



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

ST. MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL, Niagara Falls
COUNCIL MEETING
September 18, 2023
Library Information Centre

Minutes of the Meeting of the St. Mary Catholic School Council, held on September 18, 2023 at 6:00pm.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by 2023--2024 School Year Co-Chair.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. **Opening Prayer:**

The opening prayer was led by all members of the committee

Gathering Prayer

Father in Heaven

Bless us as we unite

Guide our minds and our hearts

So that we will do your work

For the good of our school

And the children entrusted to our care.

Give us strength and courage

that we might stand for truth

Inspire us to be generous in our outlook

Courageous in the face of difficulty

and wise in our decisions

We ask this in the name of your son, Jesus

Amen

Roll Call

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP		Present	Excused	Absent
Principal (Secretary/Treasurer)	Maria Solomon	√		
Chair/Co-Chair	Yirah Corona & Katherine Lynett	√		
Teacher Representative	Jennifer Alaimo	√		
Teacher Representative				
Non-Teaching Representative				
Parish Representative				
PARENT REPRESENTATIVES				
		√		
Amanda Arnold		√		
Jerick and Franceen Arianne Uso		√		
Melissa Nixon		√		
Mark Caydbyob		√		
Hanzel Hernandez		√		
Jeremy & Layla Grace Adamson		√		
Lebin Lenus & Adelyne Pgreira		√		
Adam DeGiuli		√		
Beth Wallace		√		
Ghazal Tanveer		√		
Llata Malai		√		
Gizem Inhanlı		√		
Meaghan Misiak		√		
Tom Mortis		√		
Vineeth Vincent		√		
Leah Amon Ervin		√		
Asbel Mojica		√		
Derek Copeland		√		

Approval of the Agenda (deferred until 2nd CSC Mtg.)

Moved by:

Seconded by:

That the St. Mary Catholic School Council approve the Agenda of the St. Mary Catholic School Council Meeting of September 18, 2023

CARRIED

Disclosure of Interest:

B. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS:

- Mrs. Solomon welcomed everyone to the first Catholic School Council Meeting of the 2023-2024 school year and thanked them for their interest, commitment and representing all families of the St. Mary Catholic School Community
- Introductions were made by each person present and contact information, including e-mail collected

C. ELECTIONS

- Mrs. Solomon read the purpose and role of the Catholic School Council pursuant to NCDSB Catholic School Councils (pursuant to Administrative Operational Procedures, Nov.9/21)
- Mrs. Solomon read the names submitted for Nomination to the 2023-2024 for St. Mary Catholic School Council (CSC)
- Mrs. Solomon reviewed that our CSC By-Laws currently allow for a maximum of 30 parent members; therefore all nominations were accepted and all parents were acclaimed as parent members of the 2023-2024 St. Mary CSC
- Nominations were then accepted for the position of Chair of the St. Mary CSC for the 2023-2024 school year

**D. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT (see report below)
STAFF and PASTORAL REPORTS (deferred until October)**

St. Mary Catholic Elementary School (NF)

Principal's Report

Upcoming Events:

- **Sept. 19** 10:00 am Opening Mass (Gr.1-8) with St. Patrick School at St. Patrick Church (all our welcome)
- **Practice Lockdown Drill on Sept 19/23**
- **Sept. 22 Terry Fox Run/Walk – letter was sent home with parent Week at a Glance Sept.17/23**
- **Sept.27 Meet & Greet 4:30-6:00**
- **Sept. 27 (Inter.Girls' Soccer Tourney @ Mitchelson); Sept. 28 (Interm. Boys' Soccer)**
- **Sept. 29 Orange Shirt Day – activities at Oakes Park**
- **Fire Drills already done (Sept. 5 and Sept.6/23) expect last Fire Drill during Fire Prevention Week (Oct.16-20/23)**
- **Empower Reading** – we continue to be delivering Empower Reading; Mrs. Alaimo - ERT attended refresher training on Sept.13/23
- **Nov.13 Hp &HPV (Gr. 7 & 8 Round #1 Shots)**
- **Recess Documentary Shared last night (Sept. 17/23) to see new Play Space and tarmac**
- Purchased 20 new Chromebooks last week for Grade 8 Classroom – Cost \$7600.00
- Ordered two new Flat TV Screens (Grade 1/2Maia's classroom and Kindergarten classroom) due to old technology
- Fundraising will help to offset the cost of these big ticketed

Dates for Sacraments:

Saturday, February 10, 2024 @5:00 pm St. Patrick Church – Gr.8 Confirmation

TBD First Holy Communion

- Snack Program will resume – Date tbd in consultation with Niagara Nutrition Partners
- Applied and will be receiving funds (approximately \$5,000.00 PC Charity for Nutritional Program)
- Sports- Family of School Sports Rep meeting took place today Sept. 18/232 dates will be confirmed with the Minutes to CSC later this week
- Curriculum Connection/Mental Health & Well Being Support:
Mentorship Program –Child and Youth Care Worker (CYW) and Niagara College CYW student to support collaborative play during recess, Collaborative Problem Solving and Zones of Self-Regulation
- Intermediate Student Council (Made up of our two elementary senators who both ran and won the seats for all of Niagara Catholic and three other core members who meet with me on Friday afternoons) They provide the voice for students and help me plan all the school events! Integral part of our school community.
- Continuing to work towards a School wide Christian Mediation (Some classrooms are still doing the Move one Million)

E. New Agenda Items:

M. Solomon confirmed dates regarding sporting events/meetings and Gr.8 Graduation Meeting next month

Krispy Kreme Fundraiser Dates: Feb. 7/24 and June 10/24

Meet & Greet – need for suggestions on food; explain the layout of the night

Breakfast Club - Hot lunches- Oct includes. Different ethnic food

Applied for \$5000 grant for technology 1/20 out of schools across province for computers granted
Bought Chromebooks \$7600 for grade 8s

Krispy creme Fundraiser 2 dates Feb and June \$3000 allocated

Bought Flat screen TV \$1000 (x2) – for Kindergarten Classroom & Grade ½ Classroom

Parent Meet & Greet- 6 bins 9 zones for kids outside grade 8 to run, play project recess video

Sep 27, 2023 4:30-6pm - Parent Meet & Greet

Food: Pizza

Tim Horton to donate Coffee- Yirah to call

Fundraisers:

Crochet , Flowers – Valentine’s Day & Mother’s Day

Ornaments for xmas

Bring Other ideas for Oct meeting

Sub Committees:

Board Policies -Mr. De Giuli

Breakfast Club- Amanda, GG, Yirah

Cereal donations baggies, not restricted to any child, COSTCO, maybe cross border (Sam's Club) Post Cereal- Mrs. Solomon has a connection to contact

Hot Lunches- G, Ghazal, Amanda

Cultural Day/Event!!! – more to follow

Action Items: Committee ideas

Parent Meet & Greet - pizza, students to help with flyers, Veggie/Fruit tray from Costco?

Christmas fund raiser - last year pasta, ideas for this year

Open questions:

Delta Bingo - apply for license (7pm-10pm)

Sports: cross country Oct 11 rain date 12th

Sep 27 - Girls Intermediate only Michelin Park

Sep 28- Boys Intermediate only

More news on spirit activities to come

Chess tournament/club -TBD

Mrs. Solomon to post on school website

Lacey(student council) working on Halloween

Intermediate Council typically try to meet once a week.

F. AGENDA ITEMS-DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS:

- Pro-Grant Ideas
- Fundraiser Ideas
- Subcommittees and sign-ups for next council meeting discussion around setting up subcommittees: i.e. policies, food, Christmas Committee, Math/Literacy Curriculum Night...)

G. NEXT MEETINGS: Oct. 25/23 @ 6:00 p.m. St. Mary School Library

H. ADJOURNMENT : Meeting adjourned at 6:55pm p.m.

I. CLOSING PRAYER