

MINUTES OF THE CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
Holy Trinity CSS
January 31, 2017

Present: *Renee Rozon (Principal), Ron Papps (Vice-Principal), Cheryl Tourangeau, JoAnn DaSilva, Carolyn Bernard, Amy McLennan, Erin Latter, Lauren Webster (Chaplain), Kirsten Gibson-Sommerville, Natalie Krasnowolsky-Trottier (Staff Member),*

Regrets : *Ellie Fuller, Patrick Szabadka, Renee Seguin-Lalonde, Tia Foster-Scott; Sandra Lavallee; Karen McClenaghan; Bridget Bentley; Kim Blanchet, Karen Torrie-Racine, Elizabeth Spagnolo (Staff member)*

1. Prayer and welcome- *Lauren Webster, Renee Rozon and Cheryl Tourangeau*
2. Approval of Agenda - Moved by *Kirsten Gibson-Sommerville* and seconded by *JoAnn DaSilva*. Carried
3. Approval of Minutes October 27, 2016 -the date is wrong and should have been 2016. Moved by *JoAnn DaSilva*, seconded by *Erin Latter*. Carried
4. **Principal's report** - *Renee Rozon* shared the following report:

Bullying Awareness Week in November (daily announcements and activities) - A really positive occasion with a number of student activities. Very well received by the entire student body.

Sources of Strength Training and Activities (Grades 7-12)

5 staff members have been trained who trained 55 students from grades 8-11 who were selected from a number of different groups within the school to have a good cross representation. This was a nice variety of students. The goal is to move forward with a positive message. The students remain active and many are asking for more activities. One event was the "Post It Notes" exercise where positive messages were left on lockers around the school for the students.

Major focus this year has been on literacy and math skills.

Bell "Let's Talk" was done at the school and we incorporated the Sources of Strength team in these events.

Food Drive at Christmas time for St. Vincent de Paul – 5,573 food items (4,100 lbs.) A group of students loaded a bus generously provided by Roxborough Bus lines and brought the donated food directly to St Vincent de Paul instead of bringing it to the radio studio this year. There was a live segment on live TV.

Optimist Club Toy Drive - \$885.00 - thirty-five \$25.00 gift cards. This is our third year doing this.

Christmas Concert/Upper Canada Village

At the concert we celebrated the talents of the students and what a success. In terms of Upper Canada Village, the School choir performed at the Alight the Night festivities at the village this year.

Spirit Week just before Christmas was lots of fun for all. We feel it promotes a sense of family and belonging.

EQAO Math Testing- despite the snow days, the testing proceeded and went well. We were well prepared. The students had a pizza day after to celebrate.

Culminating Activities/Exams- all done for another semester. We are now ready to start our new semester.

Grade 8 Retreat at Precious Blood (January 24th) – Profession of Faith/NET team- School Chaplain Lauren Webster to speak to this

Training Sessions for staff - focus on cross-panel, numeracy and technology

We are getting some funding next year to look into future planning around numeracy.

Open House - January 19, 2017 was a tremendous success and well attended by a number of community schools. They completed a passport to ensure that the students and their parents visited the different classrooms and teachers. There was a nice balance of future grade 7's and 9's. In reviewing who attended, there was a prospective Falcon coming from every school in the region and from each of the four school board: English Catholic, English Public, French Catholic and French Public. We estimate that there were approx. 250 seated for the presentation.

Our grade 8 feeder schools' visit occurred in January and the grade 6 feeder schools' visits will be in March.

Beacons of Faith Conference- Secondary Students are taking leadership roles with grade 5 students who will be attending the conference at the end of May.

Harmony Group - for Grade 9 students focusing on acceptance and inclusion.

Bishop Cup – is on Wednesday, March 8, 2017. We always need parent volunteers at the door if you can help.

The Mission Trip is scheduled in June 2017 and we are planning for our trip to Sandy Lake, Ontario.

Cheese for Change during Lent- Tracey MacDonald and Lauren Webster are spearheading this fundraiser. Our goal this year is to send the money raised to help with our sponsored foster child

Chalice. Also if our fundraising is good, we may be able to assist in other capacities, elsewhere. The goal is teaching “global change and how we can make change”.

5. **Chaplaincy Leader’s report- Lauren Webster**

Advent Mass was Tuesday, December 13th, 2016

Social Justice:

-For the Optimist Club Toy Drive we had a House Challenge to collect change. We used the funds collected to purchase gift cards for teens to be added to the Christmas baskets they hand out.

-NET retreat was scheduled for the end of January but was cancelled due to snow days and we are looking to re-schedule in February. This is a faith based conference with no cost to the students. It is held at Precious Blood Parish and any additional costs we seek donations from our parish communities to help us with.

-The food drive was a great success. We had class challenges to help promote and gain momentum and spirit within the school. We had a number of classes do unexpectedly well, and we are very proud of our students and staff for taking part in such a worthy cause that directly affects our community.

Mission Trip:

-We have two grade 11 students attending the Sandy Lake Building Bridges and Poverty Exposure Trip in June 2017. They will be joined by two students from St. Matthew and five students from St. Joseph.

-Supervisors for the trip will be Mr. Gordie Van Putten, chaplaincy leader at St. Joe’s, Mr. Dennis Hutt, teacher from Brockville, and his wife. The Hutts have ties to the Sandy Lake Community. As of December we have only just begun our preparations, as the trip is later this year, but fundraising and preparations are starting to get into full swing now that we’re back.

-Next full school assembly: March 1st, 2017 – Ash Wednesday

6. **Committee reports**

Catholic Education Committee (CEC):

Karen Torrie-Racine sent regrets

Lauren Webster said that Catholic Education week is the 1st week of May 2017 and on May 4th we will be having a mass for students here at HT.

Renee shared that there will be performances by students for families at St Joseph’s Catholic Secondary school

Community rep or student council rep:

Karen Torrie-Racine sent regrets

7. New Business:

ARC report:

At the last meeting, questions were answered by administration and the decision remains in the Review process. They are still exploring different options. There were some questions from Parents “what if” questions, including some possible zoning changes. A parent asked if the students currently attending certain schools will be “grandfathered” into finishing their studies at that school even with the zoning change. *Renee* said she can bring this question up at the next meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for February 15, 2017 at St Joe’s.

Also shared was that the English Public Board is also going through their process and are finalizing their report and the community should know soon.

OPEN HOUSE:

Cheryl thanked those parents from the Catholic School Council who were able to attend. *JoAnn, Erin and Renee* - thanks for your support.

All *Renee* and other parents have heard so far are positive comments about the event. Everyone seemed to enjoy the evening, including those students not from feeder schools and from other Boards.

8. Comments and questions:

A parent asked about the grade 7-8 Resource room and learned that it was available during school hours and not over the lunch hour. The library is always available over the lunch hour for a student to complete work.

There was another question about hockey practice for 7-8 participating in the Bishop cup.

Next Parent-teacher night is scheduled for April 27, 2017.

9. **Next meeting:** is Wednesday March 22, 2017

10. **Adjournment:** moved by *Erin Latter*

Minutes completed by Carolyn Bernard