

February 23, 2010 Catholic School Council Meeting Minutes

Call to order: (Mrs. MacKenzie chaired in the absence of Mrs. Jen Biamonte)

Prayer: Mrs. MacKenzie

Amendments to January minutes: Mrs. Abbruscato's name was misspelled

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Mrs. Parr, seconded by Mrs. Gardner

In attendance (Mmes):

Bortolon	Matovic	Zarafonitis		
Stranges	Marcon-Argenta	Seilicki	Becevel	Cook-Kay
Viera	Camisa	Pagnotta	Multari	Keltos
Gardner	Page	Snyder	DiMaurizio	Papetti
Mr. Gallo				

Regrets (Mmes): Biamonte Termaat Montagano Elefante
Scozzafava

A letter of resignation from Council was received from Mrs. Kim Marchese.

Financial Report (Mrs. MacKenzie):

Hot Lunch Profit (February): \$105.82 Current Balance: \$737.14

January Bingo Expenditures:

Shrove Tuesday \$171.52 (over budget by \$21.52)

ND Sympathy Cards: \$150.63 (over budget by \$100.63)

A motion was made to increase the Social Committee's Budget (Mrs. Marcon-Argenta)

Seconded by Mrs. Matovic. All members were in favour.

Parish Report (Mrs. Parr):

- Palm Sunday Masses on March 29 are at 7:30, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.
- Easter Masses are 8:00 p.m. Vigil, and Sunday morning 7:30, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.
- Please continue to refer to the bulletin for parish news. It is posted weekly in the school office.
- As we are in the season of Lent the Stations of the Cross take place on Friday evenings at 6:30 p.m. followed by 7:00 p.m. Mass.
- Expositions of the Blessed Sacrament take place each Monday evening beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Ferrando Room of the Parish hall (until March 29).
- Parish Haiti relief collection totaled more than \$22,000.
- Irish Festivities will take place on Saturday March 6 and Sunday March 7. Entertainment, fellowship and fun will be provided as well as beef on a bun and a bake sale (bakers are invited to assist.). The cost is \$5 and all proceeds to benefit Development and Peace. (Which is the Canadian member of Caritas Internationalis, the International Catholic relief network which provides humanitarian aid during crisis situations such as that in Haiti.)
- Notre Dame students joined the Parish Junior choir this past week and did a marvelous job. They were invited to come out every week.

(Introduction of Michelle Lepine our new Parish Youth Ministry Coordinator)

Guest (Michelle Lepine): The new Youth Ministry Coordinator from the Our Lady of the Scapular Church spoke on the Grades 6-8 EDGE Program. Several youth leaders are already in place from the various schools. They will be receiving special t-shirts. Meetings take place on Thursday evenings in the Church hall. Michelle spoke about Thinkfast, in support of Development and Peace. It is scheduled for March 19 (during Solidarity Week). It is a two day event. Ms. Lepine or peer leaders will be dropping into classrooms to encourage ND student participation.

Additional upcoming events include:

- Lift Jesus Higher Roadtrip (Evangelical experience)
- Youth retreats

Principal's Notes:

- Bill 157 Follow up – all staff were in-serviced on the new legislation in regard to responding and reporting behavioral incidents. The Ministry has created pamphlets for parents on Progressive Discipline and the Ontario Code of Conduct which we use at Notre Dame.
- Following our Numeracy SMART goal and math problem solving, on March 8 we will be having a Math Manipulative Morning. Similar to our Literacy days, students will rotate to different teachers to learn about math manipulatives and the relevance to problem solving and the inquiry approach to math.

December Teacher Notes (Mr. Gallo):

- Book Fair held in our library
- JK to Gr. 8 attended Scrooge
- Theatre Group: Charming came in for a school-wide presentation
- Weekly Advent celebrations held in the school and at church
- Choirfest at Niagara Square
- Primary and Junior divisions presented a Christmas Concert
- ND staff played against NRP

January Teacher Notes

- Aboriginal Drumming presentation
- St. Paul held an Open House for our Grade 8 students and parents
- First Holy Communion Inscription was received by our Grade 2 students
- Speeches in the Gym
- Vision 20/20 for CSC
- Literacy Day featuring Robert Munsch was a huge success
- Knights of Columbus free throw contest won by Emily Brown

February Teacher Notes

- Science Fair Projects were presented in the gym
- JK/SK Open House
- Girls Basketball came in first in NF and went to Brock
- Boys Basketball came in fourth
- Shrove Tuesday at the school, pancakes for all
- Ash Wednesday celebration at the church
- CSC Faith Formation at ND in Welland
- Upcoming play – Graffiti; what a waste

Old Business:

- Bill 157 Ministry Documents were handed out to parents – Progressive Discipline and Suspension and Expulsion – What Parents Need to Know.

- Members of the Legion of Mary are scheduled to come to Notre Dame for an education/prayer session on March 5. All students will receive Rosaries.
- A member asked how the January Pasta Dinner went. Mrs. MacKenzie reported that the school earned \$1,100 for classroom supplies. Mr. Fruci wants to partner with Club Capri for a second Pasta Supper. All in all it was a good first-time experience.

New Business:

- Public Consultation of policies deadline is March 10. An interim policy is in effect regarding out-of-bounds students. Notre Dame's Boundaries did not change. There will be no effect on us.
- All school stakeholders have been given opportunities for input.
- Mrs Matovic asked about the Ministry's decision on the school calendar. Mrs. MacKenzie reported that all input is in and that a calendar committee will review information. December 23 (is the proposed last day of school. Classes will resume on January 10, 2011. It is also proposed that we will once again lose the Friday before March break. We need to have 194 teaching days. Most people wanted children to go to school closer to Christmas day.
- A question by a member: Any decisions on having microwave ovens available to students for hot lunches? Answer by Mrs. MacKenzie: We would need a separate circuit based on electrical codes for classroom use. Not possible in our current structure (the magnetron in microwaves is too powerful). The staffroom was retrofitted, that is why there is a microwave oven in that room.
- Faith Formation:
The annual CSC convention is to take place on March 27 at Holy Cross School. The guest speaker is Chris DiSousa.
- A parent had asked if Pops and Pals could be resumed. Mrs. MacKenzie responded that it required staff interest in coordinating it. It was not supported by staff last year. No plans for this school year.

Correspondance:

Premier's Awards for Excellence literature
Thank you from Mrs. Ciancio
Ontario School Bussing Newsletter
People for Education Newsletter

Exceptional Children's Committee: Information has been put in the school newsletter.

Social Committee: Sympathy cards were sent.

Spirituality Committee: Mrs. Pagnotta asked for a parent volunteer from the grade four class to be the Council representative at this year's Brown Scapular Enrolment for grade 3s. Mrs. Pagnotta will make all the arrangements, but works during the day. Mrs. Pina Page volunteered. A May date will be chosen.

Mrs Bortolon and Mrs. Matovic are working on a Lenten project entitled Resurrection Eggs. ND students will participate in the Stations of the Cross on Wednesday, March 30.
First Communion will take place on April 18.

Garden Committee: Waiting for a thaw!

A Council member asked what came of the Vision 20/20 evening. Mrs. MacKenzie reported that parents really enjoyed and felt great value in the BBQ – even though it takes so much planning, it is a big hit!

Mrs. Pagnotta again interjected that another great opportunity for families to interact would be at a “family dance.” She is willing to coordinate it!

Eight out of ten of the surveillance cameras are up and running. They record and are also monitored/recorded at the Board office.

Motion to Adjourn: was made by Dina Marcon-Argenta / seconded by Mrs. Becevel.

Next meeting: April 27 at, 6:30 pm.

Submitted by Mary Pagnotta