



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES
ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
February 7, 2022, 6:00 p.m.
School Library

Minutes of the Meeting of the St. Joseph Catholic School Council,
held on February 8, 2023 at 6:00 pm.

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by Tim Atkinson

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was led by T. Atkinson

2. Roll Call

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP		Present	Excused	Absent
Principal/Vice-Principal Secretary/Treasurer	T. Atkinson	√		
Co-Chair	S. Bays			√
Co-Chair	M. Bowker	√		
Teacher Representative	A. Filice	√		
Non-Teaching Representative	H. Humphreys	√		
Parish Representative				
OAPCE Representative	M. Bowker	√		
Kathleen Ciccotti		√		
Melanie Harris				√
Breia Merla				√
Marlies Nanninga				√
Andrea Piché		√		
Sarah Veld			√	

Minutes of the Meeting taken by H. Humphreys

ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer – Mr. Atkinson 6:05 pm
2. Roll Call - done
3. Approval of Agenda – M.Bowker
4. Approval of the Meeting Minutes – K.Ciccotti

B. PRESENTATIONS

1. St. Joseph Teacher’s report – Mrs. Filice
 - Our boys’ basketball team played great, we came in second at the West Wing tournament thus we move onto the Board competition on February 14th.
 - Kids helping Kids Week begins next week – Feb 13th
 - Gr 1/2, 2, 4, 7 & 8 all going to St. John Valley Outdoor Centre – Gr 1-2 & 2 reported having a great fun day and kids learned a lot. The ministry is funding these trips through Outdoor Education funding.
 - Math up and reading focus in our classrooms is ongoing
 - Tim / Annette gave an overview of the new learning focuses in math

C. POLICIES FOR VETTING FEEDBACK – Student Trustee Policy (100.4

D. PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

1. Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Report - Nothing
2. Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Report - Nothing

E. Catholicity

- F. Father Rico has been coming in for regular monthly masses. Sacramental preparations are well on their way. The grade 8’s have a confirmation retreat coming up on March 2nd. Their confirmation take place March 9th at 7pm. Ash Wednesday is on the 22nd. We have our Lenten Reconciliation here at the school on March 1st at 1pm.

G.

H. Student Achievement

- I. MathUp continues to be our focus. We have had our second visit from our Math coaches. Our PA day on the 17th has large Mathup focus in the morning. This is done with 2 other schools to share learning and best practices. Knowledgehook is another Math resource teachers are using. We have our coach coming in Thursday after school to do a training session to increase the familiarity of this resource for teachers. Knowledgehook is announcing that they are making tutors available online for group sessions. This is free.
- J. Science of Reading continues to drive our kinder and primary grades. Money is being spent on getting all the resources now available by the board as well as here at the school. The teachers are very dedicated to learning this new approach and are embracing the change.
- K. Lexia is another reading program we have here at the school. Licenses are given to students who are reading well below the levels they should be at. It is done for 20 minutes day and can be used at home. It is a web-based resource. The gains the students have experienced are amazing.

	Pre-Lexia	Today with Lexia	How long on the program?
(Gr3)	6	25	1 year
(Gr3)	8/9	21	1 year
(Gr.3)	10	18	3 months
(Gr4)	9	14	4 months
(Gr4)	12	22	1 year
(Gr4)	7	16	1 year

L. Term 1 report cards and IEP's will be made available on Monday, February 13th. Interviews are done only by request.

M. School Climate

N. Our P.J. & Stuffies Day was a big hit. We have a Pink Shirt Day coming in the 22nd. We had approximately 70 people at the ice Dogs game on Saturday. All said they had a great time. Kids Help Kids week begins on Monday. It is a fun week with all kinds of fun activities for the children. We actually have 5 of our special needs children speak on the morning announcements sharing how their lives have benefited from the fundraising. Our Book Fair is the week of the 27th – March 3. Thank you to all of you for volunteering to help out with this event. I started a Chess Club. Every lunch, students come in to play. There has been a big turnout. After the March Break, I will have a tournament to create a team that will compete in a board wide tournament. It's usually held at the Fairview mall in St. Catharines. On the 21st and 22nd we have Junior boys and girls Handball tournaments up at St. Martin's. On the 23rd and 24th we have dental screening for all grades.

1. Catholic School Council Financial Report – Holly

- Advertise the opportunity to donate on Niagara Catholic Foundation for Education
- Open up Spirit Wear purchasing again

2. Student Council Report – Ava C.

- Food Drive in October and Halloween Dance
- Toy Drive for Christmas
- Mrs. Morrison did the advent spiral walk
- Stations of the Cross for Lent
- Positive Thinking Board (Feb) – working with CYW, Mrs. Welch
- Ava went to Lead Out conference working on leadership and inclusion throughout the school (Thinking outside the box)
- Planning spring activities – gardening, etc.

O. OAPCE REPORT - Melissa Szkwara-Bowker

1. Monthly newsletter sent out to Rep
2. Annual conference in Kingston October 22/23 – 3 speakers TBA
3. Virtual meeting tomorrow night – speaker – Miguel

P. Catholic School Council ideas

1. Suggests different ways for parents to get involved in the school, do a twist on coffee mornings, rotate thru volunteers to meet parents – stand on sidewalks to greet parents
2. Movie nights in the gym – families come and bring snacks, chance for families to meet
3. Andrea - Grade 8's could organize – popcorn, choose a movie
4. Links to Paul Davis 2 page document on social media safety
5. Brantford – Sarah Westbrook – workshops for adults, teachers and students – How to boost a child's confidence – emotional wellbeing for all
6. Melissa: We'd like to relay these items to parents through Messenger
 - Melissa to email Holly, write-ups for reminders to parents of upcoming events.

Q. SUBCOMMITTEE

1. By-laws/Policy
2. Community Outreach – N/A
3. Fundraising – N/A
4. Graduation – Melissa Szkwara-Bowker
5. Melissa B. - Galileo Gardens is booked, BT donates the Grad cake
6. Hot lunches/milk – Pizza and pita days are running smoothly. Milk has begun as well. (gr. 8's)
7. Safe Schools – A lock-down drill will occur soon. *A message will be sent to parents.*
8. School Nutrition Action Council (SNAC) – Holly. Advertise donations for Snack Program

R. AGENDA ITEMS- Fun Fair

1. Tentative date of Wednesday, June 14th - Need a separate committee to plan if we want to do this, food trucks etc. need to be booked well in advance.
2. Play Day – June 23, 2023

S. NEXT MEETING – Monday, April 3, 2023 @ 6:00 pm

T. CLOSING PRAYER – Mr. Atkinson

U. ADJOURNMENT: 7:09 pm