

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic School
CSC Meeting Minutes – Virtual Meeting #1
Oct 6, 2021 6:30pm to 8:00pm

Attendance legend: Green = Present, Red = Not Present

In attendance: Principal: **Leslie Marchand**

Teacher Representatives: **Katie Box Hodgins**, **Michelle Murphy**

Parent Representatives: **Tara Harkin**, **Kayla Stephenson**, **Atzire Perez**, **Nadia Shea**, **Sarah Kelemen**,
Donovan Irving, **Karen Chan**, **Michelle Gomez**

Parents of Children (non-voting): **Suzanne Nunne**, **Mary Abdelsayed**, **Rasshell McDonald**, **Alex Irving**

Require 4 for Quorum

Council (can have up to 15 parents)

- Chair: Tara Harkin
- Chair: Kayla Stephenson
- Treasurer: **open**
- Secretary: **open**
- OAPCE Rep: Atzire Perez
- Parish Rep: Donovan Irving
- Volunteer & Fundraising: Nadia Shea
- Karen Chan – voting member
- Michelle Gomez – voting member
- Teacher Rep: Ms. Katie Box & Mrs. Michelle Murphy

June meeting notes - approved

Principal's Report

- Minimal reorganizing
- 1 - 2nd grade class was adjusted
- 1 straight grade 3 class
- Little bit of shuffling in 2 French Immersion classes to level out the class sizes
- A few kids are nervous and scared about the return to in-person learning
- Great to see kids in a live learning environment
- Covid protocols in place, sanitize, reminding students of safety protocols and masks (extras available in the office if needed)

- Siblings of sick students, even when screening healthy, the siblings must attend virtually if not vaccinated until they get a confirmation of a negative test
- If a child is sent home, the sibling will also go home if under vaccination age
- Survey monkey to find out about the level of communication
 - Weekend updates are timely and more relevant
 - Parent responding to survey indicate the communication is good
- Large yard at the school. 8 classes at lunch. 4 zones on the field, however the field pools water and gets muddy. Can't divide the dry space into 8 spaces. They need mask breaks, so the outside breaks are scattered to allow for more out time space.
- Inside the school – display spaces are assigned to a classroom for showcasing the student work. Teachers sign up for the display case by month.
- Curriculum night – details coming this week in the weekend edition. 2, 30 mins sessions hosted by teachers. The teachers will share the curriculum and the topics the students will learn. Q&A session for the total group, not meant for single student questions. 6:10 & 6:45 session. Wed Oct 20th.
- Halloween – Friday dance-a-thon wear orange & black or an appropriate costume. Outside party. Every group will have a set time. 2-3 classes at a time. Will incorporate a fund raiser.
- Inflatables, investigating if power source is available and if parents would lend for the day.
- Terry Fox walk generated exactly \$1205.00 through online donations and t-shirt sales by staff.

Sandro Parisotto – Special Guest from Wonderwall

- How to make the school more welcoming and inviting
- Amplify school spirit
- Murals and impactful graphics
- Incorporates students and community vision and design
- Can be interactive, themed, sensory walls and floors
- Looking for the front hallway as a starting place – sensory pack.
- Mural estimate about \$10k for the whole thing, \$6700 for the front hallway

Brea Corbet – Trustee

- Dropped in to introduce herself, say hello and thank the parent council
- One of 11 trustees
- Represents District 9 &10
- Policy & bi-law committee
- Her role: board budget. Can't pass a budget without it balancing
- Ensure implementation of policy
- Advocate for the community and then elevate it to the provincial level
- Represents the concerns of the community
- Meeting of the board – every Tuesday (open to the public)
- 151 schools, all schools post the school notes within 2 weeks of the council meeting

Chair's Report

- Lead the council voting
- 2 open roles
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
- These can be filled at the next Council meeting

Treasurers Report

- May – donation to share life for 100
- Bank charges were applied, the banking is still transitioning to the school's account

Fundraising Ideas & Timing

- Flip give is open \$408
 - Do we have a charitable number (for the cheque)
- Voluntary Donation letter
- Suggested the \$5 donation for participation for the dance a thon
- All the fund-raising items for silent auctions were brought to the school
- Communion and Confirmation gifts are still at the school. Looking for ways to get these to the students
- We will have a meeting for further fundraising items on October 21st at 6:30 on zoom for any interested parents.

OPACE Report

- Oct 27th virtual. All are welcome but must register. Hosted every 4-6 weeks between 7-8:
- Dec 1st Regional council meeting & dietitian
- Dec 15th online family event – more details to come

Parish Report

- Monday, October 4th was the First communion information meeting.
 - First Communions will take place in May
- Confirmation 7pm Nov 8th meeting at Merciful redeemer in person

Teacher's Report

- Teachers are thankful for the support from the parents of the students
- Hardship and empathy have brought the school and students closer together
- Gratitude from the teachers
- Kids appear happy to be back at school and are supportive of one another

- Appreciate and respect the safety protocols
- 25 kids are online about 10% of the school community

Future Meetings:

- Nov 3rd 6:30
- Dec 8th 6:30
- Feb - TBD
- April - TBD

Terms and Roles Defined:

School Council: Parent volunteers, which act as a liaison between the parents, students, principal, teachers, and board. The goal is to increase the experience for all students.

Chair & Co Chair: Main points of contact with the school. Host the school council meetings, set and send out the agenda. Ensure the school council is adhering to the guidelines set up for the council per the board directions.

Treasurer: Responsible for coming up with draft budget and final budget. Also responsible for generating monthly reports to indicate all money generated by council fundraising activities and the expenses.

Secretary: Capture the minutes of the council meeting. Ensure each committee has had an opportunity to provide input. Send meeting notes to the school council following the meeting and ensure that they get approved at the following meeting.

OPACE Rep: Members for the regional council are formed by the appointed OAPCE representatives on each of the local school councils in the DPCDSB. This provides a direct connection and opportunity to meet with the Dufferin-Peel Regional OAPCE directors on a monthly basis. This parent information sharing council is made up 100% of parent volunteers.

Parish Representative: Monthly meeting with the priest. Relay information that is happening in the parish to the parent council.

Volunteer & Fundraising: Act as the lead in fundraising and volunteer events.