



ST. JOHN CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2023 MINUTES

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Land Acknowledgement - David Forte
2. Opening Prayer - David Forte
3. Roll Call -

<u>Staff & Community Representatives:</u>	<u>Parent Representatives:</u>
David Forte (Principal)	Lisa Milan (Chair) - A
Lauren Swindley (Teaching staff member)	Marnie Odell (Co-Chair)
Elizabeth Bennie (Teaching staff member)	Meaghan Anderson
Sarah Dobrindt (Non-teaching staff member) - A	Sara Chirico
Andrew Natale (St. Joseph Parish representative)	Lynn Dudok
Austin White (Public Health nurse)	Mary Glavac - A
	Shirley Kantartzis - A
	Joanne Millar - A
	Breeann Staibano
	Mariam Vieira
	Hayley Coruzzi - A

Those who have expressed their regrets -
Joanne Millar; Lisa Milan; Hayley Coruzzi; Sarah Dobrindt

4. Approval of the Agenda - Marnie Odell
5. Disclosure of Interest - N/A

B. PRESENTATIONS

1. **Andrew Natale** - *St. Joseph Parish Representative*
 - Upcoming events at St. Joseph Parish.
 - Sacramental preparations update.
2. **Austin White** - *Public Health Nurse*
 - ✓ Austin continues to serve as a contact person for matters pertaining to the health and well-being of our students and community members

C. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Nil.

D. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- 1) **Catholic School Council Fundraising Financial Report** Mr. Forte shared the Catholic School Council Financial Reports as of 25/04/2023.
- 2) **Interactive Classroom TVs** - The school has purchased two 65 inch interactive TVs for Room 108 (currently occupied by our Grade 4 class) and Room 119 (currently occupied by our Grade 1/2 French Immersion class).
- 3) **Additional Chromebooks** - The school has placed an order for the purchase of 30 additional Chromebooks.
- 4) **King Street Sidewalk** - The Town of Lincoln and the Board's Facilities Services Department continue to work together to finalize construction of the sidewalk along King Street and connect it to the existing walkway on school property. The school will communicate with families once confirmation is received by the Town of Lincoln and Facilities Services that the sidewalk is fully functional and safe for use.
- 5) **Lenten & Easter Food Drive** - Our Lenten & Easter Food Drive for the **Grimsby Benevolent Fund** was a tremendous success. The school gathered over 1,000 lbs of non-perishable items!
- 6) **EQAO Digitalized Assessments** - All students in Grades 3 and 6 who are accessing the Ontario Curriculum are expected to participate in the assessments. Assessments will take place digitally, using school devices from **May 23 - 26 (Grade 3 students)** and **May 29 - June 1 (Grade 6 students)**.
- 7) **Catholic Education & Mental Health Week** - Niagara Catholic schools will be participating in Catholic Education Week with the theme of **"We are Many, We are One"**, in conjunction with Mental Health Week, from **Monday, May 1, 2022 to Friday, May 5**. Further details regarding Catholic Education & Mental Health Week activities are outlined in the April 24 letter to families.
- 8) **Anti-Black Racism Parent Presentation** - As a follow-up to the student workshops that took place in February, the school has booked a parent presentation to take place here at the school on **Thursday, May 25** from **6:00 pm - 7:30 pm**.
- 9) **Little Jammerz Guitar Program (Grades 1-6)** - Students were provided with information forms on April 18 to bring home for parents to review. Parents are asked to complete their child's registration if interested in participating in the program.
- 10) **Knights of Columbus Lunch BBQ** - The Knights of Columbus will be running a BBQ for students here at the school on Friday, June 2. Students can purchase a hotdog or hamburger with a bag for chips for \$5.00. Orders are to be submitted via 'SchoolCash' Online. All money raised will be put toward local charitable causes through the Knights of Columbus. Details will be shared with families in the coming weeks.
- 11) **Meet the Staff Open House & Knights of Columbus BBQ** - This is tentatively scheduled to take place on Thursday, September 14 from 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm. The school is looking for parent volunteers from the Catholic School Council to run an exchange for gently used elementary standardized dress code items during the event.
- 12) **Term 2 Report Cards** - Term 2 Ontario Provincial Report Cards will be made available in the [Niagara Catholic Parent Portal](#) the week of June 26. This reporting period reflects learning that has occurred since the commencement of Term 2 on February 1, 2023.

- 13) **2023-2024 Classroom Placements** - Due to ongoing changes in teaching staff throughout the Board, the name of your child's classroom teacher for the 2023-2024 school year will appear in the [Niagara Catholic Parent Portal](#) in late August / early September.
- 14) **School Summer Garden Maintenance** - Catholic School Council Members and anyone wishing to assist with garden maintenance over the summer months are asked to contact Mrs. Binfield.
- 15) **School Fundraising:**
 - ✓ **Catholic Education Week Gift Basket Raffle** - Each student will receive one ticket to be entered into the raffle. Parents may purchase additional tickets for students at \$2.00 each via 'SchoolCash' Online. Gift baskets will be raffled off at the end of Catholic Education Week. Winning students will be called to the Main Office to select a gift basket of their choice. Students will choose in the order in which their name was called.

E. OTHER BUSINESS:

- 1) **Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) 2023-2024** - Information regarding nominations and the application process will be included in our May newsletter.
- 2) **Niagara Catholic Parent Engagement Night** - A notification was sent to all families on March 22 inviting parents to attend and participate in a faith formation and parent engagement night with Father Tony Ricard. The event will take place at Denis Morris Catholic Secondary School on Wednesday, May 3. Details, including registration information, are outlined in the notification.
- 3) **Reading in the Early Years Parent Information Session** - A notification was sent to all families of children in Kindergarten to Grade 2 on April 19 inviting them to participate in the virtual session. The session takes place on Tuesday, May 2 from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm. Families of students registered to begin in Kindergarten in September were also notified via email.
- 4) **Practice Fire & Lockdown Drills:**
 - ✓ **Fire drills** - Fire drills are to be conducted at a minimum of six times throughout the duration of the school year (three per term), all at various times of the day. St. John has completed three of its six required fire drills this year.
 - ✓ **Lockdown drills** - Lockdown drills are to be conducted at a minimum of two times throughout the duration of the school year (two per term). St. John has completed both of its two required lockdown drills this year.
- 5) **Student Absences & Late Arrivals** - It is essential that all student absences and late arrivals are called into the Safe Arrival Program by **8:30 am** via phone (1-844-287-6287), website or app.
- 6) **'SchoolMessenger'** - The school will continue to use the 'SchoolMessenger' platform to update the parent community with essential information pertaining to the school.
- 7) **'SchoolCash' Online** - The use of this platform to make payments for school related expenses is highly encouraged. Further information is on the St. John Google Website.
- 8) **Parish News:**
 - ✓ **Year-End School Mass** - Our Year-End School Mass is scheduled to take place on **Wednesday, June 14 at 10:00 am** at St. Joseph Catholic Parish. Families are welcome to attend.

- ✓ **First Communion** - Students in Grade 2 and other grades who are Roman Catholic will be receiving the Sacrament of First Holy Eucharist on **Sunday, April 30 at 3:00 pm** at St. Joseph Catholic Parish.

9) **On-going School Initiatives:**

- ✓ Consideration of planting trees to provide a shade canopy near outdoor classroom.
- ✓ Continue to develop technological resources in the school with a goal of one Chromebook for every one student in Grades 1 through 8, and replacing non-functional Smartboards and LCD projectors with interactive TVs.

F. Chairperson Report:

1) **Marnie Odell** - *St. John Catholic School Council Chair*

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- ✓ **Fall Wine Fundraiser** - Catholic School Council will consider this idea for next school year.

G. Review of Key Dates and Dates of Interest:

- ✓ Catholic School Council meetings will take place four times per year and will be held in-person in the school's Library Information Centre. If the Ontario Government decides that it is no longer safe to gather in-person, then meetings will be held virtually.

- ✓ *Dates of Interest:*

- Sunday, April 30** - First Holy Communion @ St. Joseph Catholic Parish
- Thursday, June 22** - Grade 8 Graduation

H. NEXT MEETING

September, 2023 (date and time to be determined).

I. ADJOURNMENT

J. CLOSING PRAYER - David Forte