



2021/2022 St. Helen Catholic School Council

Chair – Ms. C. Denief &
Co-Chair – Ms. S. Tomaino
Treasurer – Ms. G. Tota
Secretary – Ms. M. Scott
OAPC Rep – Ms. Wilson
Parish Rep – Ms. Field
Community Rep – Vacant
Principal – Ms. Bevacqua
Teacher Rep – Ms. Dawe
Non Teacher Rep – Mrs. Vieira
Member at Large – Mr. K. Shipley
Members at Large – Ms. T Landriault
Member at Large – Julie Hand

Meeting Date: October 4, 2021 – Virtual Teams Meeting

Agenda:

1. Opening Prayer
2. Approvals
3. Announcement of elected Council
4. Treasurers Report
5. Chairs Report
6. Parish Report
7. Principal's Report
8. Council Action Items
9. Next Council meetings
10. Round Table/Questions
11. Closing Prayer

Opening Prayer

- Completed by Ms. Bevacqua

Approval of the minutes from last meeting

- Michelle Scott approved

Approval of tonight's agenda

- Julie Hand approved

Announcement of elected members (noted above)

- All members approved, listed above
- Within 2 weeks of the meeting, the meeting mins will be posted on the school website after review and approval by Council
- Thank you to last year's Council
- Thank you to this year's Council

Treasure Report

- Julie presented budget worksheet
- Bank service charges minimal
- Bank account is currently sitting at just ~\$9500
- Last year budget for spend was ~\$5900
- Ms. Dawe to confirm price for subscription for RAZ kids (A-Z renewal) and renewal date and advise Council
- Julie Hand will put together the planned budget and estimate of where will be at end of the year, and include Principal/Teacher requests
- Budget summary:



2020-21 St. Helen
Council Budget Summ

Chair report

- Plantable fundraiser raised - \$136.80
- Flipgive fundraiser raised - 421.71
- Shoe Factory fundraiser at \$30, Shoe Factory to confirm if there is a code that St. Helen's can use vs. having to bring the card
- Ms. Bevacqua to send reminder to all parents on fundraising opportunities
- **Potential fundraising ideas**
 - Little Caesars Pizza Kits – would receive \$6 profit for every kit sold
 - Dominos would host a one day event – each pizza sold would receive \$5
- **Engagement ideas:**
 - Virtual Christmas concert: pre-record each class, outside singing a Christmas song, etc. and put together for a St. Helen's viewing session
 - Joy Day: each class would be provided with crafts to complete, all on the same afternoon with Christmas music playing over the PA. Crafts purchased last year at Michael's for reasonable amount – potential for Council to purchase crafts again this year?
 - Halloween: Halloween creative costume contest with a prize for each class (10 classes)
 - Snow sculpting contest: family event, family completes at home and submits a picture to the school, prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners
- Suggested bringing back Virtue Awards, teachers would submit 1-2 children names per Virtue, start back with Sept. and continue with each month, announcement of winners over PA announcements (previous year it worked out so each child received an award)
- Requested an updated on the Three Hoop Basket, Ms. Gos agreed on replacement last year - Ms. Bevacqua to follow up
- Teachers requested to complete a Wish List
 - consideration to class room allocated outdoor equipment – most has disappeared – two options mentioned – refresh the carts by each door, or have class allocated bags/baskets with equipment – teacher and students in class would be accountable for items vs. sharing with other classrooms
- School Board had a first come first serve to pick up outdoor classroom equipment; Ms. Bevacqua received one (currently with Grade 1 class), which included mats for sitting, whiteboards for each child, magnifying glasses, etc. Would Council consider assisting with the purchase of additional items for other classrooms?

Parish Report

- Grade two first communion/reconciliation and Confirmation for Grade 7 – parent info meeting is this week
- Youth ministry is happening virtually
- Mothers group that meets every 3rd Thursday
- October is Rosary month
- First communion is going to be May but there is a program starting this week for families to prepare
- Parish Rep will be joining meeting with St. Christopher's Parish, will connect what is directly related for St Helen's

Principal's Report

- 229 Students this year
- Picture day is scheduled for Nov 2
- Retakes and Grad photo's in Jan – date to be confirmed
- Rosary Apostolate Group will start working with all classes this month (virtually)
- Students have been dealing with stress including with coming back after last year, all children are reacting positive to stress management tools in the school, but they only have a few – looking to purchase weight snakes/alligators and fidgets – different things that Child Youth Workers recommend – as if Council can support with \$500
- Purchased new walkie talkies for \$1700, request for Council to split the cost (\$850), now all teachers and custodians have one and easier to communicate between classes, playground, etc.
- Kids must have at least 70 mins of outdoor time (weather permitting)

Council Action Items

- Budget to purchase crafts for Joy Day for each class
- Budget and 10 prize ideas for creative costume Halloween contest
- Council budget to support additional outdoor classroom materials?
- Vote required on \$500 budget allocation for stress management tools
- Vote required on \$850 amount for walkie talkie purchase (total cost \$1700)

Next Council meetings

- Requirement of minimum of 4 per year
- Meeting schedule proposed: Jan, March and May (dates to be confirmed)

Round table

- What is next step on equipment for classrooms? Ms. Dawe and Ms. Bevacqua to review and come back to council with suggestions from teachers of items that could go in the bag/bin – Council could purchase items or provide budget to teachers – to be confirmed
 - Council had \$1000 for athletic equipment last year that did not get spent, currently the School Board is not allowing team sport events at this point (based on Peel Public Health) – so could potentially use this budget for above items
- What is the Little Caesars Pizza Kits? You can order pizzas, breadsticks, etc. it is on their website – they would get delivered to your home and we make \$6 per kit – all online ordering and they will deliver it to your home (<https://www.pizzakit.com/>)
- Did the budget for virtual Santa visit and prizes include the Christmas crafts? **Answer:** This will be confirmed once the budget has been reviewed and planned with potential spend for 2021/2022
- In other organizations I have seen walkie talkies being leased, rather than purchased - which lowers the capital requirements and covers things like maintenance, battery failure, etc... And allows for the easy adding/return of units as needed. It also avoids costs over the summer months. Did the school look into leasing options for the radios? If yes, what were the options? If no, why not? **Answer:** School Board does not allow leasing – they have a process they must adhere too with the Purchasing team. Mrs. Vieira confirmed there is only one option from one company and one type
- Budget and voting will be circulated with Council for review and voting approval

Closing prayer