



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

AGENDA

OUR LADY OF FATIMA

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

DATE Oct 21st, 2024 @ 5 p.m.

Location Our Lady of Fatima Staff Room

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer led by Theo Dagenais at 5:10 p.m.
2. Roll Call: Theo Dagenais, Susan Pemberton, Justine Saville, Amy McCann, Catherine Beler, Alissa McKinnon, Amanda McIntyre, Luzena Dumercy, Jodie Finora, Johanna Miller, Jillian Eles
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Disclosure of Interest
5. Approval of Minutes of the Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School Council Meeting of Monday Oct 21, 2024 .

B. PRESENTATIONS

- **We are in need of a Chair and Co-Chair for the 2024/25 school year.** The main purpose of the Chair is to facilitate the flow of CSC meetings, set up meeting dates and inform about any sub-committee information. **We are also in need of an OAPCE representative.** Their main purpose is to disseminate information to the rest of CSC. CSC members are welcome to attend Board meetings as well.

- Funds for school activities come from earnings through Bingo, fundraising and school generated funds (from the Board). CSC will collectively decide where/how to spend this money. The goal is to spend 90% of the funds raised within the same school year.

- **There is a Parent Engagement Fund that CSC can apply for through the Board for \$1000.**

- Our EQAO scores in Grade 6 far exceeded the Board and provincial scores.

C. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- **Start of the year (special events/activities)**

-We had a successful Thanksgiving food drive.

-On Halloween parents are welcome to come to school to view a parade of the students in costumes that will take place outside (weather permitting). Students are welcome to dress in costumes (worn to school or put on at school) or wear orange and black. Students will receive free pizza on this day. Due to many families sending in treats on this day, CSC will not give out treats.

- **Purchase of Chromebooks**

- This year we have already purchased 30 chromebooks for student use and are planning to purchase another 30.

- **Fundraising Initiatives & Purposes**

- It was suggested to go with practices that have been successful in the past. For example, any fundraiser where there is an opportunity to win cash and/or prizes tend to be most successful.

- **CSC meeting schedule (minimum of 4 meetings per year)**

- We would like to meet every 1-2 months. We are required to meet a minimum of 4 times per year. These meetings can be virtual or in person. CSC agreed that 5 p.m. is a good start time. Justine offered to select dates for the year and shared with CSC:
 - December 2nd, 2024 - Video Meeting
 - January 13th, 2025 - In-Person Meeting

- February 24th, 2025 - Video Meeting
- April 7th, 2025 - In-Person Meeting
- May 20th, 2025 - Final In-Person Meeting/Dinner

- **Enrolment**

- Our enrollment continues to grow. We are at just under 400 students. We had 40 students leave in June 2024 (graduated, moved, etc) and received 83 new students.

- **Procedures/Protocols (eg., transportation, busing, class assignments, student placements)**

- It is impossible to communicate to families in June who their child's teacher will be in September due to changes in staffing which can occur right up to, and after, Labour Day weekend. Also contributing to class changes are late enrolments (which can create straight or split grades). When creating class lists, teachers are asked to balance academic needs, behaviours, friendships, gender and avoid students having the same teacher for 3 years in a row.
- The caps in Primary English are 21 and 23 in Primary French Immersion.

- **Staffing**

- We are still in need of a .33 teacher for English Prep & Planning in two French Immersion classrooms. Update: teacher has been secured and began on Thursday October 24th.

- **Updated Emails**

- Didn't get to.

- **A.O.B.**

- Halloween Totes: we will check with the custodian on their whereabouts. CSC can decorate if they wish to.
- End of the year BBQ: good idea to provide extra food options (i.e. pizza). Will ask for more volunteers to help. Only allow pre-ordered food to know exactly what is needed.
- The Board mandates the number of 'out of uniform' days, which are supposed to have a theme. Occasionally having an extra one in a month is do-able, but we can't be much more liberal than that.
- A uniform/shoe/boot/skate/ swap event at least once a year. We would also accept donations of hats, scarves, mittens. Can be run by CSC if wanted.
- Bringing more extra curricular activities to the school - we are willing to listen to any suggestions but we can't commit to everything especially with issues of insurance, liability and privacy policies.

- **Buddy Bench** for outside:we do have “Noah’s Bench” which has a similar intended purpose. Staff confirmed that it is being used by students. **More discussion is needed on this item.**
- **First day of school: we will try to establish an information centre** where students/parents can go to get information about their classroom/teacher with a focus on Primary students. All teachers are asked to come outside on the first day to meet their class. Could teacher pictures be added to where parents login to find out their child's teacher? Possibly, but not all teachers have a photo taken on photo day.

D. OAPCE REPORT

E. STAFF REPORT

F. AGENDA ITEMS-DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

G. NEXT MEETING

Dec 2, 2024 Virtual Meeting

H. ADJOURNMENT @ 6:10 p.m.

I. CLOSING PRAYER