

St. Daniel Comboni Catholic Elementary School

Catholic School Council Minutes

Meeting Date: May 25th, 2023 @ 6:45pm (In-Person)

Attendees:

M. Thompson,
M. Rousseau,
A. Marchao,
R. Maamari,
L. Toste-Marchao,
V. Bachoo,
D. Samaroo,
D. Boutillier,
M. Sousa

1. Opening Prayer.
2. Land Acknowledgement – We would like to acknowledge that our meeting is taking part on the Treaty Lands of the Mississaugas of the Credit and thank them for being the ongoing Stewards of this traditional territory.
3. Agenda – Anthony Marchao presented.
4. Approval of Minutes – Approved By: R. Maamari and A. Marchao
5. Treasurer's Report – Presented by M. Thompson
 - Bank Balance as of May 24th, 2023, **\$16,587.63**
 - Bank Charges N/A and O/S Cheque/Disbursements \$1,708.20 Sports Equip, \$431.41 Indoor Recess Activities and \$3,033.74 Coding Robots along with \$1,500.00 FDK Wish Lists
 - O/S Deposits \$1,156.70 Movie Night, \$6,119.12 Valentine's Dance Donations and \$2,640.00 Big Box Fundraiser Parent Council Grant and \$7000.00 Valentine's Dance.
 - Estimated bank balance **\$17,000.00**
 - Fund Ear marking:
 - \$3,000 School gym score board
 - \$7,500 Technology enhancement (Chromebooks, etc.)

- \$1,500 Graduation and Passing of the Faith Ceremonies
- Estimated opening Balance for Council September 2023 **\$5,000.00**

6. Principal's Report – Presented by M. Thompson

- Community
 - Intermediate girls' basketball team won the boards.
 - Softball team went to semi finals.
 - Coding session was a success.
 - Intermediates went to Poetry Slam.
 - Equity and Movie
 - Drama Club coming up – Idea is to put on a full theatre production at the school.
- Snack Cart Program
 - YMCA \$2,500 grant to provide healthy snacks to students requiring an additional snack such as fruit, Vegetables, granola, cheese, yogurts etc.
 - Program will help teach inclusion. Every Day from 2pm to 2:30pm
 - Presidents Choice granted \$15,000.00.
- Faith
 - Youth Faith Ambassadors along with Mrs. Steflik's class hosted assemblies' gym as students participated in the crowning of Holy Mary.
 - Year end school mass will be held June 14th at Guardian Angels Parish. Kinders will be bused over (Cost being absorbed by the school) and Grades 1 to 8 will buddy up and walk over to the church. Mass will begin promptly at 10am and families are welcome to join us.
- Sacraments
 - 1st Communion Sacrament – April 30th at 3pm – The day was beautiful.
 - Confirmation Sacrament – May 23rd at 7pm – A lovely and spiritual evening.
 - Sacramental Buddy Retreat Day Grade 2's and Grade 7's came together to share bread, read scripture and participate in religious coming together activities.
- Teacher Allocations/Placements
 - Current Students 657 – Projected 705 for Sept 2023
 - Current Staff leaving: Mr. Amodeo, Mrs. Heinisch and Ms. Calulatti.
 - Welcoming New Staff to the school.
 - Barbosa Gr.6/7
 - Toletto Gr. 2/3

- Stewart Gr. 2/3
- Scott-Gums Gr. 1
- Interviews are still on going to fill LTO and ERW positions.
- Class placements have been completed with teacher input with regard to pairing with friends and personalities and academic independence. These placements are tentative and may always change before September and then again during re-organization day September 15th, 2023.
- New School set to begin construction Spring/Summer 2023 with a projected opening of Sept 2024 has been delayed 2-4 years.
- Secondary Students Grade 9's are currently being shuttled to Notre Dame as Campion as reached its capacity.
- Flex boundaries will not be allowed for another 1 ½ to 1 years.
- Looking to receive 2-3 new portables for September as grades 5 to 7 will be located outside in the portables.
- Balanced Day Schedule
 - We are currently in talks with teachers, Boards and Community families in hopes of changing our current lunch and break schedules as the school is quite large and we currently have multiple bells going off.
 - The idea is to change our day from 2 recess breaks and 1 lunch to 2 nutrition breaks thus providing teachers and students with larger learning blocks (100 minutes of uninterrupted learning)
 - School would still be split Grades 1 to 3 and Grades 4 to 8 as the school is quite large.
 - Schedule would like something like this:
 - 9:16am to 10:56am – 100 minutes of instruction.
 - 10:57am to 11:37am – 20 minutes Inside/20 minutes outside. (1 block would be in to eat while the other block out then switches)
 - 11:37am to 1:16pm – 100 minutes of instruction.
 - 1:16pm to 2:06pm - 25 minutes Inside/25 minutes outside. (1 block would be in to eat while the other block out then switches)
 - 2:06pm to 3:45pm – 100 minutes of instruction.
 - Staggered entry and dismissal would still occur. FDK at 3:30 and Grades 1-3 at 3:40pm.

- This change also allows for class to enjoy more DPA time outdoors with their own classes as well as each class will be allotted 20 minutes of DPA (Daily Physical Activity) as part of their schedule.
 - SERC classes will still run between 9:16am to 12:36am following the first nutrition break schedule.
- Outdoor Learning Area
 - Currently looking into creating an outdoor learning classroom.
 - Looking to Co-ordinate with St. Bonaventure.
 - Cost of this initiative would be \$20,000.00 Plus.
- Grad trip and Graduation
 - Grade 8's will be heading out to Ottawa on their over night trip next week.
 - June 26th, 2023, at 7pm.
 - Approximately 50 Grads
 - Council will begin the tradition "Passing of the Faith."
 - Grade 8's will participate in a liturgy with the SK students and provide them crosses as they begin their new journey.
 - Council to Support Lunch and Crosses
- Summer Camp
 - St. Daniel Comboni has volunteered to host "Camp Discovery."
 - This program will be free to students, but no transportation is provided.
 - It will run for 3 weeks July 4 to July 21 from 8am to 2pm.
 - 5 Classes of 15 students each with a focus on Math and Language.
 - Students were selected by their teachers and the Requirement was that each student needed to be a "C" Level and required extra support as they entered into the next grade in September.
 - 6 teachers are required to run the program (4 from our school and 2 outsourced)
- School Asks
 - We have a most beautiful gym and love hosting tournaments here– But we are lacking a scoreboard.
 - Approx. cost of a Scoreboard is \$9,000 (\$6000 for the board and \$3000 for installation).
 - Lead Time is 12-14 weeks for order and installation.
 - School funds from Pizza days do cover many different disbursements around the school such as trips, transportation, sacramental activities, in school presenters and other treats.

- School is asking Council to support this purchase. The ask is \$3000 from school generated funds and \$3000 from Catholic School Council funds.
 - All were in favour.
- Book Fair
 - Our book fair during Catholic education week profited the school approximately \$1,500.00.
 - That money has allowed the school to purchase the IFly reading Phonic Program for the primary grades.
- Open House
 - Next open house will be on Wednesday September 27th, 2023.
 - Will be hosting another Book Fair along with the open house.
 - Council will be looking to prebook Desert trucks for the evening. (Ice Cream, Funnel cakes. Crepes and beaver tails etc.)
 - Possible BBQ.

7. Teachers Report - D. Boutilier and V. Bachoo

- Kindergarten –indoor learning supports wish lists have been submitted for approval.
- 6 FDK Classes at a request of \$250.00 per class.
- Primary, Junior and Intermediate looking for outdoor equipment or indoor recess activities. Bags of small outdoor equipment per class (Mesh Bag, Skipping ropes, balls etc.)
- Total cost spent \$2,139.61.
- Looking to purchase an additional 16 chess sets for Junior and Intermediate.
- Coding Bots for the Science and Coding curriculum have also been purchased.

8. Parish Report – C. Forte (N/A)

- Nothing to Report

9. OAPCE Report – R. Maamari

- Nothing to report.

10. Movie Night

- Feedback
 - Seating was a concern.
 - More supervision was required
 - Maybe host 2 different dates
 - Limiting people in attendance.
 - Possible outdoor movie night.

11. Year Head Fundraising.

- Halloween Dance-a-thon – Donation Link

- Gift wrap paper/boxes etc.
- Mardi gras Dance-a-thon – As next year Valentine’s Day falls on Ash Wednesday.
- Movie Nights

12. New Lunch Day options in the new year.

- Lunch Lady
- Pitas
- Subway
- Pasta Day

13. Upcoming Council Meeting Date:

- Thursday October 5th, 2023, at 6:30pm May 25th In person.

14. New Business

- Request to put out a community/parent survey asking their thoughts on council run events over the 2022/2023 year.

15. Closing Prayer – Hail Mary

16. Meeting Adjourned – 8 :12pm