



The Niagara Catholic District School Board through the charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership, nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all to reach their full potential and become living witnesses of Christ



**MINUTES OF THE
MARY WARD CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING**

**Tuesday, September 27
Library Information Center**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Mary Ward Catholic School Council, held on Tuesday, September 27 at 6:00 PM.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mr. Cardamone, Principal.

A. ROUTINE BUSINESS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayer was led by Mrs. Kelly & Mr. Cardamone

2. Roll Call/Attendance

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP		Present	Excused	Absent
Principal / Vice-Principal	Mr. Cardamone, Principal	✓		
Secretary / Treasurer				
Chair				
Co-Chairs	Kara Bishop & Natalie Mascia	✓		
Teacher Representative	Marylee Kelly	✓		
Non-Teaching Representative	Claudia Leo	✓		
Student Representative	Christie Butera	✓		
Parish Representative	Stephanie Porto & Lynne Orr	✓		
Community Representative				
OAPCE Representative	Lauren Denofsky	✓		
PARENT/GUARDIAN MEMBERS				
Natalie Mascia		✓		
Jennifer Babin		✓		
Kara Bishop		✓		
Amanda Leon		✓		
Lauren Denofsky		✓		
Kerri O'Shea		✓		
Robyn Pearson		✓		
Lynne Orr		✓		
Stephanie Porto		✓		
Amanda Bagnulo		✓		
Melissa MacDonald		✓		
Krista Forgione			✓	

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by *Natalie Masica*

Seconded by *Robyn Pearson*

THAT the Mary Ward Catholic School Council approve the Agenda of the Mary Ward Catholic School Council Meeting of September 27, 2022.

CARRIED

4. **Disclosure of Conflict Interest**

No disclosures of conflict of interest were declared with any items on the agenda.

Melissa MacDonald disclosed that she is an Emergency instructor for the Niagara Catholic DSB
Lauren Denofsky and Lynne Orr work for NCDSB.

5. **Approval of the Minutes of the Mary Ward Catholic School Council Meeting** – approved previous year’s meeting

B. CHAIR’S REPORT / PRESENTATIONS

- Mary Ward’s By-Laws & CSC Policy Review
 - NCDSB Catholic School Council Policy and By-Laws was printed for Catholic School Council members and key points were reviewed by Mr. Cardamone.
 - Purpose – Catholicity, Student Achievement and well-being, enhance the accountability of the education system
 - Every member can vote on items except the Principal. Would like to come to a consensus on items

- Niagara Nutrition Partner Grant
 - Mary Ward will have a Grab’n’Go snack program – cheese strings, yogurt, bananas, apples. Having students enjoy a healthy snack will be promoted
 - \$1384.60 in the Nutrition account – Niagara Nutrition Partners asks that we hold a fundraiser in return for funding. (ie. Portion of funds from a Dance-a-thon, etc)
 - We will start snack program in mid October. Snacks will be on the tables outside the front office. Students and staff will set up the snacks at the office. As well, teachers may take a snack basket to their room.
 - Concern for those students who don’t feel comfortable to walk down and get a snack. Baskets with snacks will be shared with classes
 - Student council will help distribute the baskets to classrooms.

- CSC Dress Code Donations Support
 - Requirement of the Dress Code policy is for schools to support a donation program
 - Mary Ward is asking for donations of any “gently-used” items to support families in the community
 - This will be advertised in the School Newsletter and donations can be sent to school with students
 - This will be advertised in School Newsletter again before winter months.

- Fundraising Goals

Fundraising goals discussed were:

- **Delta Bingo**: Nov 1 or 2 -Parents Night Out! — sell tickets for \$25. \$15 goes to DB for strip of tickets, they will get small goody bag from Council upon arrival and can buy additional games

directly from DB once there. This is separate from the ongoing bingo commitment. Not expected to be a significant fundraiser, more of a night out.

- **Krispy Kreme**: Delivery Nov 23, orders in the week prior, sell for \$12 per box and we keep \$7
- **Christmas Gift Cards**: very well-received but feedback was that we it ended too early (gift cards are usually a last minute purchase), turn around was extremely quick so we could go pretty late
- **Little Caesars**: Delivery Feb 9 (in time for family day and super bowl), orders due 1/23 (start sale upon return from Xmas break), we earn \$6 per kit
- **Spring Fundraiser** – Flowers around Mother’s Day

C. ELECTIONS

- Chair: Natalie Mascia and Kara Bishop are nominated and confirmed as Co-Chairs
- Our Lady of Scapular Parish Rep: Lynne Orr and Stephanie Porto
- OAPCE Rep: Lauren Denofsky

D. PRINCIPAL’S REPORT –

1. Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) Report
 - The Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee, as supported by the Niagara Catholic District School Board, promotes active parent/guardian engagement with all parents/guardians in all schools for the improvement of student achievement and the well-being of all students in the Niagara Catholic District School Board.
 - Nomination forms can be found on the NCPIC website [here](#)
2. Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Report
 - Meeting minutes can be found on the NCDSB website [here](#)
3. Catholic School Council Financial Report
 - Big Box Fundraiser \$2,903.00
 - Gift Card Fundraiser – \$1,990.00 (discussion about fundraiser lasting 2 weeks and lots of reminders sent out, possibly send out a fundraiser calendar to families). Another suggestion is to ensure cards are varied in prices.
 - Family BBQ – \$3, 436.49
 - Totals – \$8329. 49
 - We spent \$17, 668.11 Board Budget that was used 9,338.62
4. School News
 - Welcome: To Rachel Roberto, Felicia Muraco, Rita Celetti, Josh Lennox, Elaine Minervini, Courtney Wilson, Gianina Carletti, Josh Ferrara
 - Vetting of Policies: The following Policies and Administrative Guidelines are currently being reviewed as part of the cyclical Policy and Administrative Guidelines Review process.
 - Faith Theme: “Called by Name.” Chaplaincy Leaders will be visiting classrooms.
 - School Building Improvements: asphalt was expanded out in our play area, main office improvements.
 - Tiger Spirit Wear: While following the Elementary Standardized Dress Code policy, we will get pricing from approved Designated Board Suppliers. Once we choose supplier, we will share ordering information with families.
 - Meet The Teacher/Classroom Communication: went very well, good turnout, great to have parents back into the building.

- Fire Drills/Hold & Secure/Lockdown: Emergency procedures are in place and practiced in all Niagara Catholic schools throughout this school year. We continue to be required to conduct 6 fire drills and 2 hold & secure / lockdown drills each year. This year during our Fire Drills and Hold & Secure, students will remain physical distanced within their environment and classrooms and we will continue to follow both school and provincial health guidelines to ensure everyone's safety. We have completed both our first fire drill and hold & secure. Both practices were well done.
- Terry Fox Walk: Mary Ward once again supported cancer research through 'walking' for Terry Fox. Mrs. Mastracci-Fera led a virtual assembly at 9:30 a.m. as a kickoff and classroom teachers shared information and videos of Terry Fox's journey. Students and staff walked through the neighborhood on September 23, 2022. Mary Ward raised \$385 for the cause. Thank you to our community for donating and thank you to Mrs. Mastracci-Fera for her leadership and Mike Stranges for being our guest speaker.
- Halloween: On Monday Oct. 31, 2022 the students of Mary Ward will be celebrating Halloween. This day will be designated an alternate dress day and students may wear black and orange or dress in costume. Students are to come to school in costume or black and orange. Parents will not be permitted within the school. As per our H&S guidelines, parents are asked not to send any Halloween treats for the class as they cannot be shared with other students. Thank you for your co-operation and understanding.
- Stay Connected: Follow us on Twitter @MaryWardNF and/or Instagram marywardniagara
- Upcoming Events: Rowan's Law Day Sept. 28; National Day for Truth & Reconciliation / Orange Shirt Day Sept. 30; Fire Prevention Week Oct. 10th thru 14th; Opening School Mass Oct. 6th at OLOST; hanksgiving Oct. 10th; Picture Day Oct. 12th; Holy Childhood Walk Oct. 14th; Halloween Oct. 31st,
- Halloween:
 - Celebrate Monday Oct. 31st
 - Students can wear a costume and/or black & orange
 - Students are encouraged to come to school dressed in costume
 - Costumes should be simple and easy for students to independently take on/off
 - Parents should send a change of clothes in the event their child wants to change out of their costume at any point in the day
 - Parents are asked to not send any treats to school

E. OAPCE REPORTS (Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education)

- Mary Ward School Rep: Lauren Denofsky will report next meeting

F. STAFF REPORT

- Completing the Thanksgiving Food Drive
- Mary Ward Student Council will be elected this week – one member of each class from Gr 5-8. Christie is our Co-chair
- Sports report – Cross Country right now, Oct. 11th at Queenston Heights, Int. Girls and Boys Soccer tournaments tomorrow at Saint Paul, Jr. Girls and Boys basketball last week of Oct. tournament second week of November.
- Empower Reading program, Lexia online program, Dreambox licenses

G. PARISH REPORT / COMMUNITY REPORT

- We welcome Father Daniel
- Post COVID – looking for altar servers, choir members, hospitality
- Links for parents to register for First Communion and Confirmation have been sent

- Upcoming Outdoor Rosary – Oct. 15th at OLOS
- Adoration Chapel is open 24/7
- Library of Faith books available in the Adoration Chapel
- Idea – bring classes to the Adoration Chapel

H. AGENDA ITEMS-DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

- Organizing fundraiser committee
- Fundraising goals TBD

I. NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, November 30, 2022 @ 6:00 PM

J. CLOSING PRAYER was led by Mr. Cardamone

K. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by *Amanda Leon*

Seconded by *Robyn Pearson*

THAT the September 27, 2022 meeting of the Mary Ward Catholic School Council be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 PM.