



**ST. JOHN CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2022  
MINUTES**

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**A. ROUTINE MATTERS**

1. **Land Acknowledgement** - David Forte
2. **Opening Prayer** - David Forte
3. **Roll Call** -

David Forte (Principal)	Mrs. Millar
Enza Sorgini (teaching staff member)	Mrs. Chirico
Amanda Iannazzo (non-teaching staff member)	Mrs. Milan

Those who have expressed their regrets - Jennifer Durling (Public Health nurse); Andrew Natale (St. Joseph Parish representative)

4. **Approval of the Agenda** - Approved by Mrs. Milan.
5. **Disclosure of Interest**

**B. PRESENTATIONS**

1. **St. Joseph Parish**
  - Events and activities at St. Joseph Parish.
  - Sacramental update.

**C. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

**D. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

- 1) **School Fundraising Financial Report** (as of 22/04/2022) - Financial report was shared with council members by Mr. Forte.
- 2) **Purchase of Additional Chromebooks** - The school has used a portion of its School Generated Funds to purchase additional Chromebooks. These have arrived and will be distributed to classrooms to support student learning and engagement. A sincere thank you is extended to our families for supporting our school fundraisers and lunch days.
- 3) **School Lunch Days** - The school continues to provide opportunities for contactless ordering through Pizza Hut (boxed personal pan pizzas) and Subway (personal wrapped subs).
- 4) **Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) 2022-2023** - Information regarding nominations and the application process will be included in our May newsletter.

- 5) **Easter Food Drive for the Grimsby Benevolent Fund** - We had an overwhelming response for yet another food drive here at St. John. Together, as a school community, we filled 16 banana boxes with non-perishable items to support those in need in our community.
- 6) **My Life Online** - The school is currently working with 'My Life Online' to organize a possible virtual presentation for the parent community this Spring or Fall. 'My Life Online' educates families on assisting their children with managing online platforms responsibly.
- 7) **Sidewalk Along Bus Pick-Up/Drop-Off Lane** - The school continues to work with Board personnel in the Facilities Services Department to have a sidewalk installed along the bus pick-up/drop-off lane.
- 8) **Sidewalk Along King Street** - The school continues to work with the town and NSTS to have a sidewalk installed along King Street.
- 9) **May Long Weekend** - Families are reminded that there will be **no school on Victoria Day (Monday, May 23)**. Classes will resume on **Tuesday, May 24**.
- 10) **EQAO Digitalized Assessments** - The EQAO Assessments in Reading, Writing, and Math are for Grade 3 and Grade 6 students participating in in-person learning. All students who are accessing the Ontario Curriculum are expected to participate in the assessments. Assessments will take place digitally, using school devices from **May 24 - 27 (Grade 3 students)** and **May 30 - June 2 (Grade 6 students)**.
- 11) **Catholic Education & Mental Health Week** - Niagara Catholic elementary and secondary schools will be participating in Catholic Education Week with the theme of **"Rebuild, Restore, Renew Together"**, in conjunction with Mental Health Week, from **Monday, May 2, 2022 to Friday, May 6, 2022**. Throughout the week, students and staff will participate in prayer services and special activities.
- 12) **'EcoSchools' Initiative** - The following events will be taking place throughout the month of May as part of the St. John 'EcoSchools' Initiative...
  - ✓ **Waste-Free Lunch Wednesdays:** To continue with our ECO initiatives, we will promote Waste-Free Wednesday lunches.
  - ✓ **Garden Beautification Day** - Our 'EcoSchools' Team will be organizing a garden beautification project here at the school on **Thursday, May 5**. Classes will participate in activities that centre on stewardship and have an opportunity to see the progress of our team's beautification project.
  - ✓ **World Bee Day** - World Bee Day will be recognized and celebrated on **Friday, May 20**. The purpose of the international day is to acknowledge the role of bees and other pollinators for the ecosystem. At St. John, we will focus on the importance of preserving honeybees and all other pollinators and will be reminded of the significance of bees in providing for the needs of humanity.
- 13) **School Fundraising:**
  - ✓ **St. Patrick's Day Dance-a-Thon** - The fundraiser was a tremendous success. Money raised will go toward school generated funds.
  - ✓ **Big Box of Cards (Spring)** - The school is currently working with Big Box of Cards to organize a possible Spring fundraiser.

## E. OTHER BUSINESS:

- 1) **Niagara Catholic Pandemic Transition Information Page** - Families are invited to carefully read through this information as we continue to move through a new stage of the global COVID-19 pandemic.
- 2) **Visitors to the School** - As we cautiously approach a hopeful return to 'normalcy', school visitors will continue to be restricted out of an abundance of care and consideration for the health and safety of students and school staff.
- 3) **School Sports** - The Niagara Catholic District School Board has received approval to run sports within its schools again. Soccer intramurals will run as mini tournaments over the lunch period at St. John Catholic School for interested students in grades 4 - 6. In addition, the Board is proceeding with Intermediate Soccer and Junior/Intermediate Track and Field.
- 4) **Kiss n' Ride Drop-Off** - In an effort to keep our students and staff members safe, families are reminded that when using the Kiss n' Ride drop-off, drivers are asked to please *remain in their vehicle* and have child(ren) exit the vehicle directly onto the sidewalk when it is safe to do so.
- 5) **Kiss n' Ride Pick-Up** - To reduce congestion in the Kiss n' Ride line and along Regional Road 81/King Street, Kiss n' Ride students will continue to be dismissed from their classrooms at **3:15 pm**.
- 6) **Park & Pick-Up/Drop-Off** - To avoid congestion in the parking lot and to prevent a back-up of vehicles onto Regional Road 81/King Street, Park & Pick-Up students will be dismissed from their classes at **3:15 pm**.
- 7) **Niagara Catholic Virtual Learning Environment (NCVLE)** - The [NCVLE](#) continues to serve as the standard virtual platform for all classes throughout the Niagara Catholic District School Board.
- 8) **School Messenger** - The school will continue to update the parent community with information via SchoolMessenger.
- 9) **'SchoolCash' Online** - The use of this platform to make payments for school related expenses is highly encouraged. Further information is on the St. John Google Website.
- 10) **On-going School Initiatives:**
  - ✓ Consideration of planting trees to provide a shade canopy near outdoor classroom.
  - ✓ Continue to develop technological resources in the school.
- 11) **Administrative Assignments** - St. John Catholic School welcomes Mrs. Janice Barretto-Mendonca as the new school administrator in September, 2022. Please know that the school, community, and students are all in great hands with Mrs. Barretto-Mendonca, who is a very capable and tenured Catholic school leader. Please be advised that Mr. Forte has been assigned to Alexander Kuska KSG Catholic School in Welland as Vice-Principal, and Mrs. Selman has been assigned to St. George Catholic School in Crystal Beach.

## F. CHAIRPERSON REPORT

**G. Dates of Interest:**

✓ *Dates of Interest:*

- Sunday, June 12, 2022 - First Holy Communion @ St. Joseph Catholic Parish
- Tuesday, June 21, 2022 - Grade 8 Graduation

**H. NEXT MEETING**

**I. ADJOURNMENT**

**J. CLOSING PRAYER** - David Forte

*Heavenly Father,*

*As we come to the end of our time together, we thank You for what has been accomplished here today. May the matters discussed serve as a catalyst to move us forward, and cause us to advance and see growth in all areas of our lives. May we leave here recognizing You are the God of all wisdom, and You are willing to lead us forward. This we pray in the name of the Lord Jesus.  
Amen.*