

St. Teresa of Avila Catholic School Parent Council Meeting

Meeting date: April 24, 2024

Location: St. Teresa of Avila Catholic School Library

Start time: 6:00 pm

Attendees- Cristina Roda- Principal, Ken Jim- parent at large, Bobbi Wilson- Secretary, Brenda Morales- OAPCE rep, Linda Marcuzzi- Vice Principal, Jenn Ballard- Teacher rep, Michelle Thompson- Chair, Claudia Coniglio-ERW, Stacey McLeod- Treasurer and Fundraising rep, Nina Graham- Fundraising, Ola Salvador- Parent Rep, Ms. Pimentel

Absent- Brea Corbett- Trustee, Tara Chapel- parent rep, Hilda Firempong- parent, Nathaniel Boateng- parent, Tara Chappu-parent, Gillian Elango- Parish rep, Ida Lotesto- Teacher rep, Madymba Noord-parent

Introductions—Welcome everyone!

Opening Prayer

Land Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge we are on the sacred ground of the indigenous territory and thank the Mississauga's of the First Credit Nation for being stewards of this land.

Review of the previous minutes- Approved by Michelle Thompson, Seconded by Bobbi Wilson. Unanimously approved.

DPCDSB Budget review- Group participated in listening to the Board lead, public consultation delivered by webinar.

Chair report –Lunch sales are going extremely well and running smoothly however, the leads will be seeking more student support for the remainder of the year.

Currently looking at the possibility of utilizing Pizza Nova for pizza lunches for the next school year.

Parish Report- No update

Treasurer report- The earnings and expense balance sheet sit at approximately \$14,283. Deductions have not yet been removed for Grade 8 graduation, Gibits, and technology which will result in an approximate reduction of \$7000. Remaining pizza days for the May and June will help supplement the balance at year end.

The school has requested to utilize \$7000 to paint and refresh the library over the summer months. This idea was discussed and unanimously approved by the council.

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There is approximately \$20,000 of funding in the bank that was received through student family payments for specific items such as field trips, fundraisers, grants, and other events. Deductions from this balance have yet been completed. It is anticipated that at least \$3000 will be leftover and the balance will be used to help with the Student Nutrition program start up in the new school year.

Bike racks arrived earlier this year and are anticipated to be installed soon.

CCCSC-no updates

OAPCE- The annual conference was in held April and the next meeting is May 29th.

Principal's report-

Catholic Faith Life

- St. John of the Cross-Sacraments – All information with regards to sacraments will be communicated through the church, school newsletter, and school email.
- Daily morning prayers are held at 8:35am each morning.
- Staff liturgies held monthly through Adult Faith Ambassadors
- Monthly Virtue assemblies- each grade/division asked to sign-up.
- Monthly in-person visits from the Rosary Apostolate (3rd Wednesday of each month)
- Full School Lenten retreat occurred on Holy Thursday, all students participated in faith-based activities, and then gathered together for the Stations of the Cross. All students received Lenten Pretzels.
- St. John of the Cross Sacraments- completed. First Communion just happened last weekend.
- Hope Stone Retreats coming in for Grades 5 & 6 on May 3rd, and for Grades 7 & 8 May 29th, 2024.
- Earth Day- Stewardship of the Earth- students participated in an assembly, and then took turns cleaning up the yard.
- Peel Health is partnering with the school to provide all staff and students with reusable bento-style lunch boxes. Assembly happening on Friday, April 26, 2024, in collaboration with the EGELT and Mme. Ballard's class.
- Catholic Education Week: We are all Called to Love (May 6- May 10)
- Monday-Coding Gallery, Journey into Learning (pm)
- Tuesday: Mental Health Awareness Day (also Mental Health Week)
- Wednesday: Multicultural Showcase- 1pm- all parents invited, Provincial Mass (AM)
- Thursday- Shining Stars
- Friday: Avila Day! - activities planned for the day, as well as a special treat of freezies!
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Liturgy-May 17th, 2024 (supported by Rosary Apostolates & Classes)- 2 presentation- 1 for the Primary, and 1 for the Junior/Intermediates
- New Board Logo- We all Belong- featured in our Foyer.

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- New Family Life Curriculum- details will be shared at the May meeting.

Instructional

- Math PLCs happening with grades 2 and grade 5- final gathering happening tomorrow, April 25th at Our Lady of Mount Carmel
- Scientist in the School of various classrooms throughout the month of March (supported by Experiential Learning Grant and through the Voluntary Student Fee)
- Literacy Training has been underway for all teachers currently teaching SK, Grade 1 and Grade 2 (screener training)
- Multi-Year Strategic Plan- bookmarks were shared with all students outlining the Multi-Year Strategic Plan (Believe, Excel, Respect, Thrive & Trust)
- EQAO has been scheduled for the Grade 3 and Grade 6 classes.
- Grade 3- June 5, 6, & 7
- Grade 6- May 28, 29 & 30
- Extracurricular
- Intermediate boys' and girls' basketball just finished. Intermediate Girls POD tournament held at St. Teresa of Avila on Friday, April 12, 2024. Intermediate Boys participated in their pod tournament at Our Lady of Mercy and were able to advance to the Family-Level tournament at St. Aloysius Gonzaga. Unfortunately, they did not advance to the boards, but displayed sportsmanship, grace and resilience.
- Intermediate girls' and boys' soccer is underway- tournament date is still to be determined. Originally scheduled for May 24, 2024, it was at first rescheduled for May 23rd. This doesn't work for Avila, as this is the same day as our Graduation trip. Principal has appealed to the Athletic rep to look at an alternate date- as many schools planned their events around this opportunity.
- PALS continues to occur over lunch recess.
- DPA club is happening in classrooms- intermediate students are representatives.
- Coding club and Hacker Girl is still happening over lunch.
- Choir continues to prepare for faith gatherings & for Catholic Education Week- Multicultural Showcase
- Grade 7 & 8 Skills Ontario Career Awareness Workshops- May 6th. Free opportunity for students
- Construction Skills competition occurred on March 19, 2024: St. Teresa of Avila sent a team to build a model house out of materials, they had 4 1 / 2 hours, it had to support 10 pounds. Our Team won first place!
- Wellness Leadership Conference- April 19th, 2024- Keynote speakers, wellness training for the four students sent- they will bring this information back to the school for Tuesday, May 7, 2024. (Mental Health and Wellness Day)
- World Autism Day was acknowledged by St. Teresa of Avila by hoisting the Flag on April 2, 2024, and by students participating in creating hands in support of those on the spectrum. St. Teresa of Avila currently supports

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- twenty students on the spectrum, with more students joining the community in the fall.
- Eco Schools- Big Crunch, we provided all apples to the students, the big gulp also occurred. Through a collaborative effort, St. Teres of Avila scored gold for Eco Schools, however had enough points for Platinum!
 - The annual perennial drive begins to coincide with the Our Lady of Guadalupe presentation. Messaging to be sent to families soon.
 - Lacrosse Workshop for school- February 20th and 21st Inuit Games happened on March 26, 2024
 - Track and Field Day talking place on May 14, 2024 (students grades 5-8)
 - Walking Wednesday Wellness Club happening each week supported by CYW, P. Brathwaite, and SW G. Grant. All invited to attend!
 - Youth Faith Ambassadors Social Justice Club
 - Coming together to prepare our Multi-Cultural Showcase- Talent and Fashion Show
 - Various staff involved- from all over the school.
 - Slide deck shared with staff to use in their classrooms.
 - CYW in classrooms doing class presentations surrounding mental health and wellness.
 - Social Justice emphasis- Portugal
 - Slide deck shared with teachers- display of books in the foyer around the map.

General Updates

- Weather continues to be closely monitored- making calls about whether the recess is indoor or outdoor.
- See/Hear Clinic occurred at the school in March.
- Peel Vaccine Clinic back in June for the Grade 7 & 8 vaccines
- DPA Committee- through the Peel Health Nurse
- PALS- up and running with the CYW and teacher support.
- Board game club for primary students
- Lunch options are popular- students have been taking advantage of all food options- pizza remains the most successful- Looking at other providers for next year- just to remain competitive.
- Breakfast club is alive and well! Staff and community volunteers support daily with cooking, cleaning, and entertainment- we have reapplied to PC School Lunches, and we hope to receive the funding again for next year.
- Book Fair is happening at the school During the week of April 29, 2024- May 3, 2024. Parents welcome to the school over lunch to make purchases in they wish.
- Jibbits purchased for sale- funds raised used to enhance student activities- very popular with students past and present.
- Bike racks purchased by Council will be installed soon, now that the weather is favorable.

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- School has been completely painted, including the school office. Fresh new look for the school!
- Ice-Cream truck has been booked and paid for through SGF for playday.
- Class placements process has begun- work in progress, parent requests are always honoured where possible.

Other: The grade 8's will be spending the day in Toronto as part of the Grade 8 celebrations this year. They will be visiting Ripley's, CN Tower, and Medieval Times as a group. The graduation ceremony will be held at Trinity Hall where there will be awards and presentations in the morning followed by a luncheon for the children. In the afternoon, the children will have a dance back at the school.

A new French Immersion teacher just hired to replace Mrs. Speers who just went on a leave. leaving May June covering.

Meeting ended: 7:50 pm

Next meeting dates: 6 pm at the library- Next meeting: May 22, 2025.