



Minutes
ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
September 28, 2022 - 6:00pm

Welcome to a new year!

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer - **J. Tolomeo**
2. Roll Call - **Bonnie Manchuk, Wendy Wilson, Joe Tolomeo, Jenn DeCoff, Abby Nicolazzo, Jennifer Thompson, Shannon Petrovic, Joanna Muhic, Stephanie Muhic, Danielle Shaw, Nikole Edwards, Cara Hinkley, Mychalyna Olwage, Paula Jubenville, Amanda Pokolic, Loni Pereira, Kerri Gray, Nancy Hermans, Monica Giammarco, Kerie Raymond**
Regrets: **Jessica Gore, Lindsay Spanik, Diane Lavigne, Jodi Thompson, Jill Lampman, Lindsay Twardawa, Kerry Hart, Jacqueline Swart**
3. Approval of Agenda - **Cara Hinkley and seconded by Stephanie Muhic.**

B. ELECTION of Chair/Co-Chairs

1. Election of the Chair/Co-chairs for the 2022-23 St. Mark Catholic School Council nominations - **once, twice, three times. Co-Chairs asked and elected. Jennifer Thompson and Abby Nicolazzo.**

C. PRESENTATIONS

1. No presentations - **Mrs. DeCoff welcomed everyone to the meeting and discussed policies below with links.**

D. POLICIES FOR VETTING FEEDBACK

1. 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
[Privacy Policy \(600.6\)](#)
[Records and Information Management Policy \(600.2\)](#)

Please submit your feedback to [Anna Pisano](#) by October 27, 2022 - 12:00 p.m.

E. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - See report below for minutes.

1. Catholicity
2. Student Achievement
3. School Climate

Questions

- about a milk program - we are working on getting a large fridge for storage.
- Space in the school/plan moving forward - muddy field schedule and perhaps use of the adjacent park.
- Boundary lines for new school - we haven't heard yet
- Proactive planning for growth
- Parking concerns - this year is moving smoothly in the morning

F. OAPCE REPORT – next meeting

G. STAFF REPORT – Ms. Wilson to provide next meeting

H. SUBCOMMITTEE SIGN UP

1. Selection of Chair/Co-Chairs of each Sub-Committee
2. By-laws/Policy
3. Community Outreach - **will need to be facilitated and organized ahead of time**
4. Fundraising - **Fielding Fundraiser will be starting September 30th**
5. Graduation - **Club Roma booked for June 22nd - Pavilion**
- (6. Hot lunches/milk) - can be deleted
- (7. Church Fundraising) - can be deleted
8. Safe Schools - **organizing guest speakers, promotion of faith within the school, student voice, awareness of any kind, community outreach can connect.**
- **discussion to combine this committee with “community outreach”.**
- (9. School Nutrition Action Council (SNAC)) - can be deleted
10. Church Liaison

Community outreach /Safe Schools - Mychalyna Olwage (Chair), Monica Giammarco
Fundraising - Cara Hinkley (chair), Monica Giammarco, Nikole Edwards, Stephanie Muhic, Amanda Pokolic, Loni Pereira
Graduation - Paula Jubenville (chair), Cara Hinkley, Monica Giammarco, Lindsay Twardawa, Diane Lavigne, Jodi Thompson, Kerry Hart, Jill Lampman
Church Liaison - Nancy Hermans, Monica Giammarco

I. AGENDA ITEMS

The email will be checked frequently for CSC agenda items, so please email the chairs throughout the month if you have an item to add to the next meeting agenda. The CSC email is stmarkcsc@gmail.com

J. NEXT MEETING – Tuesday October 25, 2022 @ 6:00 pm

K. CLOSING PRAYER - Our Father

L. ADJOURNMENT - 7:05 pm

Principal's Report:

Catholicity

School Church Connections

October – every Thursday two grades will be visiting the church at 12:30 to pray the rosary with Father Kryz.

November – Every Thursday two grades will be attending and participating in mass at 12:30pm

Sacraments and Mass: Fr. Kryz has communicated to our grades 2 and 8 families regarding dates and activities surrounding First Communion and Confirmation.

Confirmation – Wednesday, April 12th

First Communion – Sunday, May 28th and Sunday, June 4th.

Theological Theme 2022-2026 – Called by Name

2022-2023 You are Mine

2023-2024 Hear My Voice

2024-2025 Follow Me

2025-2026 Go and Make Disciples

Student Achievement

Reading Intervention supports for primary and junior grades

- Elementary Chaplains will be visiting the school to lead activities with our students while staff meet with Literacy and Numeracy consultants. Kindergarten to grade 2 teachers will dive deeper into the Science of Reading focusing on Phonemic Awareness and decoding strategies. Grades 3 to 8 teachers will be focusing on fundamental concepts in Numeracy that lead to an understanding of Algebraic concepts.
- **Additional Lexia Licenses** are being purchased and will be assigned to more students
- **Empower** began today and will continue for the entire school year
- **Really Great Reading Intervention Groups** – Mrs. Zamfir will be leading a reading intervention group with students from grade 2. Mrs. Zamfir received training and taught the intervention program this past summer. A group of 5 students will be participating for five weeks. After the 5 weeks, another group of 5 students will begin. This cycle will continue until the end of this school year.
- Numeracy - MATH UP is school-wide

Mental Health and Well-Being

- CYW support – continued support for all K to 8 classes - Rachelle Dekoe 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. His time at the school is scheduled based on the referral process.

Technology in the Classroom

- Interactive Flat Panel TVs have been installed in both Grade 7 and 8 classrooms and one more has been ordered for the Grade 6/7 Classroom

- 20 Chromebooks have been ordered
- 2 Epson Projectors have been ordered
- goal is to order more tech.

School Climate

Welcome Back BBQ – October 5th, 4:00-7:00. As of today 190 families have sent an RSVP. We have Crazy Cravings ice cream truck, Smoke and Moonshine food truck, and the Knights of Columbus BBQ for food. Niagara Inflatables will have 4 different inflatables – 2 for smaller children, 2 for older children. Student Council will be offering face painting and making buttons. Staff will be wearing purple St. Mark t-shirts with their name on the back. Staff are looking forward to meeting our families and enjoying time together.

Sports/Clubs/Extra Curricular Activities: Cross Country running tryouts have started. Thank you to Mrs. Melfi and Mrs. Pellizzari for taking the lead and coaching our students. Starting with grade 4, 5 boys and 5 girls from each grade will be selected to attend the Family of Schools Cross Country Meet on Wednesday October 12th.

Milk Bag Weaving: We are starting our milk bag weaving initiative and asking the community to bring in milk bags. Last year we made 3 mats and we would like to make 5 this school year. Can be sent in at any time.

Facilities updates: Our library was successfully moved to the stage. Mrs. Flynn is our new library technician and she has been working hard at getting the library up and running for all of our students. Books are being purchased.

Twitter/Instagram school account: Once all consent forms have been finalized for this school year, our twitter and Instagram accounts will be up and running once again. Mrs. Semple and Madame Appel will be taking the lead on our social media accounts. Pictures and not names will be visible.

Terry Fox Walk: Last Friday, we took part in the annual Terry Fox Walk for Cancer Research. All classes participated in the walk as we worked together to raise money for cancer research. Thank you for your continued support! As of today we have raised \$1293.00.

Hallowe'en: This year we will be following the same format for Halloween as last year. Students are welcome to wear their costumes to school on Monday, October 31st. As an alternative, students are welcome to wear orange/purple and black as this will be an out of dress code day. We ask that costumes that intend to scare, including props, are to be saved for Halloween night.

Halloween at school is for fun, and scary costumes are not fun for some of our younger students or students with special needs. Halloween activities will be taking place in each classroom throughout the day. Please remember that we have many students with food sensitivities and allergies, including life-threatening anaphylaxis. We ask parents to refrain from sending in food items. Possible dance a thon would be JOY day in December around Christmas.

Orange Shirt Day: On Friday, September 30th, St. Mark Catholic Elementary School will recognize National Residential Survivor Day. All students are encouraged to wear an orange shirt with their dress code bottoms that day.

Student Council – Elections have taken place and our 2022-2023 Student Council is off and running. Thank you to Mr. Tolomeo and Ms. Wilson for leading Student Council this school year.