



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL SECONDARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

*“Our mission, based on the values of Christ, through the guidance of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, is to involve family, parish, community, and members of the school community.
In fostering a positive, caring, and Catholic environment by providing input, advice and support.”*

MONDAY, Oct 2, 2023 – APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order: 6:30 PM – at Mount Carmel.

Welcome offered by Neisma Peredo.

Members in Attendance:

Jennifer Varnam – Principal
Mary Ambrogio– Vice Principal
Nancy Tsiobanas – Vice Principal
Michelle Cholette – Teaching staff
J McLevey – Non teaching staff
Neisma Peredo
Brenda Kennedy
Georgena Skariah
Tricia Simon
Katiana Cisneros Panza
Martha Major
Shazia Soorma

Parents in Attendance:

Christina Rodriguez
Cavell Lopez
Vanessa Colettas
Sharon Pereira
Sheema Ali
Jimmy Vargas

Regrets: Nil

Absent: Gulshan Tanveer, Jungbahadur Kirpanz, Syeda Mahnaz Niaz.

Opening Prayer: McCleavey, Our Father

Approval of the May 10, 2023 Minutes: Motion made by Neisma, seconded by Katiana

Approval of the Oct 02, 2023 Agenda: Motion made by Neisma, seconded by Georgena.

Council Nomination and Members:

Neisma Peredo – Returning Chair
Tricia Simon – Returning Treasurer
Vanessa Colettas – Secretary
Georgena Skariah – OAPCE rep

Parent Committee Members:

Cavell Lopez
Katiana Cisneros Panza
Christina Rodrigues
Shazia Soorma

Non-Teaching Rep

Jim McLevey

Teaching Rep

Michelle Cholette

The meeting was called to order at 6:47 PM.

Councillor Ward 10 Report – Sue McFadden (647-297-9889):

- The Councillor introduced her EA – Mr. David Raakman
- The Councillor talked about the new expansion along the Ninth Line stretch.
- There will be Automated Speed Enforcement Cameras (mobile cameras) introduced from end of this year. This is to curb the speeding issues in front of school street.
- Her Executive Assistant, Mr. David Raakman, also gave us a detailed explanation of the study done to determine the locations of the cameras.

Trustee Report – Brea Corbet:

- She explained her role in detail and a preview of the allocation for the board funds.

Treasurer's Report: Tricia Simon

- The opening balance was \$1,635.43.
- \$1500 was paid towards 360° classroom and relevant literature for School library from Latin American authors.
- \$100 was paid for one student who won the 2023 School Council award.
- The closing balance is \$35.43

Parish Report: There is no update for this period.

OAPCE Report: Katiana Panza - There is no update for this period.

Teaching Staff Report: Michelle Chloette

- Good turnout for Get Ready- engaged and well behaved, large cohort
- Truth and Reconciliation week, OLMC is will be participating in a school wide project to build awareness for survivors of the residential school system and those who didn't make it home, leading up to Orange Shirt Day.
- Announcements stories from Survivors, Pins were distributed.
- SST:
 - Students in need of supplies can see Mrs DoRego in 118. Mathify tutoring is available and can be used during school hours and weekends.
 - Monthly Euro Trip Meetings- Versailles option in the works.

- Student Council:
 - Oct 3 - Grade 12 Spirit Wear –Gradwear Voting
 - Oct 12 - Club Fair – library during Lunch; Grade 9 Social- 4:30 – 8:30pm
 - Oct 31 - Halloween Costume Contest- Oct 31
- Guidance Council:
 - Oct 4th - College University Fair
 - Oct 5th – Terry Fox day
 - Yes4MH- Mental Health Club, awareness of supports
- Sports:
 - Tennis- no one qualified but it was a great season
 - Junior Tennis Tournament is on October 12th – hope to qualify for OFSAA.

Non-Teaching Staff Report:

- **Thanksgiving Food Drive** - runs until Thursday, October 5. All donations will go to Eden Food for Change and Canadian Food for Children.
- Our **Opening School Mass** was a success - students were challenged by Fr. Felix to reflect on their goals for the year.
- **Retreats** are happening. Grade 9 students go to Rattlesnake Point for a hike symbolizing the high school journey. Grade 10 students go to Dr. Simone's - Canadian Food for Children. Grade 11 students go to ReGen in Brampton to serve meals. Grade 12 students go downtown to serve lunches to the homeless.
- The Chaplaincy Group - **SERVE** has started to meet every week. They are crocheting hats and mittens for an Indigenous Community in Labrador. They are also helping to make donations to a local food table and have plans to help at Christmas. There are 75 students in the group.
- The **Salesian Leadership Retreat** takes place in Orangeville from October 11-13, and we have 5 Grade 11 students going on the Retreat.
- The **Day of Hope** is happening on Thursday, November 30. Approximately 200 students will spend a day of service in the GTA.

Principal's Report: Jennifer Varnam

- The Principal mentioned that the Trustee, Brea Corbet, is improving washrooms at the school.
- Students are encouraged to go to the office regarding shortage of supplies in the washroom.
- Non-Catholics are not expected to pray, however they are expected to respect the religion.
- 10 of the portables will be removed.
- The use of lockers has been enforced – jackets, etc are to be kept in the locker.
- If students are sick, they can request their teachers for a few more days for assignment submission or tests. For more information, you may contact the Vice Principal.
- Parent Teacher interviews are scheduled on 19-Oct-2023.

Chairperson's Report: Neisma Peredo

After discussion with the Council, it was decided that the uniform sale will be held on Oct 19, 2023 from 5pm. Tricia will lead the event.

Adjournment: 8:30 PM.

Motion made by Neisma, seconded by Katiana.

Closing Prayer: Neisma Peredo: Oh Lord

Next Meeting: Monday, December 4, 2023. All are welcome wholeheartedly.

Future Tentative Meeting dates:

Monday, December 4, 2023 @6:30pm in school library

Monday, March 4th, 2023 @6:30pm in school library

Monday, May 13th, 2023 @6:30pm in school library