



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**MINUTES OF THE
ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING**

**March 28, 2023
School Library**

Minutes of the Meeting of the St. Joseph Catholic School Council, held on Mar 28 at 6:00 pm.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 Principal, Susy Walsh

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was led by Alyssa Poulin

2. Roll Call

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP		Present	Excused	Absent
Principal/Vice-Principal Secretary/Treasurer	Susy Walsh	X		
Chair	Mandy Poulin	X		
Co-Chair(s)	Vicki Kranidis	X		
Teacher Representative	Andrea Perry	X		
Non-Teaching Representative	Cyndi Dekker Lisa Breen (regrets)	X	X	
Student Representative	Alyssa Poulin	X		
Parish Representative	Fr. Stuart MacDonald (regrets)		X	
OAPCE Representative				
PARENT/GUARDIAN MEMBERS				
Michelle Pharand		X		
Maggie Davidson (regrets)		X		
Jo Pirosko		X		
Ashley Pirosko		X		
Kelsey Willick		X		
Sarah Willick		X		
Andrea Grimwood-Zaleski		X		

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Michelle Pharand and Second by Kelsey Willick

THAT the St. Joseph Catholic School Council approve the Agenda of the St. Joseph Catholic School Council Meeting of March 28, 2023

CARRIED

4. Disclosure of Interest

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

5. Approval of Minutes of the St. Joseph Catholic School Council Meeting of February 6, 2023

Moved by Andrea Zaleski and second by Sarah Willick

THAT St. Joseph Catholic School Council approve the Minutes of the St. Joseph Catholic School Council Meeting of February 6, 2023 as presented. **CARRIED**

B. PRESENTATIONS

1. Policies Being Vetted:

C. CHAIR'S REPORT

Fundraising

Dance-A-Thon goals for April 28:

Additional Equipment for indoor and outdoor play – T-Shirts and shorts for students to wear for school team events outside of the school (need an update from our old polyester ones we have) – Shade structure – mature trees for shade

Spirit Wear

40 students and staff have ordered spirit wear. The next order date will be in September.

D. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

· **Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) Report** : M. Poulin

NCPIC Update

1. At the NCPIC Meeting of March 2, Grant Frost, Chief Information Officer and Jeff Maxwell, TELTc Consultant provided a presentation on Niagara Catholic Technology, Cyber-Security and the Niagara Catholic Virtual Learning Platform.
2. Superintendent Forsyth-Sells shared that the Institute for Catholic Education is undergoing a renewal of the Family Life Education program, Fully Alive. Every Ontario Catholic school board was asked to gather feedback from their Catholic Parent Involvement Committee about their hope expectations for the Family Life Education program, Fully Alive. Superintendent Forsyth-Sells presented the PowerPoint

presentation provided by the Institute for Catholic Education and reviewed the three questions. Parent members were invited to provide feedback. Feedback received will be submitted to the Institute for Catholic Education on behalf of the NCPIC. The three questions are: 1. How would you express your deepest hope for your children in Family Life Education in their Catholic school? 2. Is there anything about the current program that you especially like? 3. Is there anything about Fully Alive that you would want to see in new program?

3. The Ministry of Education continues to host virtual meetings with PIC Chairs/Co-Chairs and Board Leads to support parent engagement. The meeting of February 21, 2023 focused on student mental health and well-being, as good mental health is fundamental to a student's ability to learn and to succeed at the school and in life. The Ministry also hosted breakout sessions for parents and for Board Leads to discuss best practices and resources to continue to support student mental health and well-being. The Niagara Catholic Mental Health Team, with the Mental Health Lead, Social Workers, Child and Youth Workers, School Mental Health Champions, and the Board Mental Health Leadership Team continues to focus on the importance of mental health and wellbeing for all students using the resources provided by the Ministry of Education through School Mental Health Ontario
4. The 84th Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE) Annual Conference will be held on April 22, 2023 in Kingston, ON. The theme this year is "Deepening Our Faith as Engaged Parents". Guest Speakers include Dr. Josephine Lombardi, Coach Martinez and Theresa Kennedy. A vendor mall will also be on site. Registration opens on Monday, April 6, 2023 and all parents are encouraged to attend. Travel bursaries are available through OAPCE. Further details can be found on the OAPCE website at <https://www.oapce.org/>.
5. On May 3, 2023 the NCPIC will host a Faith Formation/Parent Engagement Event with the theme a "Cultural Approach to Catholic Education" featuring guest speaker Fr. Tony Ricard, followed by Parent Workshops at Denis Morris Catholic High School from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

After the keynote address, parents/guardians will also have the opportunity to participate in two workshops of their choice: Decodable Books, Math/Coding, Internet Safety, Pro Life and Equity and Inclusion.

To support parent participation childcare will be provided. Secondary students will be invited to participate and could receive Community Service Hours. Students will have an opportunity to create a Rosary, as May is the month for mothers and our Blessed Mother Mary.

· **Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Report** : S. Walsh

Working on goals – All schools across the board will be highlighting important agencies to turn to for support and help in their monthly newsletters

· **St. Joseph Student Council:** Development & Peace (Alyssa)

Learning about Catholic Social Teachings. Will be putting together a presentation & challenges to be presented to the school.

· **Catholic Education Week:** This year's theme is *We are Many. We are One.* Parents will be invited to visit classrooms to see our faith in action during a designated lesson for each class during the first week of May.

· **Stations of the Cross:** The Kinders and Gr 5/6 will be doing the Stations of the Cross on April 5, 2023 in the library at 10 am. All are welcome to join us!

· **Niagara Nutrition Partners:** Family donations thus far: **\$1683.50!** February installment from Niagara Nutrition Partners was 2500.00.

· **Food Days:** Waffle Food Day is coming our way. Our first Waffle day will be on May 5.

PARISH/COMMUNITY REPORT

E. STAFF REPORTS

- **Extra-Curricular Update:** Art Club is still going strong, they meet twice a week in the library and the students are really enjoying it. The Chess team has just been chosen and will be going to a tournament on April 11. Badminton tryouts are now in the process and the team will be picked to go to a tournament on April 20.
- **ECO Update:** We as a school have completed two challenges this month: **The Great Gulp** – March 22, the challenge started with a prayer and then a count down to collectively take a big gulp of water from our reusable containers. **Earth Hour** – At 11:00 on March 24 the entire school shut off all lights and electronics for one hour to make ourselves more aware of conserving energy and helping out the environment. The Intermediate students are also working on Heritage Fair.

F. AGENDA ITEMS-DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Fundraising goals for the 2023-2024 school year.

G. NEXT MEETING

June – Catholic School Council Social (share the results of the Dance-A-Thon fundraiser. Official next meeting will be in September.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Michelle Pharand and second by Sarah Willick **THAT** the March 28th meeting of the St. Joseph Catholic School Council be adjourned. **CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm

I. CLOSING PRAYER was led by Mandy Poulin