



2023/2024 St. Helen Catholic School Council

Chair – Mrs. S. Tomaino &
Co-Chair – Mrs. M. Scott
Treasurer – Mrs. G. Tota
Secretary – Mrs. T Landriault
OAPCE Rep – Mrs. P. Tryfanow
Parish Rep – Mrs. P. Tryfanow
Principal – Mr. Furtado
Teacher Rep – Mrs. Kusic
Non Teacher Rep – Mrs. Webster
Member at Large – Mr. C. Adamiec, Mrs. J. Da Silva

Meeting Date: October 12, 2023

Attendees: Mrs. M. Scott, Mrs. T Landriault, Mr. C. Adamiec, Mrs. P. Tryfanow, Mrs. D. Knowles, Mrs. J. Da Silva, Mr. Furtado, Mrs. Webster, Mrs. Kusic

Regrets: Mrs. G. Tota, Mrs. S. Tomaino, Mrs. J. Field, Mr. K. Shipley

Agenda:

1. Opening Prayer & Welcome
2. Thank you to the 2022/23 St. Helen CSC members (highlights)
3. Review of By-Laws and Procedures
4. Positions and Duties
5. Introduction of Nominees
6. Announcement of 2023/24 Elected Catholic School Council
7. Chair's Report
8. Principal's Report
9. Round Table
10. Next Council Meetings
11. Meeting Adjournment & Prayer

Opening Prayer & Welcome

- Mr. Furtado completed

Thank you to the 2022/23 St. Helen CSC Members / Review of By-Laws and Procedures / Positions and Duties / Introduction of Nominees / Announcement of 2023/24 Elected Catholic School Council

- Thank you to last year's Council
- Council by-laws, procedures and positions were discussed. All members approved, listed above
- The meeting minutes will be posted on the school website after review and approval by Council
- 2022/23 close-out and 2023/24 opening budget will be discussed at the next Council meeting

Chair's Report:

- Laura Secord chocolate fundraiser
 - Sold 34 boxes so far
 - Less fee for chocolates and 2% for school cash online, profit is \$1,162.80
- Flip Give fundraiser
 - Can buy gift cards and merchandise and a percent of sales is donated to the school
 - Earned \$674.36 so far. Council will cash this out and start a new fundraising code.
 - Will send a notice to parents reminding them of this fundraiser
- Factory Shoe
 - Will send home fundraising cards with students in advance of winter boot sale season. Cards are not needed though for funds to go towards the school.
 - A percent of sales are donated to the school. \$455 has been raised to date and \$345 was previously collected by Council, so there is \$110 remaining to be collected.
 - Council discussed how these fundraisers are communicated to families. Will put a blurb together to be emailed to families.
- Fundraising plans
 - Council discussed that there can only be two large fundraisers per year
 - Possible options to be discussed at a further meeting include cookie dough, kernels, or coffee and donuts
- Greenery fundraiser and breakfast with Santa
 - Plan to do greenery fundraiser in November
 - To come back with possible breakfast with Santa dates – possibly December 2
 - Need to get permits for breakfast with Santa
- Dominoes
 - Can only do two fundraisers (Dominoes rules)
 - Tentative dates in October and January
- Spook-A-Thon
 - Grade 8s planning event, so need to connect with Ms. Wickham
 - Reminder that children need appropriate costumes. School will send out a reminder.

Principal's Report

- School Staff
 - The list of school staff was presented
- Changes to School
 - Replacement of the asphalt and other beautification efforts on the school grounds
 - Latched gates were installed to help ensure children cannot leave the yard. Council discussed how students are not locked in, but the gates are latched for safety reasons.
 - The School continues to work with the plant department on future plans to change the position of the goal posts on the field and to install basketball nets (targeting during the fall) in the intermediate area.
 - Classroom locations were discussed. The primary grades were previously in the basement and intermediate were upstairs. These were switched to create a safer environment, especially with younger students when coming in late.

- Masses and sacraments
 - Upcoming dates were discussed and which grades will lead the events
 - Details are posted on school website and in monthly calendars sent out to families
- Rosary apostolates
 - Will continue coming into the school
- Catholic Graduate Expectations Awards
 - Students will be able to earn points towards awards
 - Will need to complete 5 hours of community service, such as through being a FDK reading buddy
- Curriculum highlights
 - The guidelines for religion and family life are being reviewed by the Institute for Catholic Education in Ontario and Ministry of Education
 - The language curriculum has being updated
 - A new report card is being initiated by the Ministry of Education
- 2021-22 audit
 - An audit was conducted on the school for the 2021-22 school year
 - One finding is that the safe needs to be moved to the principal's office, but waiting for the Board to initiate the move
 - The other findings were discussed and identified by the School as minor
- Student Voice & Social Justice
 - Students writing in the newsletter about school events, such as Orange shirt day, Terry Fox walk, etc
- Mental health
 - The School will be doing mental health activities
- Sports teams
 - Teams are starting for the school year
- Parent grant
 - Received \$500 grant for parent engagement
 - Need to identify what funds will be used for

Round Table:

- Council discussed that much of the outdoor equipment has been lost or destroyed.
- Council discussed if snack days will be continuing. The School confirmed that they will, but they are just waiting for supplies to be replenished.
- Council discussed concerns with the air conditioning in the classrooms. The School confirmed that the plant department has been informed about the air conditioning concerns.

Next Council Meetings:

- Future meetings: Thursday, Dec 7, 2023, Thursday, February 1, 2024, Thursday, May 16, 2024 @ 7pm

Meeting Adjournment & Prayer

- Mr. Furtado completed