



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES

November 9, 2022
7:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.
Microsoft Teams

Attendees: Adriano Bomben, Kevin Sylvestre, Laura Deme, Amy Castellano, Maricielo Laviola, Monique Napier, Kelly Joseph, Nancy Skerlan, Caroline Ambrose, Nesha Ramdeen, Celia Oliveira, Monica Aidoo, Danny Brayall, Neveen Khouzam, Shantel Cooper, Vanessa Basten, Kristine Thususka, Brent Stead, Natasha Gilmore, Natasha Brown, Alexandra Lima, Vittoria Sergi, Altha McKenzie, Ananda Myers-Clarke, Evonnie Comrie

Guests: Cynthiha Head, Puja Tiwari, Nancy Kharab

Regrets: Karen Recinos, Bianca Mancini, Marisol Avila

Item	Highlights	Decision/Action Items	Assigned to
1.	Opening Prayer/Land Acknowledgement - delivered by Mr. Bomben.		
2.	Mr. Bomben welcomed all parents and guests to the meeting. The new School Council members were announced. Co-Chairs: Monique Napier and Kelly Joseph Treasurer: Marisol Avila Secretary: Nancy Skerlan OAPCE Rep: Carol McKnight Members: Bianca Mancini, Karen Recinos		
3.	Attendance taken by attendees adding name to chat.		
4.	October minutes were approved by Nesha Ramdeen and seconded by Caroline Ambrose.		
5.	Wellfort Community Health Services - Cynthia Head, Puja Tiwari, and Nancy Kharab - presented an overview of their services provided to eligible communities. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• They offer five main programs: Four Corners Community Health Centre in Malton Bramalea Community Health Centre Bloom Clinic (Hep C HIV Management Program) Diabetes Education Program Health 'n Smiles/Ontario Seniors Dental Program• They offer three new short-term programs: High Priority Community Strategy Immunization Partnership Fund		



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES

	<p>Covid, Cold, and Flu Care Clinic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Detailed information provided in presentation.• Cynthia requested attendees to complete a survey in the chat.		
6.	<p>School Reports</p> <p>Student Prime Minister report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Student council conducted successful Halloween activities, that included online costume competition and treat sales• The upcoming Connections night for Grade 9 students is on November 17, where spirit wear may be available for purchase• Student council is planning for Christmas and student council activities• They are looking forward to Remembrance Day performances from the band, dancers, and singers. <p>Teacher Representative report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Terry Fox run raised \$7728.10.• Grade 9 and 10 RAP visual arts students toured the McMichael Gallery and participated in workshops.• On November 18, the Tour for Humanity bus will be available for students to view.• The Christmas Outreach team will have a fundraiser for families in need through school cash online from November 21 until December 15. Will also do Adopt a Family initiative.• The RAP Open House is scheduled for November 10.• Grade 9 Connections nights will be held on November 17.• The Student Leadership conference will be held on November 24, for aspiring leaders in grade 9 and 10.• November 25 is a PA day.• December 17 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. is Rouge, A Christmas Festival. All families and community members are welcome to attend. There will be craft tables and performances.• The biannual Arts Show will be held on December 20 from 5p.m. – 8 p.m. <p>Chaplain report:</p>		



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Bomben advised that Ms Novak is still on leave. Teachers are filling in to fulfill the duties of the chaplain until Ms Novak returns or a replacement can be found. <p>Principal report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The RAP Open house is on November 10. The Grade 8 Open House will be held on November 24 from 6:30 -8:30 p.m. for all feeder schools and those that are interested. <p>No reports from Vice Principals.</p>		
<p>6.</p>	<p>School Council Reports</p> <p>Co-chairs report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-Chair Kelly Joseph attended the Central Committee for Catholic School Councils (CCCSC) meeting with Mr. Bomben. Kelly is an alternate member for this council. The goal is to promote parent involvement in Catholic Schools. Mr. Bomben advised that it was a great turnout and it brings the chairs together from other councils with a focus on increasing parent involvement. <p>Treasurer report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Bomben advised that there is a Parent Reaching Out (PRO) Grant worth \$500 and approximately \$1000 for the council's activities. <p>Secretary: nothing to report OAPCE Rep: nothing to report</p>		
<p>7.</p>	<p>New business</p> <p>Review of council mandate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Bomben advised that the council mandate is to support the school, the students, the administration, and the parents. The focus should be on what the students need and how the parents can support it. He would like to see the school as a community hub, and parent involvement is a significant part of this. <p>Council budget:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Bomben advised that the council can form subcommittees and fundraise for its activities and events to benefit students. School can apply for the 	<p>Apply for PRO Grant</p>	<p>Mr. Bomben</p>



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES

	<p>PRO grant. The school has money to support the council’s activities.</p> <p>Updating the school website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Bomben advised that a staff member will add the agenda and minutes to the school website. <p>Discussion about students attending the city council meetings to observe how the council works and being prepared for job search.</p> <p>RAP students are doing a poinsettia fundraiser this month for the spring New York trip. The Rouge event has tables available for craft sales. Vendors must be approved by the board.</p> <p>Subcommittees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subcommittees are permitted and can garner more interest from parents, based on needs or events happening at school. The subcommittee would be a branch of the school council and communication would filter through the council co-chairs. Parents can submit ideas to the info inbox with ideas. RAP has a newsletter for parents and would like to produce a calendar. Mr. Bomben will contact Celia. Questions about sports teams at the school were brought up. Mr. Bomben advised that the issue is finding enough coaches and teachers to run the teams and getting the reference checks completed on time. Can look at teams for future years and potential subcommittee for this. Student wellbeing and parent involvement was brought up. Mr. Bomben will connect with Caroline. Suggestion that mental wellness/health and safety subcommittee may be beneficial. Mr. Bomben suggests having CYW or social workers attend a school council meeting to provide info on what’s already happening in the school. <p>Next meeting format to be decided by survey sent out by Mr. Bomben.</p>	<p>Update school council webpage</p> <p>Contact Celia regarding the RAP newsletter.</p> <p>Contact Caroline regarding her concerns. Invite school CYW or Social Worker to a school council meeting</p> <p>Send survey to attendees to determine location</p>	<p>Mr. Bomben</p> <p>Mr. Bomben</p> <p>Mr. Bomben</p> <p>Mr. Bomben</p>
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ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES

		preference for next meeting.	
8.	Closing prayer by Mr. Bomben.		
	Adjournment 8:42 p.m.		

Future Meeting Dates		
Date	Time	Location
December 7, 2022	7 p.m.	TBD
February 1, 2023	7 p.m.	TBD
April 5, 2023	7 p.m.	TBD
June 7, 2023	7 p.m.	TBD