



**St. Bernard of Clairvaux  
Catholic Elementary School**

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**Catholic School Council 2020-2021  
Thursday, May 27 6:30 p.m. via Zoom**

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

**School Organization**

**1. Student Population and Projections**

As of today, we currently have 461 students learning in the Hybrid model and 103 students learning in the Remote model.

Projections for the fall are for 499 total – Hybrid model only. There will not be a Remote only model.

**2. Staffing**

- a. All permanent staff were given their tentative assignments on March 12, 2021.
- b. September's projections have us staffed with 21 classes plus 1 Needs Moderate/Needs Severe class and 1 Special Education Resource Class for a total of 22.5 classes.
- c. Drop in population means that we are currently in a surplus position. As of today, there are 3 teachers and 1 DECE declared surplus. This status is currently in flux due to staff transfers, leaves, resignations etc as of March 12, 2021. The 3 surplus teachers *may return* September 2021 should staff circumstances change before August 31, 2021.
- d. We have been informed that our allocation of 2.0 secretarial staff will remain for the 2021-2022 year.
- e. We have had several positions over the current school year that have presented challenges with delivery of curriculum, assessment and evaluation – these jobs have been inconsistently unfilled, with no supply teachers and when possible, only filled with Emergency Instructors (who are usually parents). We thank parents/guardians for their understanding this year as we've worked to navigate these staffing challenges.

**3. Kindergarten – Journey into Learning – May 5, 2021**

We had our *Journey into Learning* evening with parents who are new to our school.

As of today, we have 31 new FDK students coming in September (2 SK and 29 JK – of which 4 are JK Flex). We are awaiting documents for 2 more new JK students.

Our total numbers for FDK for September is 66 students: 31 new students + 35 returning

**Literacy and Numeracy & Excellence in Student Achievement**

**1. Progress Reports & FDK Communication of Learning**

These will be digitally issued to students on June 22, 2021.

**2. Gr. 8 Transition Meetings for St. Joan of Arc C.S.S.**

We will be meeting with the staff of St. Joan of Arc CSS to discuss transitions of all our Gr. 8 students who are going to attend the school this September. These meetings help to prepare the secondary school for the transition of these students in the fall.

### 3. **Virtual Field Trips and Presentations**

Our classes have all been participating in a variety of virtual excursions that include Scientists-in-the-School, the National Ballet of Canada , Canadian Space and Aviation Museum, Google Education, Peel Safety Village, Coding Camp, Alectra Utilities Electricity presentation, Indigenous education, mental health and well-being and more!

### 4. **Black History Month and beyond**

Many thanks to Ms. Tanya Russell, for her presentation on anti-Black racism and her discussion with parents regarding this at our last meeting. It was very well-received. We hope to do more presentations like this in the new school year.

As part of our work to honour and celebrate Black heritage and history and to bring greater awareness to not just our students, but staff also, our staff have been engaged in mandatory professional development around equity and anti-Black racism education. Administration in our family of schools are also studying the book *White Supremacy and Me* by Layla F. Saad. In the fall we will be doing a school-wide study of this text as well as looking at *Cultivating Genius* by Ghouly Muhammed, which focuses on culturally responsive teaching. Staff will also be looking deeper into colonialism as part of staff professional development this upcoming school year.

## **Health & Safety**

1. **Fire Drills and Lockdown Practices:** Due to COVID protocols and school closures, we have not been able to complete the required number of Fire Drills, Lockdown drills and Shelter-in-Place. Prior to the closure, these were only discussed only with classes. We continue to await further direction about this from the board.

2. **Student Safety – Arrival & Dismissal**

On February 8, 2021, our school, along with St. Faustina and St. Sebastian, launched the Safe Arrival absence reporting system. All absences and lates should now be reported by parents/guardians through this app.

3. **COVID-19 Staff & Student Safety**

We continue to receive updates from Peel Public Health, the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Labour and our board regarding direction and recommendations on procedures and protocols.

As always, we continue to be vigilant in keeping students and staff safe and enforcing appropriate health and safety protocols as directed.

I continue to report to the Ministry of Education daily, the number of student and staff absences in relation to COVID-19.

## **Catholic Community, Culture and Caring**

1. **Pastoral Planning**

At this time, we are working to arrange a year-end mass next month with Fr. Mark. The church will livestream this for all our feeder schools and will be available for viewing offline.

2. **Sacramental Dates**

The church is in direct communication regarding information about dates for First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Parent meetings for all schools will be confirmed and notices will be sent from the church.

**3. Virtue Assemblies**

All of our virtual presentations have been going well and students and staff have gotten used to this new way of coming together.

**4. Eco-Schools**

Our annual application for Eco-School certification was completed by our Eco-Leads Mrs. Lopez and Mr. Derry. We will await the review of our application and report the results in the fall. Teachers continue to work with students to support understanding and learning about stewardship of our environment.

**5. Grade 8 Graduation**

We have tentatively booked Graduation photos with Edge Imaging for June 9<sup>th</sup>. Our virtual graduation liturgy and ceremony is booked for June 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. A letter was sent home to parents regarding details. Unfortunately, nothing can be confirmed at this time due to the stay-at-home order and other directives regarding gatherings and coming into the school building. More information will be sent out to parents as it is received. We thank parents/guardians in advance for their understanding.

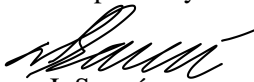
**6. End-of-Year -- Pickup of student belongings and return of school materials by students/parents**

Depending on further news and direction from the government and Peel Public Health, this is yet undetermined. Once known, this will be communicated to parents/guardians via School Messenger and posted on Google Classroom.

**Thank you!**

Much respect, admiration, and love to our CSC members: April Pickering-Torresan, Patricia Pehar and Lori Verri, who are leaving us this year to go to St. Joan of Arc CSS! Your contributions, dedication, and commitment to our students and school community have been invaluable over these many, many years. Your organization, thoroughness and attention to detail have been unmatched and you all leave very big shoes to fill. On behalf of our St. Bernard of Clairvaux Catholic Elementary School community, teachers, and staff, we wish you all the best as you move on to new adventures in secondary school! May God bless you and your families richly. We have been privileged and honoured to have you be with us on council all these years. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,



I. Sauvé  
Principal