

St. Denis Catholic School Council

MINUTES

May 7, 2024

1. Land Acknowledgement:

The Niagara Catholic District School Board wishes to honour the Indigenous people who have been the protectors of this land, known as Turtle Island, for more than ten thousand years. We begin this meeting by acknowledging the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples, many of whom continue to live and work here today. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties and is within the land protected by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum agreement. Today this gathering place is home to many First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples and acknowledging reminds us that our great standard of living is directly related to the resources and friendship of Indigenous people.

2. Opening Prayer- T. Lee

3. Call meeting to order-M. Iorio – 6:37pm

Present: V. Wegelin, T. Lee, D. Korsmit, M. Iorio, C. Bartlett, C. James, J. Burtnik, S. Egbedeyi, C. Locke, T. Wadeson & C. Pitt
Please add S. Egbedeyi email to CSC Group Email List.

4. Approval of previous minutes- M. Iorio

1st – C. Locke / 2nd – C. Pitt

5. Principal's Report-V. Wegelin

1. Kids Helping Kids week was a lot of fun at our school! There were daily prizes, grand prizes for each division and Principal for part of the day! As a school we raised \$559.00 to assist the Niagara Children's Centre.
2. Kindergarten Open House was held in February. We got lots of new little faces coming to our school in September!
3. Thank you to all of the parents who assisted with Shrove Tuesday. IHOP assisted us with the pancake batter this year and a great donation to pay for the batter was greatly appreciated! Ash Wednesday was celebrated at the school with Father Stephen.



4. During the season of Lent, we are having a Lenten drive for the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Money can be donated via School Cash Online until Thursday, April 5, 2024.
5. Stations of the Cross were held on Holy Thursday. Thank you to our Intermediate division for organizing this for our students.
6. Earth Hour was celebrated on March 22, 2024. We turned out the lights and all participated in the Big Gulp at 11:55 a.m. together.
7. Earth Day was celebrated as well. Our older students did a clean up of the yard and various activities happened with with our older students working with our younger students.
8. QMack came to our school and did an incredible presentation for all of the students. We took away the slogan...All stars Give Assists! It was an incredible presentation that was enjoyed by students and staff!
9. Catholic Education Week is happening this week May 5, 2024-May 10, 2024. The theme for the week is "We are Called to Love." Many activities will be planned for this week and will be sent home in advance. All of this information has been sent out to parents.
10. This year we have started an after school reading program for some students in our younger grades to have time on task with their reading skills. Thank you to Mr. Zanon and all of the Educational Assistants for working so hard with our students.
11. May is Math Month at St. Denis. Our Student Senate will be posting math problems on chart paper and students are encouraged to try to solve them by Wednesday of each week. Students can even attempt a question from a different division as well.

New Additions to the School:

1. Eleven new chromebooks were purchased for the school with the money raised from our Christmas raffle.
2. Ten tablets were purchased for the school from a donation we received from an anonymous donor.
3. A 70 inch television was installed in Mrs. Foster's classroom.

Upcoming Events:

1. JK Parent Orientation meeting will be held on Thursday, May 23, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.
2. EQAO will be happening for Grade 3 and Grade 6 students at the end of May. This assessment information guides us in our school improvement plan for the following year.

C. Locke – please add Mathalon and Knowledgehook information/descriptions to newsletter. Helpful for parents to understand in conversations at home.



6. Staff Report -T. Lee

1. Our Intermediate basketball teams competed and both teams did very well! Our Girls team made it to the finals and came in third place at the NCDSB Tournament. Thank you to Mr. O'Connor and Mr. Riddell for coaching our great athletes!
2. Our Junior Basketball teams competed as well. The Girls placed second in their tournament and moved onto the next level. The boys team competed well and displayed great sportsmanship. Thank you to Mr. O'Connor and Mrs. LaValle for coaching our great teams.
3. We are working on Short Learning Cycles in the area of Math. This allows the teacher to test before teaching a math strand on how the students are doing. Teach the curriculum and then retest again to monitor the growth in the student's knowledge and understanding of that particular strand. We are also focusing on utilizing the program Knowledgehook as a resource to assist learning. Many students are working hard and are receiving a Mathalon award as a result of achieving an accumulated number of stars when completing questions.
4. Teachers are having in-services on literacy programs and on Knowledgehook.
5. Our Book Fair was held last month and we were able to raise approximately \$1200.00 for the school to purchase books.
6. Our Chess team competed in the area tournament competing against 17 teams and did very well! Our Junior team moved onto the next level. Overall, St. Denis was represented well! Thank you to Mr. Hastings for coaching our teams.

Upcoming Events:

1. Flag Football is a co-ed sport for the intermediate students will be held on May 21, 2024.
2. Intermediate Girls Soccer will be held on May 28, 2024 and Intermediate Boys Soccer will be held on May 29, 2024.
3. Our Track and Field Meet will take place on Friday, May 24, 2024. The Tier 2 Area Meet will be held on Monday, June 3, 2024 and the NCDSB Meet will take place on June 13, 2024. Raindate will be on June 10, 2024.
4. Grade 8 Graduation is booked for Thursday, June 20, 2024. Plans are already underway for this exciting event!
5. Lots of class trips are being planned for the month of June.
6. A P. A. Day is planned for June 7, 2024.



7. Correspondence-V. Wegelin

Goal – 1/1 Chromebook per student. Challenging. As we acquire new, some break. We are slowly moving ahead and making gains to achieve this goal.

New JK registration going very well.

EQAO coming up, preparations going well. It guides us for academic goals for next year.

Milk program up and running very smoothly.

C. Pitt – is lactose free milk available? D. Korsmit to follow up.

Bishop's Gala – J. Foster and V. Wegelin attended. Great night.

8. New Items:

A. Niagara Ice Dogs Game Review

Great game. Much fun. Thanks to all attendees. Choir was fantastic! We ordered a more shirts so there was enough for everyone. We had approx. 200 families and staff attend.

B. Shrove Tuesday Review

Thanks to all our volunteers. The day went smoothly and everyone enjoyed their pancakes. We received a donation to cover the cost of the premixed batter. The JK's loved the mini sized pancakes.

C. Fundraisers Review

-Spring Cha-Ching - \$3105 profit to purchase Chromebooks

-Krispy Kreme – Sold out! \$1200 profit to Chromebooks. Quick and easy fundraiser. Plan to do a full scale one next fall. Pick up day is Monday, May 13th.

Motion to use \$5000 to purchase Chromebooks, \$170 for Scrabble Boards and use funds to support/subsidize class trips.



1st – T. Wadeson
2nd – S. Egbedeyi

All in favour.
Passed.

D. Technology

We received some money from our Superintendent to support the purchase of Chromebooks - \$2500.

E. SNAC Program News

PC Grant received for Fall 2024 - \$8400. Happy News!

F. Grade 8 Graduation

Grad Date – Thursday, June 20th, 2024. 5:30pm in school gym with dinner and dance to follow at Coppola's. No cost to students, they have supported St. Denis for 10 years. It will be a beautiful celebration! Includes composite grad photo and folder, Dipolma, Coppola's dinner and dance, decorations, cake and cupcakes, Loot Bag, Candy Bar. Plans are well under way. We have 20 grads this year.

G. Play Day-Monday, June 17, 2024

Raindate – June 19th.

CSC lunch? Members interested.

Hot dogs and/or hamburgers...pre-cooked best.

V. Wegelin to email CSC for volunteer availability.

Costco GC from M. Iorio can help purchase condiments etc.

M. Iorio to price out hot dogs and hamburgers.

D. Korsmit to provide student numbers.

H. Ministry of Education: Parent's Guide to Ontario's Education System

V. Wegelin directed members to the Parent's Guide from the Ministry of Education – "Your Child's Education". QR Code to access. School boards fund flexibility. How to report. Document shared. More info to follow.



I. Policies

V. Wegelin passed around copies of recent policy updates.
Please review and submit feedback to V. Wegelin or Anna Pisano at
CEC.
Policies are regularly reviewed.

9. Agenda items for future meetings – n/a

10. Adjournment – 7:35 pm

Next Meeting Date: June-Tuesday, June 4, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

Social at IL Fornello at 5:30 pm. V. Wegelin to email details and reminder.

