



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**MINUTES OF THE
ST. THERESE CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 28, 2021**

Minutes of the Meeting of the St. Therese Catholic School Council, held on September 28, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m by Mrs. Turcotte – Principal will chair meeting until a new chair has been elected.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was led by M. Turotte

2. Roll Call

Members	Affiliation	Present	Regrets	Absent
Katie Sneek	Past Chair - 2020-2021	X		
Melissa Turcotte	Secretary/Treasurer-Principal	X		
Carm Bernardi	Teacher Representative	X		
Andrew Thompson	Non-Teaching Representative	X		
Susie DiBartolomeo		X		
Ashley VanderVeen		X		
Anne Minor		X		
Joshua Moore		X		
Laura Brennan		X		
Stephanie Iovio		X		
Dorothy Murtaugh		X		
Chris Saliba		X		
Stephanie Sherk		X		
Morgan Cooper		X		

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Dorothy Mourtaugh

Seconded by Anne Minor

THAT the St. Therese Catholic School Council approve the Agenda of the St. Therese Catholic School Council Meeting of September 2021.

CARRIED

4. **Declaration of Interest**

The following members declared that they are employees of Niagara Catholic; Dorothy Murtaugh

B. PRESENTATIONS

- Welcome by the principal – Mrs. Turcotte reviewed the nomination forms with the council.
- Reviewed & sent pdf of role of CSC and its members - advisory council
- Review of Catholic School By-Laws – Mrs. Turcotte shared a pdf of the St. Therese Catholic School Council by-laws
- Focus for the School Year “Safety, Routines, Hygiene, Mental Health and Wellness” New Theological Theme this year Climbing Mountains Together in Faith This theme supports the system priorities of student achievement for all and nurturing the distinctiveness of Catholic education.
- Electing a Chairperson (Chairperson will chair the rest of the meeting) - Morgan Cooper was elected

C. LIST OF SUBCOMMITTEES

1. **Beautification of School** – Front garden (by Grade 8 Class) Tarmac - basketball nets, four-square, fencing for Kinder play area. Construction is ongoing for Kinder classrooms, an accessible washroom and staff room.
2. **Faith Formation** – The theme for 2020-21 is Climbing Mountains Together in Faith. Dorothy Murtaugh has volunteered to be the Parish Rep for council.
3. **Fundraising opportunities-**
 - a) Last year the Big Red Fundraiser and the Fieldings Winery Fundraiser were well received by the school community. The Wine Fundraiser was just before Christmas and the Big Red Fundraiser was in the Spring. Minimal work is required by Council or Staff - the day of delivery is when help is needed. Joshua Moore has a contact at Ravine Winery and will inquire about their ability to offer a wine fundraising opportunity. CSC would like to continue with both of these fundraisers this year in light of COVID restrictions and our inability to host the previously well received Christmas Bazaar.
 - b) Laura Brennan shared a fundraiser from her previous school community in Waterloo at the local Dominos Pizza. Once a month was their “school night”, families were given code to use when ordering a pizza on this night and a percentage of the proceeds were given back to the school. Other than promoting the Family Pizza Night in our school calendar and newsletter, there is no work for CSC or Staff. Katie Sneek offered to reach out to Christopher’s Pizza to see if they would offer us a similar opportunity so we can support a local business.

- c) Rib Dinner has been done previously and helps us support another local business. This may be something we want to consider doing again this year.
- d) Stephanie Iovio suggested connecting with a local baker or bakery to create premade cookie kits. Could be themed such as Halloween, Christmas or Easter. Kits would come with cookies and decorating materials, and share profits with the baker.
- e) Colouring Contest - students could pay to enter the contest, pictures could be printed off for students to colour, hung around the school and a winner could be announced based on the age.
- f) Mrs. Turcotte mentioned a Christmas Card creation activity (springboarding from the colouring ideas - but this would not be a fundraiser) Students can design a piece of Christmas art to be transformed into Christmas Cards. Parents can purchase a set of 10 Christmas cards of their child's artwork for \$10-12 dollars. This has been well received at other schools and is a great way to showcase our children as artists.
- g) Christmas discussion began regarding past practice of having a Christmas Bazaar and a Christmas concert. Unfortunately due to provincial guidelines this is not possible this year. Conversations turned to thinking outside the box - how could this event be modified, for example, singing outside and parents doing a drive-by or standing outside to watch. Unfortunately, our school numbers would be too many to gather and it would be difficult to ensure families are social distancing. We could possibly have a Family Mass one evening at St. Therese Parish and the children could read, sing and altar serve as an alternative this year.

D. CHAIR'S REPORT -

1. Welcome to 2020-2021 CSC – M. Turcotte welcomed members

E. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – M. Turcotte

- Food Days
- Orange Shirt Day - prayer/reflection in the morning, Orange Heart creation by each student on display, new librarian Ms. Lawrence will be reading stories about Orange Shirt Day.
- Halloween - costumes PM only, no treat sharing, parade in neighbourhood to be determined based on weather and COVID protocols.
- Jerseys - to be replaced this year with lighter more aesthetically pleasing style, Mr. Frey and Mrs. Turcotte are currently reaching out to different vendors for pricing.

F. COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE REPORT – N/A

G. SEAC REPORT – N/A

H. STAFF REPORT – C. Bernardi - shared how happy the staff and students are to be back, the students are happy and enjoying returning to the school community to be with one another. Busy September with our Terry Fox & Holy Childhood Walk, Mass upcoming for the first time with our new Parish Priest Father Janusz who came to visit each last last week and this week we are recognizing Rowan's Law Day as well as Orange Shirt Day and our saint's feast day on Friday, October 1st.

I. Agenda Items –

J. NEXT MEETING DATES :

K. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Katie Sneek
Seconded by - Dorothy Murtaugh

THAT the September 2021 meeting of the St. Therese Catholic School Council be adjourned.

CARRIED :

This meeting was adjourned at 6: 48 p.m.

CLOSING PRAYER: M. Turcotte