



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**MINUTES OF THE
CANADIAN MARTYRS CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING**

**NOVEMBER 25, 2024
Library**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Canadian Martyrs Catholic School Council, held on November 25, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm by L. Incaviglia.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer – Prayer for Catholic School Council

The opening prayer was led by L. Incaviglia

2. Roll Call

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP		Present	Excused	Absent
Principal/Vice-Principal Secretary/Treasurer	Lisa Incaviglia	√		
	Wendy Wilson		√	
Co-Chairs	Rose Allison	√		
	Nicole Cameron	√		
Teacher Representative	Sandra Borg-Holjak	√		
Non-Teaching Representative	Alexandra Moore	√		
OAPCE Representative	Yiching Chua		√	
PARENT/GUARDIAN MEMBERS				
Melissa Sticca		√		
Jacqueline Rizza				√
Shannon Walton		√		
Maria Marques				√
Deanna Arlia		√		
Betty Subic			√	
Anthony Adeoye				√
Martha Sanusi				√

Minutes of the Meeting taken by L. Incaviglia

Guest(s) in Attendance – NA

3. Disclosure of Interest

Members of Catholic School Council shall declare a conflict of interest in matters that they, members of their families or their business affiliations could directly or indirectly benefit from the decisions of the committee.

No Disclosures of Interest were declared with any items on the agenda.

4. Approval of Minutes of the Canadian Martyrs Catholic School Council Meeting of September 2024

B. PRESENTATIONS – None

C. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee – NCPIC – Nicole will provide an update about the Chairs/Co-Chairs Meeting on November 7th. Lisa will share the PowerPoint Presentations via email with CSC members that was presented that evening.

Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Report - There is no report at this time.

Catholic School Council Financial Statement

Halloween Dance-a-thon - \$6179.28 - Profits from the Dance-a-thon were used to purchase 20 Chromebooks. The cost of 20 Chromebooks is \$7638.80.

Christmas Market & Mingle

We will be offering crafts for pre-sale on School Cash Online. The cost will be \$5 and \$2 from each craft sold will be donated to McMaster Children's Hospital.

Nicole will be making salt dough to make ornaments. Sandra and Allie will also be preparing crafts for this event.

Crafts will be done in one of the intermediate classrooms.

We will have a classroom open so that people can sit and eat.

Deanna has arranged for one food truck, Soups and Things.

The school will sell pizza, chips, popcorn, and chocolate bars for \$2 each.

We have 15 vendors.

The caricature artist will be coming.

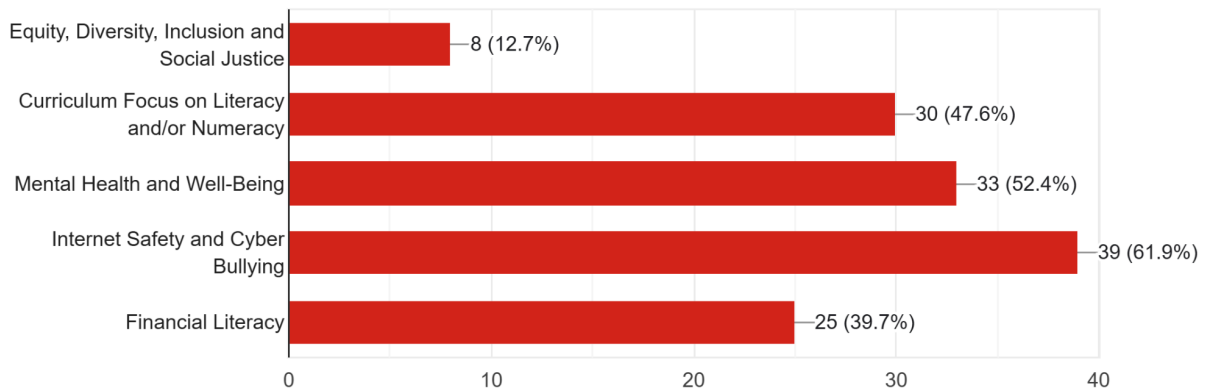
Santa will be coming at 6:00pm. He will read a story to the children in the library and take pictures with them. Santa will also be handing out candy canes. Santa does not charge a fee for his services. He requests that the school makes a donation to palliative care.

CSC members will be asked via email if they can attend and support in different areas during this event.

Parent Engagement Plan - Results of the Parent Engagement Survey

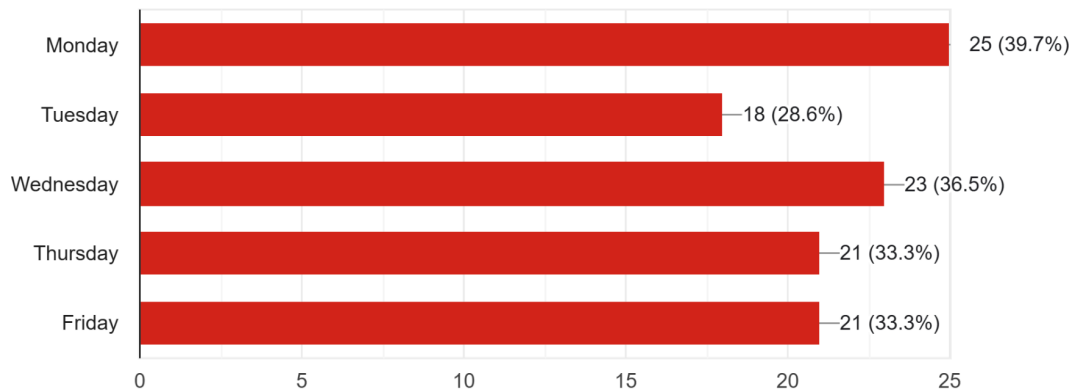
Canadian Martyrs will be hosting a parent/guardian engagement event in the spring. Which topic(s) would be of interest to you? Select all that apply.

63 responses



Which night(s) of the week work best for you to participate in school events? Select all that apply:

63 responses



We will develop a subcommittee to plan for this event at our February meeting. Lisa will begin looking for guest speakers on the topic of Internet Safety and Cyberbullying.

D. CO-CHAIRS REPORT

Nicole gave an overview from the Nov. 7th NCPIC Chairs/Co-Chairs Meeting.

Mental Health and Well-Being Presentation - Niagara Catholic Mental Health and Well-Being Strategy 2024-2027 and Annual Action Plan 2024-2025

Public Health Presentation

An email will be sent to CSC members with the presentations shared at this meeting.

Rose attended a virtual OAPCE Meeting

-this year's theme is Super Parents - being spiritual superheroes for our children and children of our community

-reviewed their website, newsletters, faith resources - oapce.org

-met with the new Minister of Education

-represent parents across Ontario

-task force created regarding cellphones and vaping bans

-virtual advent retreat - Theresa Hartnet

- if we have events to share we can send them in to be posted on our website
- discussed tax dollar allocation - ensure that your taxes are being sent to Catholic Education
- the year of the jubilee is beginning - dioceses throughout the province will have different events
- main focus is on parent engagement and parent advocacy
- check if they have a Facebook page

E. POLICY REVIEW AND FEEDBACK

Niagara Catholic is governed by policies approved by the Board of Trustees. These policies are reviewed or vetted on a five-year cycle to ensure they meet legislative requirements and the needs of our system.

The Board may also review a policy sooner, if necessary.

We invite all stakeholders to take part in the vetting process by providing feedback.

Stakeholders include:

- Parents and guardians
- Students
- Staff
- CUPE (the union representing jobs such as custodians and caretakers, educational assistants, early childhood educators, librarians, secretaries, and other support staff)
- OECTA (the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association, which represents teachers)
- The Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)
- The Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC)
- The Diocese of St. Catharines

To be considered as part of the vetting process all feedback must include:

- The stakeholder's name
- The stakeholder's address and phone number
- The stakeholder's connection to Niagara Catholic

When vetting closes, the Director and Senior Staff review all feedback. They provide a summary of comments and suggested changes to the Committee of the Whole for consideration and recommendation. Once approved by the Committee of the Whole, the policy is forwarded to the Board for final approval.

The following Governance Policies are currently being reviewed as part of the Establishment and Cyclical Review of Policies Policy (100.5) review process.

- [Trustee Code of Conduct Policy 100.12](#)
- [Trustee Electronic Meetings \(Board and Committees\) Policy 100.8](#)

Please submit your feedback to Anna Pisano by 12:00 pm December 19, 2024

Catholic School Council Members questioned why the word 'religion' is being changed to 'creed' in the policies we have reviewed this school year. Lisa will inquire and pass on this feedback.

F. STAFF REPORT – Mrs. Borg-Holjak

- November has been a busy month and we are preparing for a busy December
- last week was Bullying Awareness and Intervention Week with daily announcements, culminating with a special, all-day, school-wide event on Friday
- students were paired with their Book Buddies and participated in activities involving role-playing and making posters
- it was lovely to see the collaboration between our older and younger students; everyone had a great day engaged in meaningful activities
- Parent-Teacher Conferences took place last week
- Intermediate volleyball teams have been practising and preparing for their tournaments
- Junior boys' and girls' triple ball teams have been practising for their tournaments as well
- staff and students have been preparing our Advent Liturgies, which will begin the second week of Advent in the gym
- school Advent Mass is taking place on Wednesday, December 4th

- Joy Day will be taking place on Friday, December 6th; students and staff are invited to wear red and green; there will be a Christmas Door Decorating contest that will be judged the week of December 9th
- Christmas Choirfest: Mrs. O'Shea has been preparing the choir for Choirfest at the Seaway Mall on Friday, December 13th
- there are many exciting trips and events planned over the next three weeks including plays and musical productions, and the Art Gallery will be coming to CM for specific classes
- some of our students are involved in the Linus Hand Musical production of Elf and their classmates will be going to see it
- Community Care Food Drive - we will begin collecting non-perishable food items from December 2nd to December 18th
- Pajama Day - Friday, December 20th
- looking forward to a wonderful month and lead up to Christmas

G. AGENDA ITEMS - DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS – Parent Engagement Event, Playground Equipment Policy 702.1

H. NEXT MEETINGS – Monday, February 24, 2025, and Monday, April 28, 2025 at 6:00 pm in the Library.

I. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned at 7:18 pm.

J. CLOSING PRAYER – Hail Mary