



AGENDA
ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 27, 2018
Staff Lounge

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer, Roll Call, Disclosure of Interest - **none**
2. Agenda was approved by **Mrs. Corbett** and **Mrs. Psiloyenis**.
3. Approval of Minutes of the St. Mark Catholic School Council Meeting of December 12, 2017 – **deferred for this meeting; will be posted by Mr. Ward**

B. PRESENTATION(S)

1. St. Mark Student Council report – Ava Seca & Naia Crowley

On Monday, January 22nd, we had a meeting at our school with MPP Sam Oosterhoof. It was a wonderful experience as we had the opportunity to discuss current issues with the Ontario government and leadership opportunities. Mr. Oosterhoof was engaging and knowledgeable – it was a great to talk to him!

We served as the front door welcoming committee for the Science Fair, by welcoming the family members, signing them in, and escorting them to the Gymnasium. It was a great afternoon.

We are currently assisting with the Lenten food Drive as we try to get the students thinking about sacrificing during the 40 days of Lent!

A subcommittee of our student council is currently researching our namesake saint - St. Mark and the Mountain Lion to provide traits that we would like our student body to both understand and emulate!

We are enjoying the process of being involved in the Student Council this year.

Thank you.

C. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Catholicity

Confirmation: *On Thursday, February 1st, at 7:00 p.m. at St. Helen Church, our Grade Eight students celebrated their final sacrament of initiation to become adults in their Catholic Faith! It was a beautiful Mass that Bishop Bergie celebrated with our students and their families.*

Pilgrimage: *Fr. Philip, the St. Helen's Knights of Columbus and I are in preliminary discussions to have another Pilgrimage, Mass and barbecue this year. The tentative date is set for May 9, 2018.*

Lenten Food Drive: *In collaboration with the Knights of Columbus, St. Mark School is currently collected non-perishable food items for families in need in the Town of Lincoln area.*

Ash Wednesday: *I attended Mass on Ash Wednesday to receive the ashes for St. Mark School. We had a primary/early years and junior/intermediate liturgy in the gymnasium in which Mr. Romano and I distributed ashes for our students and detailed the significance of the day to our faith as Catholics.*

Student Achievement

Term One Report Cards: *The term one report cards were sent home with your child(ren) on Thursday, February 15th, 2018. Please take the time to read over the report with your*

child(ren) and set attainable goals for term two. Interviews will be initiated by either the parent or the teacher and will take place in person or by telephone.

Science Fair: *The St. Mark Catholic School Science Fair will take place on Friday, February 2nd, 2018. Students in grades 5, 6 and 7 participated in this wonderful activity. The top ranked projects have applied to the Niagara Regional Science and Engineering Fair at Brock University on the weekend of March 23rd~25th, 2018. Students will be notified by the N.R.S.E.F. committee on or before March 2, 2018 if they will be participating in the Regional Fair.*

Heritage Fair: *Students in grades 4 and 6 will be participating and students in grade 5, 7 and 8 will be invited to participate in the St. Mark Heritage Fair on Wednesday, April 4th, 2018. Brock University students will assist with the adjudication process from 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. and there will be a public walk through in the afternoon from 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. The top projects will be invited to the Niagara Catholic District School Board Heritage Fair on Wednesday April 18th, 2018 at Brock University.*

School Climate

St. Mark Sports & Clubs: *St. Mark School continues to be a busy place as we currently have: the weekly P.A.L.S. program running at recess times for the ELKP and primary students; the Great Books program; a Primary Art Club; a Primary Drum club; a Robotics club; a Junior Reading Club; a Choir Club and an after school Heritage Fair Club.*

Shrove Tuesday: *A special thank you is extended to the parents who willingly gave of their time to cook pancakes for the students on Tuesday, February 13th, 2018. It was a beautiful way to teach students about the importance of helping others throughout Lent.*

Niagara River Lions Game: *St. Mark will be attending the River Lions basketball game on Thursday, March 22, 2018 @ 7 p.m. Tickets are being sold for \$7.50 each and are available at School Cash on-line. It promises to be a great night, upon the conclusion of the game, students will have the opportunity to play on the court or get their photo taken with Duncan, the river Lions mascot. Please save the date and plan on joining us!*

Family Math Night: *We are organizing a Family Math Night for Thursday, May 10, 2018 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. The topic will be Developing Mathematical Thinkers and will allow parents to gain a better understanding of the purposeful mathematics that is happening in classrooms. Please save the date and plan on join us!*

1. **Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) - The Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee in partnership with the Niagara Catholic District School Board, is pleased to invite parents/guardians, students, staff and school community members to attend the “Niagara Catholic Well Being, Learning and Achievement Fair”:**
 - LOCATION: DENIS MORRIS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
 - DATE: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2018
 - TIME: 5:00 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.
2. **Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Report – presented by Mr. Ward**
3. **Catholic School Council Financial Report – handed out for council members to view**
4. **Staff report – Presented by Mrs. Wilson**
 - *Kindergarten classrooms are moving toward "K News". The classroom newsletter is being shared via Google classroom and not paper.*
 - *Math/Numeracy talks continue in the primary classes. EQAO preparation is underway. Year End field trips are presently being booked.*
 - *The junior division has been involved with a new spelling program "Words Their Way" The school purchased Snap Circuit kits to supplement the electricity unit in grade 6. The division is focusing on reading goals and finding evidence within text, as well as continuing with improving math problem solving skills.*

- *Grade 8s have recently received their confirmation. Mr. Ward is going to co-teach a unit on short stories in the grade 8 classes.*
5. NCDSB Policies/Trustee Reimbursement & Trustee Code of Conduct –**Nothing to report**

D. Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE) –Nothing to report.

E. STAFF REPORT

F. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

1. By-laws/Policy
 - The school board is looking to update the points for each of the 7 enabling strategies. Council members and staff are to provide ideas to submit. Mr. Ward will email copies to council members. There is approximately 6 weeks to get comments together.
2. Community Outreach & PRO-Grant
 - Numeracy Night – Mr. Ward to meet with math team and consultants from the board office to discuss what the night will look like. Date TBA. Will occur during Education Week this year.
3. Fundraising
 - Fun Fair date – June 7th – representative will firm up vendors.
 - Need volunteers for classroom basket fundraiser – each class is given a theme; teachers and students contribute to their specific basket – each basket is to be raffled during Fun Fair
4. Graduation Presented by Mrs. Thompson
 - Location: Grand Olympia – Date: Monday June 25th Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School is secured for the ceremony. There will be a note going home soon about Graduation to the grade 8 families.
5. Hot lunches/milk
 - There is a change to our pizza supplier – Pete’s Pizza from St. Catharines will take over. Will take effect after March Break; the change was due to price increase of previous supplier. New supplier is both gluten-free and nut-free. Orders are due this week.
6. New Church Fundraising
 - The church will be holding a “Ham Roll” on March 23rd – doors open at 6:00 p.m. and event starts at 7:00 p.m. Door prize contributions/donations greatly appreciated.
 - Youth Ministry – the next meeting will be on April 8th from 2-3:30 p.m. (for students in grade 3+)
7. Safe Schools
 - Parking Lot Safety – Mr. Ward presented. Cones blocking entrance at both ends continues to keep students safe. Parents are reminded to not cross pylons during morning drop off. Kiss and Ride to continue dropping off students along the fence. A reminder will be posted in the newsletter.
8. School Nutrition Action Council (SNAC)
 - Funds raised from nutrition committee went to a popcorn snack. Mrs. Manchuk distributed a bag of popcorn to all students. Granola bars were also recently distributed to students.
 - Fruit continues to be available for students at the main office.

G. PREVIOUS BUSINESS

1. End of year talent show – Possibility - TBD
2. Play day – Possibility - TBD

3. Shrove Tuesday – February 13, 2018 – was a success – members of Student Council assisted parents and Mr. Ward with the distribution of pancakes in the gymnasium.

H. NEW BUSINESS

1. The Lunch Lady – Committee will determine new alternative lunch providers for students.
2. Safety in the Parking Lot – see above
3. Dress Down Days –as per policy – schools to have an average of 1 per month. Presently St. Mark is within the average.
4. Bus Supervision or Bus Buddies – bus buddies will continue to be used on the buses which require them.
5. Parent Involvement Memo 027
CSC has input as to what characteristics the principal should possess for their respective schools – there was an opportunity for discussion by CSC members – board then attempts to match what the CSC thinks they should have for that specific school. CSC members met briefly to discuss. Ideas/input will be inputted by CSC chair.

I. AGENDA ITEMS-DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS – Field condition – despite the inconsistent weather, the field continues to drain very well. The school roof is presently being addressed – to be completed during March break.

J. NEXT MEETING: Tuesday April 3rd – 6:30 p.m. in the staff room.

K. ADJOURNMENT & CLOSING PRAYER – Adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Attendance for February meeting

Mrs. DiBartolomeo	Mrs. Bonner	Mrs. Pucci
Mrs. Psiloyenis	Mrs. Williams	Mrs. Corbett
Mrs. Swart	Mrs. Nicolazzo	Mrs. Watt
Mrs. Wilson	Mr. Romano	Mr. Ward