



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE  
Our Lady of Fatima CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: Jan 24, 2024

Location: Virtual

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by [Theo Dagenais](#)

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was led by Theo Dagenais

2. Roll Call

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP		Present	Excused	Absent
Principal	Theo Dagenais	x		
Chair	Michelle Bruce-Pepe		x	
Co-Chair				
Teacher Representative	<a href="#">Susan Pemberton</a>	x		
Teacher Representative	Carmelina Credico		x	
Teacher Representative	<a href="#">Lucie Piché-Cantin</a>		x	
Non-Teaching Representative				
Student Representative				
Parish Representative	Johanna Miller		x	
OAPCE Representative				
PARENT REPRESENTATIVES				
Michael McKnight		x		
Justine Saville		x		
Alissa McKinnon		x		
Chris Campbell		x		
Amy Kita		x		

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Theo Dagenais

Seconded by Susan Pemberton

THAT Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School Council approve the Agenda of Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School Council Meeting of November 27, 2023.

CARRIED

4. Disclosure of Interest

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

5. Approval of Minutes of the Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School Council Meeting of January 24, 2024.

Moved by Theo Dagenais

Seconded by Susan Pemberton

THAT St. Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School Council approve the Minutes of the Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School Council Meeting of January 24, 2024 as presented.

CARRIED

**B. PRESENTATIONS**

**C. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

- Purchase and distribution of Chromebooks has taken place. Cost was ~\$12 000. The goal is to have chromebooks for all classes grades 3 and up.
- Purchase and distribution of sports equipment has taken place. Cost was ~\$3064.
- **Kids Helping Kids Week** will raise money for the Niagara Peninsula Children's Centre. A suggested donation of \$2-5 will be asked, but not required. Some of the activities will include crazy hat, PJ day, etc. Crazy hair day is being discussed at the board level Director's Meeting. School-wide field trip to the movies will replace the skating day. (It was too difficult to ensure every child has skates and a helmet). Cost of the movie will be defrayed by the school. Shrove Tuesday (pancake day) will be catered. Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day (red and white) will take place during the week as well.
- Term 1 report cards will go home in February. Interviews will take place at the discretion of the teacher/parent. Interviews can take place at any time, not just reporting periods. We remind parents to celebrate successes, and not to emphasize your child's lowest marks - keep perspective.
- In Term 2 teachers will start to place more emphasis on EQAO type assessment questions. The previous year's test can be viewed online through the Ministry website.
- Our current school population is 351+ and is projected to be 350-400 over the next several years. These numbers reflect French Immersion and out of bounds children.
- Some issues with French Immersion are that students are admitted first come, first served. No consideration is given to learning needs that may lead to difficulty. As students progress through the program and learning becomes more challenging, some students choose to switch to the English program in many cases.
- Chris: any discussion re: building/school expansion? We will definitely require a classroom for next year and a portable is not coming.
- Michael: Has it been considered to have a dedicated site for FI? It has been discussed by the board, but not the model they want to go with.
- School numbers are solidified in mid-October to secure funding for the school year. Any new registrations/transfers do not receive additional funding after that date.
- Justine: Can parents attend board meetings to share concerns? Yes
- Next school year we will possibly flip back to recess first, then eating at nutrition breaks. Staff will weigh the pros and cons before deciding.
- Chris: Can crazy hair day be moved to a season that doesn't require hats? Yes, and we don't always have to do what was done in the past.
- We've had lots of mid-year registrations.
- Busses are still late arriving in the am. Not as bad in the pm.
- Parking lot issues: people are parking in bus lane, speeding in lot, over capacity and parking in non-designated spots.
- We're at a tough time in the year - especially when we have to have indoor recess.
- Chris: Are we having a dance-a-thon this year? We believe it's in the Spring, but will check.
- Grandparent's Day will return during Catholic Education Week in the Spring.
- Fun Fair - we will discuss after March Break. Possibilities include just having a BBQ or an event which isn't weather dependent. It's difficult to have multiple inflatables in the gym.

**D. OAPCE REPORTS**

**E. STAFF REPORTS**

**F. AGENDA ITEMS-DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

- Walk for Brock will be the last Friday in May (May 31st)
- Justine was going to look into having parish members come to pray the Rosary.
- Fun Fair
- Dance-a-thon date

**G. NEXT MEETING** will be in March.

**H. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Theo Dagenais

Seconded by Susan Pemberton

THAT the January 24, 2024 meeting of the Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School Council be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 6:47 pm.

**I. CLOSING PRAYER** was led by Theo Dagenais.