



MINUTES



DENIS MORRIS CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday November 21, 2023
6:30 P.M. Denis Morris Information Centre

Present: K. Timmins, P. Morgetano, M. Rocco, S. Strickland, T. Kramar. K. Forster, A. Garcia

Regrets: T. Ostaszewicz, S. Gualtieri, R. Pruyn, D. Scullion, J. Inch, L. Graham, A. Coleman, M. Vandervaart, V. Tommasini, L. Graham

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

- 1 Opening Prayer – Chaplain Patricia
- 2 Roll Call
- 3 Approval of Agenda – November 21, 2023: 1st: T. Kramar, 2nd: rest of group
- 4 Disclosure of Conflict of Interest: NIL
- 5 Approval of the Minutes – September 26, 2023: 1st: S. Strickland, 2nd: rest of group

Marisa briefed out on a new fundraising activity we were able to secure offered by Cobs Bread Ridley Square, which will take place in April 2024. The school will sell a “loaf a month” card for \$25 (\$12.50 remains with the school and \$12.50 goes to Cobs Bread). The cardholder is entitled to 1 loaf of any type of bread per month from this location. The card expires 14 months after purchase. It is a great deal with lots of savings, as bread can range from \$4.60 - \$8.75 per loaf! Proceeds collected from this fundraiser will support DM CARES which also supports the DM Breakfast Program. Thanks to Jeff for raising this idea at the September meeting!

B. PRESENTATIONS

- COMPASS Survey Results from May 2023 – included as attachment in email for reference

C. POLICIES FOR VETTING

- [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

1. NCPIC (Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee) Report:

Chairs were invited for sandwiches and the meeting. There was a Math Action Plan Presentation, in addition to a CSC presentation outlining its purpose and role. Marisa forwarded the PowerPoint on November 4/23. Next meeting is Jan 11, 2024.

2. SEAC (Special Education Advisory Committee):
 - Presentation from Niagara College : Community Integration through Cooperative Education (CICE) Program
 - Math Strategic Plan Presentation
 - Standing reports from Niagara Children's Centre, Pathstone Mental Health, Down Syndrome Niagara, Bethesda Service, Autism Niagara , Mainstream, Community Living
 - Student Support Department Presentation – Gino Pizzoferrato

3. Catholic School Council Financial Report.
 - \$1037 used to feed the school for our pilgrimage walk.
 - Current balance of \$2700
 - Krispy Kreme Donut Fundraiser – January 2024
 - Cobb's Bread Fundraiser for DM Cares/Breakfast Program – April 2024

4. Principal's School Information Report
 - Pilgrimage \$12600 raised – Great Day for Denis Morris Mass, Walk, Lunch, Game
 - Weekly mass, Rosary in the chapel, classroom visits to the chapel
 - Grad retreat.
 - Mass of remembrance tomorrow.
 - Advent Reconciliation at the end of the month.
 - OSSLT 2022-23 91 % +18 % from previous year. #1 Catholic School
 - Renovations – going slowly but we just got the big gym back fully this week for classes and practices.
 - Midterm Reports out last week.
 - Bullying Prevention and Awareness Week – Prayers, Music, Activities, Announcements
 - PT Interviews Wednesday November 22
 - PA Day Friday – DM is hosting.
 - Thorold Santa Claus Parade on Saturday.
 - Gr. 8 Day next week on Thursday, Nov. 30.
 - Open House – Jan 11
 - Grad prep:
 - Resources, Timelines communicated through presentations, NCVLE.
 - Gr. 12 individual interviews
 - How to apply to college, university and OYAP
 - Grad photos.
 - University and College and Trades Career Fairs
 - University and College Presentations
 - SHSM – Specialist High Skills Major – 11 Sectors
 - Students can now specialize in Gr. 11 and 12 at high school in a sector. DM has 11 sectors (Eg. Business, Arts and Culture, Information Communication, Construction, Health and Wellness, Transportation, Hospitality, Aviation Aerospace)
 - Experiential Learning
 - Certifications
 - Red Seal on Diploma
 - Scholarships - \$500 at Brock, \$1000 at Niagara College
 - 222 students enrolled ...42% of our grads walked across the stage with a red seal.
 - Transition opportunities at DMbasketball tournament, flag football, musical, Journeys Retreat
 - Visits to the elementary school Course selection, dance team, cheers and fears
 - New Board Cafeteria Service
 - Chartwells is the new provider and is providing outstanding, value based and nutritious daily service. It has been a while so we are excited to have full service back.

- Co-Curricular:
 - Students' Council
 - Musical
 - Prefects
 - PAC
 - Wellness Warriors
 - House band
 - Musical
 - Drumline
 - Choir
 - Art club
 - Anime and Gaming
 - Dungeons and Dragons
 - Reach
 - High Voltage Robotics
 - Football
 - Volleyball
 - Basketball
 - Golf
 - Cross Country
 - Swimming
 - Hockey
 - Curling

E. OAPCE REPORT: NIL The meeting that was scheduled for Monday November 20, 2023 was postponed to Thursday December 7, 2023. M. Vandervaart will report on any updates.

Here is the website for OAPCE related activities. <https://niagara.oapce.org/>

F. STAFF REPORT: Mrs. Ostaszewicz sends her regrets
Covered in Principal's report

G. STUDENT REPORT: Kennady Forster & Allison Garcia

- The Halloween dance on October 26 was well attended and enjoyed by all. Hallways were decorated!
- Food truck day held on October 19 was a huge hit! All students seemed to enjoy it. Another food truck day is being planned for the spring
- Student council will be participating in the Grade 8 open house day activities. Games and other activities are being organized.
- Student council is planning a 12 days of Christmas gift giving, including daily draws for ROC card holders. Some exciting prizes are expected to be given away!

H. OLD BUSINESS: NIL

I. NEW BUSINESS: K. Timmins

Just a reminder to the group to start thinking about how to use funds available in the Parent Engagement Fund - \$500 available. A mechanism to apply for an additional \$1000 exists. If

you have any ideas, send them in via email and “reply all” to the group.

K. Timmins to seek clarification on rules for use of funds.

J. AGENDA ITEMS – DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETING: NIL

K. Next Meeting:

- January 16, 2024.

L. CLOSING PRAYER

- Chaplain Patricia

M. ADJOURNMENT @ 7:25pm.