

MINUTES OF THE CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
Holy Trinity CSS
March 22, 2017

Present: *Renee Rozon (Principal), Ron Papps (Vice-Principal), Cheryl Tourangeau, JoAnn DaSilva, Carolyn Bernard, Erin Latter, Lauren Webster (Chaplain), Kirsten Gibson-Sommerville, Natalie Krasnowolsky-Trottier (Staff Member), Patrick Szabadka, Sandra Lavallee; Bridget Bentley*

Regrets : *Amy McLennan, Ellie Fuller, Renee Seguin-Lalonde, Tia Foster-Scott; Karen McClenaghan; 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 *JoAnn DaSilva* and seconded by *Erin Latter*
Carried
3. Approval of Minutes January 24, 2017- Moved by *Kirsten Gibson-Sommerville* and seconded by *Patrick Szabadka*
4. **Principal's report**-*Renee Rozon* shared the following report:

School Staff continue to have cross-panel collaborative sessions. This past month focuses have included numeracy, technology, and French. We are also focusing on cross-panel (7-8 and 9-12 teachers collaborating with each other). English teachers continue to work with students to prepare them for the OSSLT, which takes place next week on Thursday. Literacy lunches have been happening all year to support the students.

In athletics, teams have continued to excel and details are posted in our monthly newsletter, which can be found on line.

The arts department is working hard to prepare for this year's musical, "Seussical", which takes place in May. The props and scenery are being developed and looking fabulous.

Students "Bowled for Kids' Sake" in February to support Big Brothers Big Sisters and Holy Trinity donated approximately \$1,000.00. In addition some students bowled with the Bishop at his second annual bowl and pizza night in February.

Some examples of events students have recently participated in include:

- Grade 7 and 8 students attended the Rob Nash concert to hear his inspirational message on resilience and hope.
- Grade 9 students recently attended the annual youth symposium hosted by the Cornwall Police to hear a motivational speaker.
- Grade 9, 10, and 11 students listened to a presentation by OPP liaison officer JD Doiron on internet safety. (Grade 7, 8, and 9 students heard this presentation earlier this year). Fabulous presentation and very well received.
- Additional events continue to be planned and will be in our monthly newsletter and calendar.

The 11th annual Bishop Cup was well attended and as always, our Falcons had second-to-none school spirit. \$3000.00 was collected for the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

We are very proud of our Falcons and continue to value a strong connection with our families.

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

- We managed to reschedule the grade 8 NET retreat in February, after having to cancel our original January date due to a snow day. NET (National Evangelization Teams) is a young adult ministry that puts on retreats and parish programs for high school-aged youth. Our retreat was held at Precious Blood on February 21st. Traditionally we do a Profession of Faith retreat, so the theme was Confirmation, and the students had the opportunity to learn about that sacrament and for those who have already made it, it was a refresher, since we make our Confirmation in grade 2 in this diocese. We concluded our day with a Profession of Faith in the church, led by Fr. Marc Piché. *Lauren* explained it is like a refresher for the students who had done their confirmation some time before. Great day and lots of positive feedback.
- Our Ash Wednesday Liturgy was held on March 1st. We are working hard as an entire staff to engage the students more, and we saw overall better participation this time around.

Social Justice:

- We are into our Lenten initiative Cheese for Change. We are selling St. Albert's cheese to raise money for our sponsor child in the Philippines. This is through Chalice, and it provides education, food, and medical supplies for the year. If we exceed the amount required for our sponsor child, we will purchase other items such as eye glasses,

immunizations, chickens, etc., also through Chalice. This campaign runs until April 7th, and pick-up will be April 12th, just in time for Easter.

Mission Trip:

- Fundraising is well under way. The main initiative is raffle tickets.

Prizes include:

- a \$2000 travel voucher
- 2 Via Rail tickets to Toronto, with hotel stay
- Overnight stay at Ramada Inn, Cornwall
- Overnight stay at Comfort Inn, Cornwall
- Gift basket and gift card for Pure Esthetics
- \$100 gift certificate to Seaway Valley Meat Cutting
- 4 cash prizes of \$100 each

Anyone interested in purchasing a ticket can see either of our students, myself, or they can be purchased at Scotiabank in Cornwall. Tickets are \$20 each.

- Additionally, we are selling Papa Jack's popcorn in the school for \$2 a bag – a popular item with the students, and we will be at all the masses at St. Peter's this weekend selling chocolate bars, as well as raffle tickets. This fundraiser is also to help with the Mission Trip.
- On March 31st we are hosting 31 grade 5 students from our feeder schools for a leadership conference called Beacons of Faith. This will be led by some of our senior students who have shown leadership within our school in various activities, groups, teams, etc. (*Renee added that this conference began last year within the entire Board and received very positive feedback, so has now become an annual event*). *Those who participate are given a special take away that is unique to them. Two grade 12 students are the keynote speakers and they represent two different aspects of leadership- the more outgoing type as well as the quiet leader.*)
- Our next full school assembly is April 13th for our Holy Week Liturgy.

6. Committee reports

Catholic Education Committee (CEC):

Karen Torrie-Racine sent her regrets

Community rep or student council rep:

Karen Torrie-Racine sent her regrets

7. New Business:

i. Parent Reaching Out Grant:

Cheryl mentioned that she had forwarded an email to all committee members about this. May 25, 2017 is the deadline to apply for this grant, to be used in the next academic year 2017-2018. Last year we hosted a speaker who spoke to parents about supporting their children with anxiety. We also gave out stress balls. The Council members were asked for suggestions. *Natalie Krasnowolsky-Trottier* mentioned that she and *Renee* had just attended a presentation by the Cornwall Community Police in regards to a symposium about being tech savvy in today's world. Basically helping students with the dangerous world of technology, it was suggested that we could look at this as a theme. *Renee* said she could check with the Cornwall Police to see if they could come present and we could host a presentation night for parents. *Bridget Bentley* said she could help out if there was a subcommittee. *Renee* will make contact with the police, then send out an email and those interested in helping can let her know. Thank you *Natalie and Renee*

ii. 8th Annual Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) Symposium

The Board has 5 spots open for parents who are members of Catholic School Councils to attend this symposium if anyone is interested. It will be on April 22, 2017 in Ottawa, ON and is being hosted by the Ministry of Education. The goal is parent engagement in Education and is an opportunity for parents to network and collaborate. It covers most of the day with the parents and directors of education are invited for part of the day. It is a change to learn resources and supports. *Cheryl* will forward the email to everyone and if anyone is interested, they can let her know.

Renee explained that the Board will be hosting another Catholic Symposium in Kemptonville at the Board office and she will give us the details by email.

iii. ARC Report

The Board met Monday past and the ARC committee presented their report. At the April Board meeting, this will be opened up to parents or groups who wish to be heard. The final decision will be by the May meeting of the board.

iv. Together in Faith Campaign

The campaign Power Point has been sent to the Bishop for approval and unfortunately was not approved yet, as such *Renee* could not show it yet. This campaign will be to increase awareness and promote catholic education.

8. Comments and questions:

- The Catholic Education Coalition event is coming up on Thursday May 4th and will again be a concert with students from our schools in the eastern region at St Joseph's Catholic Secondary School with the Holy Trinity Choir participating.
 - *JoAnn* asked about the specialization courses and if the school had considered other specializations. *Renee* explained that the process to have a High Skills Major specialization can take a year. We currently have two specializations (Health and Wellness/Arts and Culture) and have just submitted a proposal to add a third in Agriculture. This would be a great addition to the school considering the large amount of children with scientific and rural interests or background and is well suited to the region.
 - *Erin* asked about the delayed spirit wear toques/hats and *Ron* said they were still expected to come in. The supplier has had difficulty with the production aspect and they are still following up on this. *Ron* said he can empathize with everyone and will look into it again.
 - A parent asked if Spirit wear would be for sale again and *Renee and Ron* explained not this year, however Ms. Gibbs will be selling jackets and track pants through soccer soon and will open this up to all students if they wish to purchase any. *Renee* confirmed this clothing is considered Spirit wear and can be worn on Spirit days.
 - *JoAnn* asked if there was any update on the track project. *Renee* said that everything is at the board level now and there is an update meeting next week.
 - *Renee* asked if the Committee was happy with the number of meetings thus far and if the members were comfortable with an end of year supper at the Blue Anchor as we have done in the past. All members welcomed this and thanked *Renee and Ron*. They said they would propose a date at a later time when the weather gets nicer. Should there be any issues before then, they can be addressed by Subcommittees and *Renee* said she would send emails to keep all informed. The committee thanks *Renee* for always keeping us so well informed.
 - Next Parent-teacher night for parents/guardians of secondary students is scheduled for April 27, 2017.
9. Next meeting will be the end of year gathering as discussed unless an emergency arises
10. Adjournment, moved by *Erin Latter*

Minutes completed by Carolyn Bernard