



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**MINUTES OF THE
ST. MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday March 30, 2021. 6:30 p.m.
Virtual Meeting**

Minutes of the Meeting of the St. Mary Catholic School Council, held on Tuesday March 30, 2021, at 6:30 pm.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. **Opening Prayer** – Mr. Romeo began with prayer

Roll Call – 3 parents in attendance.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP		Present	Excused	Absent
Principal/ Secretary/Treasurer	Mr. J. Romeo	X		
Chair	Tammy Nadeau			
Teacher Representative	Mrs. K. Cruise		X	
Student Representative	Octavious Booth Mikayla Nadeau		X	
OAPCE Representative				
PARENT REPRESENTATIVES				
Rebecca Williams		X		
Taylor Blanchard				X
Tara Marenchin				X
Melissa Claus		X		
Sarah Koekoek				X

2. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by – Rebecca Williams

Seconded by – Melissa Claus

THAT the St. Mary Catholic School Council approved the Agenda of the St. Mary Catholic School Council Meeting of

CARRIED

3. Disclosure of Interest

No Disclosures of Interest were declared with any items on the agenda.

4. Approval of Minutes of the St. Mary Catholic School Council

Moved by – Rebecca Williams

Seconded by – Melissa Claus

THAT the St. Mary Catholic School Council approved the Meeting Minutes of the St. Mary Catholic School Council Meeting on Tuesday November 24th, 2020.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

1. **St. Mary Student Council report** – No report

C. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

1. **Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee** – *Minutes from Jan. 7, 2021 meeting attached*



NCPIC Meeting
Minutes of January

1. **Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Report** – No Report
2. **Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE)** – No Report
3. **Catholic School Council Financial Statement** – Included in Principals Report
4. **Staff Report** –
5. **NCDSB Policies** – available on the Board website

The following Governance Policies are currently being reviewed as part of the [Establishment and Cyclical Review of Policies Policy \(100.5\)](#) review process.

To be considered, all submissions must identify the specific Governance Policy and include your name, phone number, address and affiliation with Niagara Catholic.

Anonymous or pseudonymous submissions will not be considered

- [Board By-Laws Policy \(100.1\)](#)
- [Occupational Health and Safety Policy \(201.6\)](#)
- [Student Exclusion From School or Class Policy \(NEW\)](#)

Please submit your feedback to [Jennifer Pellegrini](#) by March 31, 2021 at 12:00 p.m.

A copy of the following information was screen shared during the Zoom meet by Mr. Romeo

Principal's Report

Catholicity

Virtual Prayer Services and School Masses

Thursday April 1, 2021 our Grade Eight class will be leading two virtual Stations of the Cross presentations for our classes. The first will be for the Kindergarten through to the Gr. 2/3 class in the morning. They will lead the second virtual presentation in the afternoon for the Grade 4 through to the Grade 6/7 classes.

We recently had a school wide virtual Lenten season Mass celebrated by Fr. Raymond at St. Mary Church. We once again continued our partnership in participating in school wide Masses with St. Augustine school and we will continue with this format moving forward until directed otherwise.

Sacramental Preparation: We have been in contact with Fr. Raymond about our eligible students receiving sacraments this school year. Eligible Grade Eight students will receive the sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday April 18th at 3 p.m. There are some unique differences with celebrating this year as opposed to previous years. The only individuals who will be in attendance are the student being confirmed and their parent(s) (2 adults maximum). Each student being confirmed is required to have a sponsor who is baptized Roman Catholic but they will not be in attendance. There will be no pictures with the Bishop or Fr. Raymond on that date due to Health & Safety protocols in place at the Church.

Fr. Raymond is awaiting final confirmation of numbers of eligible students (in Grades Two and Three) who wish to have their First Holy Communion from both St. Mary and St. Augustine Catholic Schools before announcing a final date. He did indicate it would likely be a Sunday.

Student Achievement

Numeracy Focus

Our focus this year continues to be on Mathematics instruction and corresponding achievement of our students. Each class from Gr. 1 – 8 has a Math Up school license. This program offers valuable, current and sound resources for classroom teachers to help strengthen their Math instruction and translate to an increase in student achievement in the area of Mathematics. Classroom teacher's focus for their daily Math talks has been on Decomposition of numbers across all grade levels.

School Climate

Health & Safety Protocols:

As a Catholic School Community we continue to strive to be as safe as we possibly can, given the tools we have to work with. We appreciate the care and understanding of our parent community as they continue to use the screening tool before sending their child(ren) to school and promptly picking those students up who exhibit symptoms that begin while at school.

Kindergarten Open House: This year, due to Health & Safety Protocols our traditional Open House may end up being different than in previous years. We are being asked to prepare for a virtual Open House for our new Kindergarten students beginning in September 2021. As always registration for families wishing to join the Niagara Catholic family can take place anytime. We will be welcoming families of children born in the year 2017 to St. Mary Catholic in September of 2021 for the 2021-2022 school year.

D. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. By-laws/Policy – [Located on School Website](#)
2. Community Outreach – [On Hold](#)
3. Fundraising – [See Previous and New Business](#)
4. Graduation – [See New Business](#)
5. Hot lunches/milk – [On Hold](#)
6. Safe Schools –
7. School Nutrition Action Council (SNAC) –

E. PREVIOUS BUSINESS –

- Fundraising Initiatives 2021
 - A call (or email) will be place to M&M Meat shops to inquire if they will be having any more “school shop days” we could participate in.

F. NEW BUSINESS

- Holy Week 2021: As mentioned in Principal’s Report, Virtual Stations of the Cross presentation (2 of them led by our Gr. 8 class) Easter toy going home on Holy Thursday as well. Donation of new toys made to the school and going out on that day as an Easter gift for each student
- World Autism Day – Tues April 6, 2021: Wear a blue shirt, Autism Ontario flag will be flown directly below Canadian flag on this date.
- Spring Break 2021: Tentatively scheduled for April 12-16th
- COVID Protocols and Guidelines: Mask wearing in Gr. 1 – 8 both in and outside. Strongly encouraged in K. If they come with one, they are reminded to wear it.
- Graduation 2021: Will include all graduates! Still being asked to prepare for both. Drive by option and celebrating together. If so, looking at outdoor possibilities. Narrowing down dates within the week of June 21st.
- Administrative Transfer Announcement – September 2021 – Mr. K. Lamb (current principal at St. Denis) will be the principal effective Sept 2021.
- Parent Communication 2021-22: Moved away from Student agendas. Will dialogue with Mr. Lamb to determine if that is something he would like to pursue or change

BROUGHT UP BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

- Dielman Fall Fundraiser – Mrs. Williams to reach out to determine dates for possible Fall Fundraiser. Mr. Romeo to connect with Mr. Lamb and speak further about this and offer an invitation to the next CSC Meeting.
- Spring Spirit Wear – Mr. Romeo to reach out to Front Row Sports (after Spring Break) to determine ability to open the online store for another round of spirit wear shopping.

G. AGENDA ITEMS-DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS –

H. NEXT MEETING – May 2021 (Final Date TBD)

I. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by – Rebecca Williams

Seconded by – Melissa Claus

THAT the meeting of the St. Mary Catholic School Council be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

CLOSING PRAYER was led by Mr. Romeo.