



MINUTES
ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
December 2, 2024

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Land Acknowledgement/Opening Prayer – **Ms. Villella**

2. Roll Call

Parents

Mychalyna Olwage

Lauren Oliveira

Sabrina Golini

Jacqueline Swart

Regrets

Rob Rapiti

Staff

Bonnie Manchuk

Marianna Sirianni

Angela Villella – Vice Principal

Jennifer DeCoff - Principal

3. Approval of Agenda

- **Mrs. DeCoff gave a brief overview of the agenda**

Approved

B. PRESENTATIONS

- **None**

C. POLICIES FOR VETTING FEEDBACK

1. The following Governance Policies are currently being reviewed as part of the [*Trustee Electronic Meetings \(Board and Committees\) Policy 100.8*](#) review process.

To be considered, all submissions must identify the specific Governance Policy and include your name, phone number, address and affiliation with Niagara Catholic.

Anonymous or pseudonymous submissions will not be considered

Please submit your feedback to [*Anna Pisano*](#) by 12:00 pm December 19, 2024

E. PRINCIPAL/STAFF REPORT

Mrs. DeCoff and Ms. Sirianni gave an overview of the following items:



December 2024 St. Mark Catholic Elementary School Principal's Report



Catholicity

School Church Connections

- Grades 1 to 8 classes participated in mass with Fr. During the month of November
- Grades 7 & 8 classes will be leading an Advent Prayer Service during the month of December
- Students will be receiving Reconciliation at the school on December 12th
- Fr. will be leading our final advent ceremony for all classes on December 20th in the afternoon Junior division at 12:00 pm; Kinder, Primary, and Intermediate at 1:45 pm

Student Achievement

- All classrooms from Kindergarten to Grade 8 have completed the Literacy Screener
- It is mandatory for Kindergarten to grade 2; but we have decided to screen all students at St. Mark
- Intervention will be tiered, and all students will be receiving necessary supports
- We will be following a similar process in Math.

Mental Health and Well-Being

- Ms. Villella has been working hard with Student Council and successfully rolled out supports for Bullying awareness and understanding for the entire school.

Sports/Clubs/Activities Update

We are excited to have many accomplishments thus far in fall sports ...

- Junior Soccer – Girls & Boys placed 2nd
- Intermediate Soccer – Girls placed 1st, Boys placed 2nd
- Cross Country – 15 students moved on to the board meet. Two students received medals.
- Junior Triple Ball – Girls placed 1st, Boys placed 2nd
- Intermediate Volleyball – Girls placed 1st
- Dance Club
- Art Club
- Coming up in January – Junior & Intermediate Basketball

Vex Robotics – The Grade 7 and 8 teams will be participating in their first friendly competition at St. Mary's, Niagara Falls on December 10th.

Choir – Travelling to Seaway Mall, Welland on December 9th to perform Christmas carols.

School Climate

Joy Day – On November 28th students from Kindergarten to Grade 8 were busy decorating their doors and classrooms with Christmas themes while dressed in pajamas. All classes attended our annual Dance-a-thon in the gym throughout the day.

Advent Prayer Service - In an effort to promote our Catholic faith and strengthen independence and responsibility, the Grade 7 and 8 students in Mrs. Ferrelli's rotary classes will be presenting a prayer service for each week of Advent in all the classrooms from Kindergarten to Grade 6.

Donations - St Mark will be collecting Gently Used Winter items this month starting December 2nd until December 13th.

F. NCPIC REPORT – Mrs. Oliveira

- An overview of the NCDSB Mental Health and Well-Being Plan was given
- Resources and links are available on NCVLE
- Public Health statistics were discussed: an increase both in Niagara and across the Province was noted in Mental Health needs of children and youth.
- Students as young as Grade 6 were found to be vaping, smoking and using Cannabis.
- NCDSB Priorities for Mental Health were outlined.
- Social/Emotional learning was also highlighted.

G. AGENDA ITEMS

- Mrs. Manchuk reported that \$775 raised from St. Mark Dominoes fundraiser went directly to St. Mark families in need. Thank you to our community!
- Safety issues discussed: 1) walking between busses 2) Dogs on school property An email to families will go out addressing these issues.

H. NEXT MEETING – February 2025

I. CLOSING PRAYER – Ms. Villella

J. ADJOURNMENT