

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School Council Meeting
Minutes
February 10, 2015
6:30 p.m.

Attendees: Mr. Legace, Mrs. Carbonara, Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Visca, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Turner, Mrs. Roma, Mrs. Aubin., Mrs. D'Uva, Miss Morocco, Mrs. Matyas, Mrs. Artista Marsh, Mrs. Davey

I. Prayer : Cindi Taylor

II. Co-Chairs Report:

i. **Catholicity: Report from Advent Masses & Wreath Making:**

Strong Catholic Families of STM had its second annual Advent Wreath Celebration on November 30, 2014.

Families made Advent Wreaths to take home to celebrate the beginning of Advent while they watched short videos on the meaning of preparing for Christmas as well as listened to a story on the History of the Candy Cane.

Refreshments were served, some of which were donated by the OLOMC Council after the 11:00 OLOMC Advent Family Mass.

- ii. **Family Cross Project: Mrs. Taylor will source** out the wooden crosses for the Family Cross project. We will need 245 - one per family. A note will be sent home to the families explaining the project once the crosses are received.
- iii. **Food Day: Mr. Visca is the lead** for the Upcoming Food Day - Shrove Tuesday Feb. 17th: We have volunteers for the event and Mr. Visca has all of the materials for pancake day. Low sugar syrup will be purchased for two classrooms.

Next food days are: April: Chicken Fingers, May: Pitas June: Hotdog day.

- iv. **PRO Grant Project:** \$1000.00 to spend by June or we must return it to the ministry. There is a speaker who has many topics that he can speak on including social media / internet safety. He can combine it with mental health if we want that or choose another topic. Info is included. The cost is 750.00 plus tax. . The concern is getting parents to attend the council recommended that since the Parent/Student Nutrition event is popular with getting parents in the school for an activity, that we continue with this project. The Grade Four families would be the target group for this project since they are new to the school. **Mrs. Davey will contact Chef Paul** for availability.
 - The idea of a Family Zumba Night to emphasize Physical fitness was also suggested. This could be funded with the remaining money from the PRO Grant. We would need to ensure that the numbers participating would meet the safety criteria for the fire department and to ensure that families had enough space to move around. **Mrs. Matyas will contact the Zumba instructor.**

Teacher Rep Reports:

- ELKP: Looking forward to dance a thon and are receiving a recycling presentation, ELKP 28 registered so far. They receive a book bag and a polo shirt from the NCDSB.

- Gr. 1 has Gincarlo Feltrin as a student teacher. The school has benefited from his talent. He accompanied the choir and Mr. Sacco and Mr. Vescio to the Saint Michael School Blessing last week. The primaries have a trip to the Children's Museum, Communion preparation is ongoing with the gr. 2 classes and a pancake breakfast is taking place at the Church for the students and families. The Gr.2 classes and the Gr. 5/6 class will be receiving an art lesson in French from the Niagara Art Gallery. This is paid for through a French grant of 300.00 that is available from the Ministry. The Gr. 3 students had a science lesson on structures at the Children's Museum. They made bridges and structures to see what held a load.
- Gr. 4 Bible celebration took place at the school with Father Peter Rowe. Parents were in attendance. Father Peter spoke about the Bible and the significance of the various sections. The students were presented with a bible that was supplied by the NCDSB Religion department. The Gr. 5, 5/6 and 6 classes will attend a Niagara Youth Orchestra concert on February 18, 2015. This is a free concert. The school needed to pay for the bussing to attend.
- Gr. 7s going to pathways program. This is the former Cyberquest Program. The intermediates are preparing for their Basketball tournament with the Girls team attending the tournament with Mr. Vescio on Friday, Feb. 13, 2015.
- Grade 4,5 6 sports: Junior Basketball and Junior handball are upcoming sporting activities for the junior grades.
- Kids Helping Kids: The teacher committee comprised of Madame Forte, Madame Fijavz and Madame Lanthier are holding a fundraiser for the Niagara Children's Centre. It is the "Amis Grams" activity. Students can buy an Amis Gram heart from these teachers and post their messages on the poster board area outside of the French Rooms. The intent is to write a message preferably in French to a friend "amii". Students are also given a candy heart for participating.

Church Rep Report: Report by Anna Racine and read by Mrs. Davey

Had a successful 10th annual Multi-cultural Luncheon last Sunday where dishes from our many cultures were enjoyed by all those who attended.

Annual Pasta Dinner will be on February 22, 2015.

Lighthouse Catholic Media resources are now available at the back of the church for purchase after the masses featuring CDS, booklets and books on various topics for a small suggested donation.

Our website continues to be updated and revised to make it more user friendly and provide as much information as possible to those visiting it.

Fr. Barron Catholicism series on Wednesday nights was well received and more similar programs will be run in the New Year.

Ash Wednesday begins on February 18, 2015.

STM Choir will be having a Taize Prayer Service on February 20, 2015, at 6:30 at Mount Carmel. Free Will offering.

Special Needs Report (SEAC) Report: by Anna Racine and read by Mrs.. Davey

Anna Racine and Rob Lavorato have been re-elected as Chair and Vice Chair. Working on goals for this upcoming year which may include presentation to the New Teachers who have recently been hired by our Board, thorough review of the Special Education Plan and creating awareness of our various exceptionalities throughout our schools.

Principal Report:

- i. Chapel- The council was consulted for their input on the blessing of the new chapel. The council felt that the participation off all students was very important. In order to have full student participation it would need to be done during school hours. They recommended that Father Peter Rowe do the blessing since he has a very good relationship with the students and the students are receptive to what he has to say. Father Peter Rowe does a very good job in explaining things to the students and involving them in the life of the Church. **Mrs. Davey will inform Mr. Lefebvre of this information and coordinate dates between Father Peter, Mr. Lefebvre and Mr. Crocco**
Mrs. Davey also explained that the school would need to pay for the furniture etc. that is to be put in the Chapel.
- ii. Mrs. Davey shared the financial report with the council. The remainder of the funds from Saint Thomas More School was put in the Our Lady of Mount Carmel School Generated Funds account. The current balance is: \$5424.34. The new water station will need to be deducted from this amount which is approximately \$2000.00
- iii. Dance a thon: Prizes have been purchased. Mr. Vescio has put together a video playlist that the students will watch and can dance to during the dance a thon. Parents are invited to dance with their children.
- iv. School Nutrition Grant: Mrs. Davey is meeting with Niagara Nutrition Partners on Wednesday, February 11, 2015 and will send information to council.
- v. Term 1 Reports will be sent home on February 12th and Interviews are on a request basis for parent/guardians or teachers and will be held during the week of February 17th.

Adjournment

Next Meeting Date: April 21st

Prayer for next meeting: Anna Racine

Goodies for next meeting: Kristy Carbonara

