

Metropolitan Andrei Catholic School Council Minutes

Wednesday, April 12, 2023

Attendance: *M. Di Nunzio, Principal; G. Maddison, Vice-Principal; K. Lepore, Chair; N. Guiyab, Teacher Rep; G. Baltakys, Parent Rep.; S. Pascucci, Trustee*

Regrets: *B. Iannicca, Trustee; C. Sturzenbecher, Teacher Rep; .J. Varady, Treasurer*

Land Acknowledgement:

“We would like to acknowledge that this is the sacred territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit, and we thank them for being the stewards of this land.”

- 1. Prayer**
- 2. Approval of the Agenda** – GB, NG approved
- 3. Approval of the November Minutes** – NG, GB, approved
- 4. Trustee Stefano Pascucci**
 - Budget Consultation preliminary meeting happening prior to the April 26 meeting
 - Public Budget Consultation meeting (virtual) on April 26 – we can submit questions online
 - Awaiting the per student grant amounts (GSN) – only a “potential” marginal increase from 2 years ago
 - 1200 less students next year compared to this year – many moving to the borders of the GTA (Halton, Waterloo, etc.)
 - April 27 – Human Trafficking presentation (virtual)
- 5. Chair Report**
 - Fundraiser has been extended until April 14 (17th for online boutique) as a last push from Easter break
 - Beading Buds – Rosary Bracelet workshops April 18 (grades 2 and 7 – First Communion and Confirmation students)
 - CCCSC presentation – Human Trafficking (April 27 at 6:30 pm via Zoom – pre-register to join)
- 6. Treasurer Report**
 - Report to be deferred to next meeting
- 7. Teacher/Staff Report**
 - Lots of Clubs and activities going on! (see below school report)
- 8. Principal/Vice Principal Report**

School Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Currently 491 students in the school• Our projections for September are just below what we currently have, we will lose 0.2 staff (Planning Time) for September 2023• 2 classrooms will be shuttered in September – Rooms 201 and 202 (hottest classrooms). These rooms can be used for storage but can’t be used for staff/student use• New evening custodian Jerich
Faith Formation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Father Mario came and visited with students on March 3• We had our Lenten Mass on March 22, thank you to Mr. Poli’s class for preparing the readings and Mrs. Planche for the music.• Our Youth Faith Ambassadors collected Soap for Hope for Dr. Simone and

	<p>organized Pretzel sales – for ShareLife we raised over \$200</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are sharing the Virtues over the morning announcements with our classes • Grade 7 & 8s are sharing the Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations on the morning announcements • April 18th Beading Buds for Students in Grade 2 and 7
Equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identity-affirming texts give all students the opportunity to see a variety of identities affirmed through stories. This connection is incredibly important especially when students’ lives differ from the dominant narrative often presented in mainstream texts and media. In those cases, finding texts that truly connect with all students can involve a focus on equity that uplift different ways of knowing and being. Texts provide a lens which offers children an opportunity to learn about who is important, who matters, who is visible. Identity-affirming texts foster positive self-conception and self-worth while improving a student’s overall academic engagement and success. All elementary schools have received a series of Identity Affirming Texts, we invite educators to uplift and center the following stories in April and beyond to open up conversations surrounding acceptance. In April we celebrate Autism Awareness Day, and International Day of Pink. Educators are invited to share the following stories: Neither By: Airlie Anderson Teo's Tutu By: Maryann Jacob Macias I am Perfectly Designed By: Karamo Brown • Today we recognize Pink Shirt Day. Discrimination takes many shapes, whether it’s based on race, age, disabilities, gender or sexuality. The 2SLGBTQIA+ community is no stranger to the bullying and violence that stems from hateful beliefs. While progress has been made towards removing these social barriers from our society, discrimination still persists.
Curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In response to the recommendations made in the Right To Read Report, Program & Learning and Special Education Services is implementing a trial of the screener Dibels8 (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) with the Grade 2 educators and Mrs. Pinelli one of our Primary Special Education Teachers • Mrs. Pinelli and Mrs. Ramos attending Reading Mastery training. It uses the highly explicit, systematic approach of Direct Instruction to accelerate reading and help students achieve a high rate of success.
Happenings/Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We welcome two co-op students from John Cabot school – Camilla working with Mrs. Ellery and Ms. Agban in Kindergarten and Ella with Mrs. Sanelli. We are hosting students from Guelph Humber - Cara working with Mrs. Ramos and Rebecca with Mrs. Pinelli. We are hosting students from Humber as well: Lin with Ms. Francone and Julia with Mrs. Pinelli • The Mississauga Fire Department observed our Fire Drill on March 9th – and offered a few suggestions but overall were happy with how we exited and cleared the building • In celebration of World Water Day (March 22), we took part in The Great Gulp

	<p>by taking a drink of tap water from a reusable bottle, glass, or mug, in regions where safe and healthy tap water is accessible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 8 Grad Photos were taken on March 24th • March 30th - Mrs. Chan and Mrs. Spadafina took our Junior and Intermediate Chess teams to St. Philip to participate in the Mississauga East Chess Tournament • Intermediate Basketball season is underway. Boys coaches: Mrs. Osborne, Mrs. Spadafina and Ms. Di Nunzio, Girls coaches: Mr. Deighan and Mrs. Sturzenbecher • Grades 4-8 classes participated in Birchbark sessions with Adam Thrasher from the Program Dept. in March. Adam presented a “Trees and Bark” multimedia presentation where students will be learning about the importance of trees and the bark of trees for humans, animals and the rest of the natural environment. • April 2nd was World Autism Day – we honoured it by wearing blue on April 3rd • Peel Public Health completed dental screening yesterday for participating students (Kinder, Grade 2, 4, 6, and 8). A form with the results of the dental screening was sent home with every child screened. If a child is identified with a dental condition requiring immediate dental treatment, an additional form will be attached for parents to fill in and return to Peel Public Health. The parent may be contacted by a dental staff member. A re-screening may be required. • Unfortunately, we had to cancel our Grade 8 Camp Muskoka trip only 27 out of 52 students had paid deposit.
Upcoming Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earth Week Spirit Week April 17-21 • Catholic Education Week – May 1-5. Have booked drumming workshops for K-3, STEAM Musical Instruments 4-6 and Indigenous Murals for Gr 7-8. Students will work on CEW activities provided by OCSTA and school will watch the Catholic Education week mass on May 3 • 50th Anniversary Wednesday, May 3, 2023. 5 pm Liturgy, followed by Open House. T-Shirts will arrive by end of April, invites out to dignitaries, ordered Butterfly cookies, Food Truck and ice cream truck will be in back • Journey into Learning Wednesday, May 10th • Grad 8 Graduation Mass – Wednesday, June 21st 6 pm at Sts. Peter & Paul Church