



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## AGENDA ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

December 6, 2023

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### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer/Land Acknowledgement – Mr. Tolomeo
2. Roll Call – Lauren C., Lauren O., Kerie R., Silvana P., Ryan H., Christine S., Amanda P., M. Sirianni, B. Manchuk, J. Tolomeo, J. DeCoff, Monica G.
3. Approval of the Agenda – Approval – Lauren C, seconded by our Chair, Monica G.
4. Approval of Minutes of the St. Mark Catholic School Council Meeting of November 1, 2023 – deferred to next meeting

### B. PRESENTATION - none

### C. POLICY REVIEW AND FEEDBACK

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

[Safe and Accepting Schools Policy 302.6](#)

[Dress Code – Secondary Uniform – Safe Schools Policy 302.6.6](#)

[Corporate Cards Purchasing Cards and Petty Cash Policy 600.4](#)

Please submit your feedback to [Anna Pisano](#) by 12:00 p.m. December 13, 2023

[Employee Hospitality Policy 201.14](#)

[Student Transportation Policy 500.2](#)

Please submit your feedback to [Anna Pisano](#) by 12:00 p.m. January 23, 2024

### D. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – see attached

**E. OAPCE REPORT- Monica** - Not much to report. Talked about what they did in their schools in September. Went over what should be included in CSC ex. Must have subcommittee's, CSC get a budget every year. What is this spent on? we should be viewing a school budget.

**F. STAFF REPORT – Sirianni** – This year intermediates will tie in the Catholic Graduate Expectations in the classrooms and create food baskets for needy families. Kindergarten classes are all hosting their own individual Christmas Pageant for their parents.

## **G. SUBCOMITTEE UPDATES**

1. Church Liaison – on Sunday, Father announced he will be saving money on envelopes. E-transfer or monthly withdrawals are a good choice. Breakfasts at the Church once per month have returned. Advent is upon us.
2. By-laws/Policy - above
3. Fundraising – we raised \$3,400 on the DFS fundraiser held in October/November. This money has been spent on new LCD projectors for the classrooms.
4. Graduation – see below for date – DJ needs to be booked.
5. Safe Schools

## **H. AGENDA ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD**

1. Can we see the schools financial report? What do we have in the bank? Profit from fundraising?  
- Fundraising vs. board budget – last year’s report – St. Mark started in the hole because of items needing to be purchased. Chromebooks and an interactive flat panel have been purchased. Parent engagement funding allows \$500, so Paul Davis spoke to our community and this money went towards that. Technology for the kinder rooms is a priority.

Money earned from ice-cream sales goes directly towards graduation fees. Last year the price was \$3500 – or around there – this year Club Roma price will be going up.

Discussion around Club Roma – students deserve a good evening and even though prices have gone up, but because it’s outside, pictures are beautiful and the doors open up for families to take pictures. There are many positives with Club Roma - supervision, safety etc.

The date for graduation is June 20<sup>th</sup>

Mrs. Manchuk mentioned that our school will be offering a shawarma lunch in the future.

Question – is there a way to supplement/fundraise for pricing of class trips. From the fundraising, we can allocate money to assist with this. Bussing has been expensive in previous years. It was stated that rather than fundraising money for school trips that would work out to \$2 or \$3 per student being subsidized for bussing, that money would be better spent on updating technology in the school.

DFS fundraising made \$3400, and last year the dance-a-thon made \$14,000. Fielding wine fundraiser will be put on hold. This year we will do a car show with a vendor fair – Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>.

## **I. NEXT MEETING – February 28, 2024**

## **J. CLOSING PRAYER – Hail Mary**

## December 2023 St. Mark Catholic Elementary School Principal's Report

### Catholicity

#### **School Church Connections**

**December:** Whole school Advent Liturgies have started. First led by staff, the following liturgies will be led by students over the PA system.

**Confessions – Thursday December 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Confirmation – Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>**

**First Communion – Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

**First CGE Celebration –** The Grade one students led the primary division in an assembly explaining what it means to be a Discerning Believer. Congratulations to all the students who achieved the I am a Believer award by demonstrating their belief in God by their actions around the school.

### Student Achievement

#### **Reading supports for primary and junior grades**

- **HD Word from Really Great Reading** – rollout has started in grades 4 and 5. Grade 6 will start in January. Great resource to teach junior students' phonemic awareness and phonics as part of the new Language Arts curriculum rollout
- **Additional Lexia Licenses** have been given to all grade 3 students, and professional development for staff has started
- **Reading Intervention Groups** – every afternoon, Mrs. Zamfir works with small groups of students on reading intervention. Both Empower and RGR are being utilized as the resource of choice. Empower students visit every day for up to one hour until mid-May. RGR groups visit each day and students rotate in based on need and progress
- **Numeracy Intervention Groups** – Mrs. Duffy has started our Numeracy Intervention Groups with select grade 6 students. Each group works with Mrs. Duffy for 30 intensive intervention lessons. The groups are rotated after the 30 lessons with follow up activities for the classroom teacher to utilize in the classroom

### Mental Health and Well-Being

- CYW support – continued support for all K to 8 classes – Abby Vanderlee is our CYW and visits St. Mark on day 1 and 2 of the 5 day cycle
- Social Worker support – Steven Johnston is our social worker for this school year. Referrals are submitted by the school after conversations with families
- St. Mark staff and students recognized the importance of raising awareness for Mental Health by wearing plaid on Thursday November 23<sup>rd</sup>

### Technology in the Classroom

- As we raise more money, technology will be purchased – Chromebooks to accommodate the grade 3 students using Lexia and to replace old Chromebooks that have been recycled.

### School Climate

**Student Council** – Up and running. Students in grades 6 to 8 who are on council help out around the school on a regular basis. Handing out hot lunches, milk, and leading liturgies are just a few examples.

## Sports/Clubs/Extra Curricular Activities

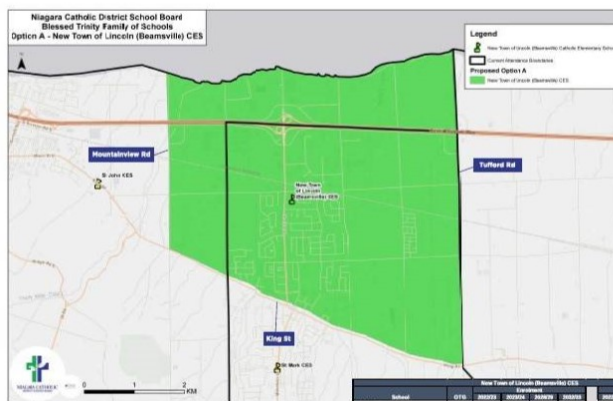
- Intermediate Volleyball just ended with both girls and boys teams taking home the championship for the West Wing Schools
- Junior Basketball is taking place now and being coached by Mrs. Zamora, Mrs. Loutraris, and Mr. Moscato
- Pokemon Club is up and running – supervised by Mrs. Zamfir. They meet twice a month
- Vex Robotics – started and the team is travelling to St. Alexander on Friday for their first meet.
- Choirfest – our choir will be traveling to the Pen Centre with Mrs. Dionne and Mrs. Morawek to sing Christmas songs on Thursday December 14<sup>th</sup>

**Holy Night Mingle** – Cookie decorating, ornament making, and Christmas songs to celebrate the birth of Jesus with our families. Families are invited to join Wednesday December 20 from 6:00 to 7:30pm in the gymnasium

## Boundary Review Update

- Families were invited to visit the following link to get an update on the Boundary Changes for when the new school in Beamsville opens - <https://www.smore.com/91je4>

### Option A - New Lincoln (Beamsville) CES



• The next public meeting will be held on Wednesday December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 7:00pm in the BT Gym.

- Both options presented for St. Mark remained the same as well as for the new Lincoln school

### Option A - St Mark CES

