

St. Michael Catholic School Council Meeting
September 18, 2014

Attendance:

Colleen Rankin, Annina Serluca, Kristin Davies, Jennifer Visca, Rita Colling, Michael Reich, Dwane Smolders, Anneliese Friesen, Bobbi Roppel, Lorie Osromecki, Tracey Galbraith, Barb Penteluke Warren, Heidi Mori, Meredith Raso, Mishka Balsom, Sarah Regier, Lesley Carone, Lisa Burland

Regrets:

Nancy Vanderzalm, Megan Vanderlee, Fabienne Alliou, Carrie Bowman, Jessica Williams, Michele Hendriks, Rebecca Kamin (King), Angela Diano, Rebecca Russo, Julie Scaletta, Monika Williams

Opening Prayer – Mr. MacDougall

Welcome – Mr. MacDougall

Council Formation for 2014-2015

Review of Purpose & Function of Catholic School Council – Mr MacDougall

- advocate for St. Michael
- Representative of all families at SMC
- Issues/concerns brought to Mr. MacDougall
- Advisory role of CSC

Election/Appointment of New Chair & Council Members

<i>Co-Chairs:</i>	Rita Colling & Carrie Bowman
<i>Recording Secretary:</i>	Jen Visca & Meredith Raso
<i>Reporting Treasurer:</i>	Megan Vanderlee
<i>Community Rep:</i>	Lisa Burland & Annina Serluca
<i>Parish Rep:</i>	
<i>Teacher Rep:</i>	Mr. Reich and Mr. Smolders
<i>OAPCE Rep:</i>	
<i>NCPIC Rep:</i>	Rebecca Kamin-King
<i>Spirit/Faith Formation Rep:</i>	Tracey Galbraith

Discussion/Ideas from Parent Council

Student Success/Parent Engagement

- better advertising and promoting of social events
- teachers and parents to encourage events with other parents

- put the “fun” in social events, offer beer & wine or food
- More informative parent seminars or parent socials
- parent council provide tools for students (ex: smart boards)
- volunteer pool of parents to assist teachers when needed
- advisory roles on playground (ex: safety)
- more communication with parents and school
- career day where parents give students overview of their profession
- continue the reading program and possibly start a math program
- clearer role of electronics throughout the grades, used for educational purposes
- Fun of sports – make sports more available to all students
- Make CSC more welcome to all and make parents aware of what we do

Faith Formation

- in addition to grade 8 retreats have a day retreat for grade 2’s and possibly grade 5’s as grade 2 to grade 8 is a bit of a gap so grade 5 retreat would close the gap
- hold a small social after mass with coffee and muffins so kids look forward to seeing friends after mass and parents can socialize
- support our VBS camp and possibly hold a camp through the winter
- continue parent involvement with significant holidays (ex: Shrove Tuesday, Rice Day, Oatmeal Day)
- repetitive invitation to various events through phone calls, emails, newsletters, written invitations, using agenda’s
- encourage more families to join weekly children’s liturgy
- parents reinforce catholic faith through reading bible stories etc.
- teachers send home 1 bible verse per week for parents & students to read and discuss
- pair older children with younger children for faith-based reading
- promote younger children to get involved with community involvement and faith-based local programs

Safe & Accepting Schools

- concerns of community events held in school during school hours (ex: voting)
- confirm consistency of staff at front door of school before & after school
- communication with bus drivers/parents/teachers
- informing parents/students about “special needs” through seminars & presentations
- safety for the students riding bikes to school
- lockdown protocol/fire drill
- parent volunteers for recess
- staff to separate in sections of school ground to cover full area

Fundraising Activities

- trivia night, golf tournament, fun fair, danceathon, pasta night

- gift card program or coffee K-cup program
- \$100 family contribution offered to families who choose to opt out of fundraising events
- Christmas bazaar – vendor tables, bake sale, clothing exchange
- Movie night – students wear pj's, have popcorn & charge \$5/kid

Principal Items

- the wishing well was discussed and suggested it be removed due to safety reasons
- Do we have any engineers? EIR Program – Engineers in Residence
- Roots of Empathy – grade 1 class
- Dress Code – board will be getting more stringent with rules
- Student Council Applications due – Sept 25th
- Power of Prayer – students pick up prayer cards from church once a week to pray for parishioners and loved ones
- Early Acts Club – in discussion with Rotary
- Babysitting available for CSC nights – looking for grade 8's to assist
- Grape & Wine Parade – representation from all NCDSB schools – 2 student rep's required
- Student questionnaires were distributed and received – great feedback

New Business

- September 24th school wide mass and Terry Fox walk at St Vincent de Paul Church – parents welcome
- September 29th – 9:15am Student Council to present at assembly
- October meeting to prioritize student ideas, teacher requests, parent council requests

Meeting adjourned at 8pm – Mr MacDougall

Next meeting will be on October 8th, 6:30pm at the school