



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**MINUTES OF THE
ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING (Minutes)
Tuesday September 26th, 2017. 6:30pm
Staff Lounge**

Minutes of the Meeting of the St. Mark Catholic School Council, held on Tuesday September 26th, 2017, at 6:30 pm.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

- 1. Opening Prayer** – Mr. Morawek began with prayer

Roll Call – 17 people in attendance. Regrets were sent from 8 parents

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP		Present	Regrets	Absent
Principal/ Secretary/Treasurer	Mr. Steven Ward	X		
Vice-Principal	Mr. Greg Morawek	X		
Co-Chair	Mrs. M.J. DiBartolomeo	X		
Co-Chair	Mrs. A. Marois		X	
Teacher Representative	Mrs. Wilson	X		
Non-Teaching Representative	Mrs. Bonnie Manchuk	X		
Student Representative	Naia Crowley & Ava Seca	X		
Parish Representative				X
OAPCE Representative				
PARENT REPRESENTATIVES				
Bunker, Stephanie				X
Corbett, Kris		X		
Craig, Joanne				X
DiNardo, Christina		X		
Easton, Colette				X
Fotivec, Deanna				X
Giammarco, Monica		X		
Gray, Kerri		X		
Marrese, Diana				X
Matthews, Kathleen				X
Marois, Jeff			X	

McMaster, Audra	X		
McNaughton, Elizabeth	X		
McNaughton, Erik			X
Michael, Samantha			X
Millar, Joanne		X	
Monte, Rebecca	X		
Muhic, Stephanie			X
Nicolazzo, Abby			X
Palumbo, Tracy	X		
Pucci, Lila			X
Rakonjac, Deb			X
Ryckman, Stephanie			X
Shedden, Michelle			X
Shorthouse, Carla	X		
Solomita, Laura		X	
Swart, Jacqueline	X		
Thompson, Jen	X		
Thomson, Katie			X
Twardawa, Lyndsay	X		
Watt, Anne		X	

2. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by – Mrs. Shorthouse

Seconded by – Mrs. McMaster

THAT the St. Mark Catholic School Council approve the Agenda of the St. Mark Catholic School Council Meeting of September 26th, 2017.

CARRIED

3. Disclosure of Interest

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

4. Approval of Minutes of the St. Mark Catholic School Council Meeting of October 25th, 2016.

Moved by – Mrs. Palumbo

Seconded by – Mrs. Thomson

THAT St Mark Catholic School Council approve the Minutes of the St Mark Catholic School Council Meeting of June 20 2017 as presented

CARRIED

Election of Chair/ Co-Chair: Acclimation Mrs. D?? (Chair) & Mrs. Marios (Vice Chair)

B. PRESENTATIONS

St. Mark Student Council report – Naia Crowley and Ava Seca presented the information and highlighted upcoming events in October: Food Drive and Dance-A-Thon

C. PRINCIPAL’S REPORT - Mr. Ward presented the following report:

Catholicity

N.C.D.S.B.: We are entering into the third year of the three year theological theme of “One Family in Christ: Know, Love, *Serve* Him.” To be “One Family in Christ” is to embrace the diversity in our schools – to care for and support those who are struggling while upholding and encouraging others in their success.

Thanksgiving Food Drive: Our Saint Mark Student Council will be organizing the collection of food for our Thanksgiving Food Drive, throughout October 2nd - 5th, 2017.

Family Advent Mass: On Saturday, December 9th, at 5 p.m. the St. Mark Community will be hosting a Family Advent Mass. We see this as a way of helping to strengthen the Triad of Home - School – Church. All are welcome!

Student Achievement

E.Q.A.O.: We received and have analyzed the E.Q.A.O. summary data. The St. Mark results are as follows: Grade Three Reading 70%; Writing 70%; and Mathematics 68%; Grade Six Reading 83%; Writing 75%; and Mathematics 55%. We are awaiting the I.R.R. data that will further help to create the foci for our instruction in the 2017-18 school year.

Using Data to Drive Assessment: The staff and administration of St. Mark are in the process of completing our Annual School Improvement Plan that will guide our educational direction throughout this coming school year. The St. Mark staff will utilize the data collected from the Primary and Junior EQAO assessments, the Diagnostic data (OCA/DRA/Obs. Survey.), and classroom data to help drive their instruction to improve student achievement. There will be three main foci for St. Mark School for the 2017-18 academic year – Mathematics, Science, and Technology.

Technology in the Classroom: We are looking to augment the technological equipment that we currently have at Saint Mark to allow for the largest increase in student achievement. One Hundred and Fifty Chromebooks were purchased last year and another purchase will be made this year.

School Climate

Open House/B.B.Q.: On Thursday, September 14th, 2017, we welcomed families to the school for our Open house. Approximately 500 people came out to tour the school, their children’s classrooms, and learn more about the educational program that the students at St. Mark will receive this year. In addition, the Knights of Columbus provided a B.B.Q. for all families. Thank you to all parents for your support of this event!

Terry Fox Walk: On Friday, September 22nd, we completed the annual Terry Fox Walk for Cancer Research. All classes participated in the walk as we raised approximately \$1000.00 for cancer research. Thank you for your continued support!

Student Council: On Friday, September 22nd at St. Mark, we elected an Intermediate Student Council to enhance and encourage student voice. Our first meeting of the Intermediate Student Council will take place on Monday, October 2nd, from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. A Junior Council will be selected next week and will be mentored by the Intermediate Council.

Hallowe’en Dance-a-thon: The Student Council will be organizing a Hallowe’en Dance-a-thon for the students of St. Mark. This activity will serve to increase school spirit, raise funds for Technology equipment and St. Helen Church, and allow this year’s Student Council to take on a leadership role within the school. This will be an out of dress code day for all students – as they are invited to wear either a school appropriate costume or orange and black clothing in the spirit of the day.

- 1. Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee** – Nominations due October 15th, Review of Policies and Procedures, November 2nd next NCPIC meeting
- 2. Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Report** – No Report
- 3. Catholic School Council Financial Statement** - financial report was presented to council.
- 4. NCDSB Policies** – none

- D.** Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education (**OAPCE**) REPORT – no report at this time
- E. Staff Report:** Mrs. Wilson presented all of the ‘Big Ideas’ across each grade level, spoke of continuity to curriculum and the use of technology within the classrooms.
- F. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS :** Chairs selected this evening
1. **By-laws/Policy** – No Report - Chair for 2017-18 will be Mrs. McMaster
 2. **Community Outreach** – No Formal Report but Mr. Ward will chair this sub-committee and he addressed the ideas for a math night this year.
 3. **Fundraising** - Mrs. Watt was selected as Chair.
 4. **Graduation** – No report – Mrs. Thomson volunteered to chair
 5. **Hot lunches/milk** – Milk program is underway and pizza – looking to add more hot lunch options throughout the year. Mrs. Shorthouse will chair.
 6. **New Church Fundraising** – No report – Mrs. Monte volunteered to Chair
 7. **Safe Schools** – Save arrival program is still the only method to call in absences and lates.
 8. **School Nutrition Action Council (SNAC)** – Mr. Ward highlighted the nutrition grant [www.freshfromfarm .ca](http://www.freshfromfarm.ca) --- committee mentioned perhaps putting in a tower garden
- G. PREVIOUS BUSINESS –**
1. Hot lunches with possible CWL volunteers --- perhaps advertise in newsletter
 2. Welcome back BBQ was a huge success
 3. Flow of cars in the parking lot has been good --- new kiss and ride system very effective – review this annually
 4. Staff very much appreciated breakfast at the June P A Day - many positive comments received
- H. NEW BUSINESS**
- Mr. Ward expressed that we are always looking for volunteers in the school for various events including pizza and hot lunch days. Mr. Ward identified that volunteers need the ‘Vulnerable Sector Check’ completed once every five years.
 - The Christmas Bazar will be held at St. Helen Church on November 25th from 9:00 – 2:00pm.
 - Mr. Ward answered a question about E.Q.A.O. and will have speak further at the October meeting after the I.R.R. data is analyzed.
 - Mr. Ward was asked about transitioning grade 8 students to Blessed Trinity. He will reach out to the chairs of the departments at Blessed Trinity and report back next month.
- I. AGENDA ITEMS-DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS** - All items for the agenda are to be sent to the Co-Chairs at least one week in advance of each meeting.
- J. NEXT MEETING** – October 24th 2017
- K. ADJOURNMENT**
Moved by – Mrs. Swart
Seconded by – Mrs. Palumbo
THAT the meeting of the St. Mark Catholic School Council be adjourned.
CARRIED
This meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.
- CLOSING PRAYER** was led by Mr. Morawek