

St. Denis Catholic School Council
MINUTES
September 17, 2024

1. **Greeting-V. Wegelin**-Mrs. Wegelin greeted everyone present the meeting.
2. **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.
3. **Opening Prayer-T. Lee**-Mrs. Lee recited an opening prayer.
4. **Declaration of new Catholic School Council 2024-2025**
5. **Review of Catholic School Council Policies/Regulations**-Mrs. Wegelin reviewed the Catholic School Council Regulations with all who were present.
6. **Selection of New Catholic School Council Positions-Chair/Recording Secretary**-The results are: Catholic School Council Chair: Jordan Burtnik
Recording Secretary: Tina Lee
7. **Principal's Report-V. Wegelin**

-Everyone has welcomed very warmly the new staff. Our new staff members are Mr. Biamonte-our grade 3/4 teacher, Miss Brenna Ellens, Mr. Rene Lanteigne, Miss Patrushka Pinkus, Ms. Alison Farrell are our new Educational Assistants. Ms. Amanda Benton is our new Child and Youth Care Worker.

-We will be having regular fire drills and lockdown drills at the school.

-Our SNAC Program is up and running. We received a grant of \$8438.40 from President's Choice.

-As a school we are continuing to focus on literacy/numeracy as our main focus in academic improvements this year. The Math program that is being used this year is called Math Up. The program has consistent overall expectations throughout all grades and time for consolidation in Grade 8. There are 151 fewer expectations. Foundational ideas develop in the early grades. There are high



impact instructional practices such as direct instruction, learning goals and success criteria, problem solving tasks, math conversations, teaching about problem solving, small group instruction, flexible groupings and deliberate practice.

-Short Learning Cycles will be happening in Math. Teachers will be administering pretests and post-testing to see progress with certain curriculum expectations. This data will be brought to meetings to discuss strategies for improvement that could be implemented.

-Junior and Intermediate teachers have received in-servicing on a new program titled Edwin which will assist them in programming for Science, Social Studies and Language.

-Ontario Association for Parents in Catholic Education Representative: In accordance with the OAPCE By-Laws, this parent/guardian must be Roman Catholic, Contact information will be sent to the Board. If someone does not volunteer, this position defaults to the CSC Chair/Co-Chair. Mr. Burtnik is the representative for our Catholic School Council.

-A Catholic School Council Financial Report will be done at our next meeting.

8. Staff Report-T. Lee

-September 20, 2024 is a Professional Activity Day for all staff. There will not be school for students on this day. We will be focusing on Mental Health, Acadience-K-Gr. 2, Math and Literacy Action Plans and RISE which is our new IEP engine.

-The Terry Fox Run will take place on September 27, 2024. Students will walk the perimeter of the schoolyard and junior and intermediate students will walk the trail. All students are encouraged to wear red and white and their favorite sneakers.

-Orange Shirt Day will be held on Monday, September 30, 2024. Students can wear an orange shirt to acknowledge this important day. A presentation will be made to the entire school by our Indigenous Lead-Mr. Sutton.

-Junior Soccer teams are practicing and the tournament is upcoming soon.

-Cross Country is also practicing. Information will be coming soon regarding the tournament.

-October 5, 2024 is World Teacher's Day

-Thanksgiving Liturgy being held on Thursday, October 10, 2024.

-October 11, 2024 will be another Professional Activity Day for professional development for the staff.

-Holy Childhood Walk will be held on Thursday, October 17, 2024.

-Picture Day is held on October 29, 2024. All students are reminded to bring their best smile.

-Halloween will be held on Thursday, October 31, 2024. Students may wear their costumes all day long and we will be having a Halloween parade after



announcements. Please try to keep treats at home as the school will prepare a healthy spooky snack on this day for the entire school.

9. Correspondence-None at this time.

10. New Items:

A. Goals for this upcoming year-To improve technology at our school

B. Fundraisers-Cobs Bread/Poinsettia/Twelve Days of Christmas/Krispy Kreme

C. Niagara Ice Dogs Game-This game will be held on November 7, 2024 against the Erie Otters. The St. Denis School Choir will be singing the anthem at the start of the game. Tickets will go on sale in October and totals need to be in by November 1, 2024.

D. Christmas Lunch for Students-The date for this event will be Wednesday, December 11, 2024. Possible ideas to look into were presented such as the Lunch Lady who does a turkey dinner, Antipastos who can make pasta and Meatballs. Ms Rakonjac and Mr. Burtnik will look into the pricing at ‘ different places.

E. Guest Speakers-If you hear of someone who could present at our school, Please let us know. Ask around at other schools to see if they have anyone that would benefit our school community.

11. Agenda items for future meetings

12. Adjournment-The meeting was over by 7:30 p.m.

13. Closing Prayer

Next Meeting Dates: **November-**Tuesday, November 5, 2024

January-Tuesday, January 7, 2025

April-Tuesday, April 1, 2025

May-Tuesday, May 13, 2025

June-Tuesday, June 3, 2025

