

St. Teresa of Avila Catholic School Parent Council Meeting

Meeting date: January 24, 2024

Location: St. Teresa of Avila Catholic School Library

Start time: 6:00 pm

Attendees- Cristina Roda- Principal, Ida Lotesto- Teacher rep, Jenn Ballard- Teacher rep, Gillian Elango- Parish rep, Hilda Firempong- parent, Nathaniel Boateng- parent, Tara Chappu-parent, Michelle Thompson- Chair, Claudia Coniglio-ERW, Brenda Morales- OAPCE rep, Nina Graham- Fundraising rep, Bobbi Wilson- Secretary, Linda Marcuzzi- Vice Principal

Zoom attendance- Stacey McLeod- Treasurer and Fundraising rep, Madymba Nourd-parent

Absent- Brea Corbett- Trustee, Ken Jim- parent at large, Tara Chapel- parent rep, Nina Graham- Fundraising

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.

Chair report –Lunch sales are going extremely well and help to fund much needed additional supplies for the school.

- Request for parent council to support an expense of \$750 for a carpet in Ms. Adjei's class and for \$590 for another set of recorders used by the Grade 8's. These requests were approved during the meeting.

Parish Report- Father Felix is leaving St. John on the Cross Parish at the end of February 2024 and will be moving to St. Martin of Tours Parish.

Treasurer report- The balance is sitting at approximately \$6,237.

Council member update- A new book club/study hall time will be offered at recess on Wednesdays for children who may be interested in attending. More information to come.

St. Teresa of Avila Catholic School Parent Council Meeting

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)
- ShareLife donations underway- staff luncheons serve to support, as well as school initiatives.
- Reconciliation is happening at the school on February 27, 2024

Instructional

- Math PLCs happening with grades 2 and grade 5- POD approach- meeting three times together at Our Lady of Mount Carmel SS to collaborate and co-plan.
- Increased emphasis on math fidelity
- Visit from the Math Consultant to meet with grades 3 / 4- 8 teachers, unpacking technological resources.
- Math Consultant will visit again in May to future plan
- Email sent to families outlining support for math at home- math sites.
- Math survey being completed in school.

Extracurricular

- Junior boys and girls' basketball is underway- invitational tournament happened on Tuesday Jan 23 and Wednesday Jan 24. Pod tournament with the family of school is upcoming- dates to be determined. No spectators at pod tournaments
- Junior girls' and boys' soccer is underway- invitational tournament happening on Jan 30th and Jan 31st. We only opted for a junior team because there will be intermediate socce3r tournament in Mississauga North in May.
- Chess Club has started- they are meeting over lunch
- 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

Youth Faith Ambassadors Social Justice Club

- Mental Health and Wellness awareness week- Jan 22- Jan 26

St. Teresa of Avila Catholic School Parent Council Meeting

- Students encouraged to wear blue- giveaways in each classroom of the Bell Let's Talk toques
- Daily dance the blues away moments
- Slide deck shared with staff to use in their classrooms
- CYW in classrooms doing class presentations surrounding mental health and wellness
- Social Justice emphasis- China
- 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
- 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.
- Sadat supporting Black History month with virtual resources and activities
- Lacross Workshop for school- February 20th and 21st.
- Inuit Games is coming in on March 26, 2024
- Eco is a shared effort- all classes are participating.
- Breakfast club is alive and well! Staff and community volunteers support daily with cooking, cleaning and entertainment.
- Scientists in the School offered to all classes. Paid through school budget.
- PA Day change from May 17th to April 8th due to Solar Eclipse. Memo sent to families

Parish report- Father Felix is going by March 1st, Feb 28 last day. school can do St Martin of Tours parish

OAPCE- The theme this year is "Celebrate OAPCE 85: A Yearlong Celebration of Change, Commitment, and Catholic Education". As part of our celebration, we are excited to unveil our new logo, symbolizing our unwavering dedication to families in Catholic education.

Stay Connected: Visit the new OAPCE website www.oapce.org to access the launch of our new and engaging blog series. OAPCE is thrilled to introduce its freshly launched website, coinciding with a significant milestone – the celebration of our 85th anniversary! This newly revamped digital hub is designed to empower parents with a wealth of resources, essential information, and advocacy tools while emphasizing the critical role parents hold as the primary educators of their children.

St. Teresa of Avila Catholic School Parent Council Meeting

85th Annual Conference 2024 at a Glance Friday April 12 and Saturday April 13, 2024 in TORONTO! The two-day weekend starts with a meet 'n' greet on the Friday evening. The all-day Conference on the Saturday with speakers, a Vendor Mall and a Mass Celebration, ending with a Gala Dinner and Awards. His Grace, Archbishop Leo will be a keynote as well lead us in mass in this celebratory year. Minister of Education Stephen Lecce will also be in attendance as well as other dignitaries! Stay tuned for more information to come!

Next meeting is Feb 8th.

CCCSC- no report

Action Items-

Shrove Tuesday- February 13, 2024- Stacy, Ken, Bobbi, Benda will be helping to make and serve pancakes at the school population. This cost is estimated to be about \$400 from the parent council funds. Last year, this was a huge success! Anyone who would like to help support, please contact the parent council.

Parent question- Class trips are decided by a list of Board approved excursions that undergo an arduous process for selection. Some parents of the grade 2&3 classes shared some concerns related to suitability of the trip to the Benares Museum given the ages of the children and questioned the skills of the attending instructor. Mrs. Roda will follow up.

Meeting ended: 6:45 pm

Next meeting dates: 6 pm at the library- Next meeting: March 27, 2025, May 22, 2025.