Battle of the Books – assist Mrs Wilson with organizing the study materials for the Junior and Senior Battle teams
    7. Book Bonanza- ever popular used book sale which will be held in early June

Closing Prayer was read by Gina Millington. Meeting adjourned at 7:45.

Next Meeting: Mon April 6<sup>th</sup> 2020