

**St. Paul Catholic Secondary School**  
"Everything with Heart"



**2020-2021 ST. PAUL S.S. CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL**

**Meeting: December 02, 2020 6:30 PM – Virtual Meeting**

Item	Summary
<b>Acknowledgement of First Nations Sacred Territory: Grace Siracusa</b>	<b>Chai:</b> We acknowledge and thank the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation for being stewards of this traditional territory.
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Mr. James McLevey
<b>Attendance</b>	<p><b>School Council Members:</b> Grace Siracusa, Ann Worobec, Rosemary Chambers, Daniela Cavatassi, Kyla Lepore, Erika De Rango</p> <p><b>Staff:</b> Peter Cusumano (Principal), Derek McWilliam (Vice Principal)</p> <p><b>Chaplain/Teacher Representative:</b> James McLevey</p> <p><b>Student Representative:</b> Ella Uppal</p> <p><b>Trustees:</b> Mario Pascucci, Mississauga Wards 1 &amp; 3</p> <p><b>Parents:</b> Alex Bini, Erin Di Carlo, Trixia Gener, Catherine Hudon, Javier Perez, Susan Seguro, Helen Seibel, Helen Sergo, Matthew Watt</p>
<b>Approval of the Minutes of October 07, 2020 Meeting</b>	<p>One correction was made to include the attendance of Student Rep Ella Uppal at the October 07, 2020 meeting.</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup>: Kyla Lepore</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup>: Daniela Cavatassi</p> <p>Approved</p>
<b>Approval of the Agenda of December 02, 2020</b>	<p>One addition was made: Treasurer Report.</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup>: Erika De Rango</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup>: Kyla Lepore</p> <p>Approved</p>
<b>Updates from School Trustees: Mario Pascucci</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DPCSB Organizational Meeting was held on Dec. 01, 2020.</li> <li>• Trustee Sharon Hobin was elected as Board Chair.</li> <li>• Trustee Pascucci would like to know from St. Paul what we need from the Board, as well as any suggestions for improvements. He would like for us to come to the next meeting with some questions/suggestions.</li> </ul>

	Trustee Pascucci thanked the St. Paul School community for our patience in this unprecedented situation.
<b>REPORTS:</b>	
<p><b>Parent Council Chair:</b>                  Grace Siracusa</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>CCCSC:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Grace holds the role of CCCSC Mississauga East Secondary Rep for the 2020-2021 school year.</li> <li>○ CCCSC holds monthly meetings.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Fund Raising:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To better address the needs of the school, the Council needs to first understand the needs of the staff. This will better position the Council to select the most adequate fund-raising activities.</li> <li>○ Cobbs Bakery has been a good partner of the school and they sometimes bring in treats.</li> <li>○ Last year there was consideration to partner with Cobbs Bakery to sell \$20 cards that would give the value of \$40 of baked goods. The split with the school would be a 70%-30% split of the revenue.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Council needs to consider the current challenges with fundraising activities in view of the COVID-19 situation.</li> <li>▪ One option is to use Cash Online to sell the Cobbs Bakery cards.</li> <li>▪ Cards could be distributed through home rooms. However, a process would need to be put in place for Cohort C students.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Principal Cusumano mentioned that some of the revitalization projects the school has been hoping to undertake include:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <u>Updating the cafeteria</u>: Old school colours are still present. There is an idea of painting a mural highlighting the virtues that are reflective of the school’s spirit. The quotation process to cost this out will start shortly. Once costs are understood, an implementation strategy will be put in place (likely as a staged approach).</li> <li>▪ <u>Updating the chapel</u>: Panelling in the chapel needs enhancing.</li> <li>▪ <u>Completed</u>: Repairs/re-finishing of the crucifix at the front to the school.</li> <li>▪ Overall, the school revitalization projects may span a 3-4 year period.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Children and Resilience:</b> The Council Chair shared the names of a couple of speakers who focus on topics associated with building resilience in children:                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sara Westbrook: Motivational speaker who addresses strategies to nurture students and their mental health. Sara highlights the importance of helping kids become resilient, as</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>well as the need to help them understand that the emotions we feel are “chapters in our life and not the whole story.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Carla Bella: Speaker, psychologist – focus on resilience in children.</li> <li>● <b>Parent participation at School Council Meetings:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ One suggestion to enhance participation is to include an “Ask the Principal” section to the Council meetings.</li> <li>○ Questions would be collected and compiled ahead of the meeting for Principal Cusumano to be able to address during the meeting.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Principal’s Report:</b> <b>Peter Cusumano</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>2020-2021 Year Books:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A memory book will be put together for the 2020-2021 Grade 12 Class.</li> <li>○ A Grade 12 Yearbook class will be introduced next year.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>2020 Grade 8 Virtual Open House:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The teachers and students were able to come up with a creative way to provide Grade 8 students and their parents a good sense of St. Paul’s school and community.</li> <li>○ The event took place on November 12, 2020 and it was very successful. Significant traffic of hits on the links.</li> <li>○ The poster is posted on the school website. The link to the video is: <a href="http://www.stpaul.webflow.io">www.stpaul.webflow.io</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Guidance Team:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Virtual school visits with Grade 8 Feeder Schools are taking place.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Presentations have been put together for Grade 8 students.</li> <li>▪ Some virtual classes are taking place, including some labs.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Enrollment:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Current enrollment (2020-2021): 525 students</li> <li>○ Projection for 2021-2022: 568 students</li> <li>○ 100 Grade 8 candidates for the IB program (currently 60 students in Grade 9).</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>New Courses for 2021-2022:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Grade 11 Robotics</li> <li>○ Grade 9 Music and Drama</li> <li>○ Grade 12 Yearbook Class</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Grade 12 “Steps After High School” U of T Information Session:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Virtual session with U of T: Took place on December 01, 2020 with 34 participants from St. Paul.</li> <li>○ Security of the session was breached by someone who made inappropriate comments.</li> <li>○ The school did not take this lightly. Principal Cusumano has addressed the issue with the presenter, U of T’s Director of the Registrar’s Office and Peel Police.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The investigation needs to be conducted via U of T since the session was organized by them.</li><li>○ The school is currently assessing the possibility of rescheduling the session. A communication will go out to those registered as participants in the event this is doable.</li><li>● <b>EQAO Grade 9 Math Test:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ This year’s test is a virtual practice test that does not count as an official test.</li><li>○ The test will be conducted in Quadmesters 2, 3 and 4.</li><li>○ Students in Cohort C will not participate in the test.</li><li>○ The objective of this exercise is to “test the test” and determine the feasibility of conducting this evaluation on line in the future (if needed).</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Grade 10 Literacy Test:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ No update yet as to the plans for this test.</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Tech Equipment Purchases:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The “Virtual School” format has been discontinued by the Board.</li><li>○ “Virtual School” students have been sent back to their home schools and have been incorporated in Cohorts A – C. This has increased the need for technology (for use by these students).</li><li>○ St. Paul has made the decision to utilize funds to equip all classrooms with the necessary technology.</li><li>○ Cameras, microphones, and computers have been purchased and are gradually coming in – the lead time for these items is not insignificant, in particular in view of the demand.</li><li>○ A full compliment is expected by end of January 2021.</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Bus Cancellations:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ There’s been a revision to the bus cancellation policy: If buses are cancelled, the school will be closed, and instruction will take place virtually for all students. Classes will be conducted as normal (online).</li><li>○ The reason for this change is that the factors that lead to bus cancellations (poor weather) may also impact teachers’ ability to be in school. If teachers are absent, due to pandemic restrictions, there is no possibility to combine multiple classes under one teacher.</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Cohort C:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ There has been an increase in enrollment of students in Cohort C. This may be attributed to parents’ concerns with the current COVID-19 situation in Peel:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Quadmester #1 Enrollment: 75 students</li><li>▪ Quadmester #2 Enrollment: 125 students</li></ul></li></ul></li><li>● <b>Attendance Management:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ If students in Cohorts A and B need to stay home and decide to attend class virtually, parents must call the school to let the</li></ul></li></ul>
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	<p>Attendance Office know. If this is not done, the student will be marked absent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>2019-2020 Yearbook Distribution:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Yearbooks were distributed the week of November 23 to Grade 10 and Grade 11 students.</li></ul></li><li>● <b>2019-2020 Grads:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Over a period of 2 days, during the week of November 23, 2020 grad students returned to St. Paul to receive their diplomas, awards, and yearbooks. Students wore their caps and gowns and were accompanied by their parents.</li><li>○ From 96 graduated students, 70 were able to participate.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ All pertinent pandemic procedures were put in place for this event. The exterior gym doors were used to access and exit the school, students came in at pre-scheduled times for a period of 5 minutes each. The event was conducted after 11:00 am once the regular students left the school.</li><li>○ It was a great event appreciated by students, parents, and teachers.</li><li>○ Plans for the 2020-2021 graduation will start in the new year.</li></ul></li></ul></li><li>● <b>2019-2020 Honour Roll:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Recipients' names are listed in the school's website.</li><li>○ Awards ceremony/distribution will take place in the Spring of 2021.</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Virtual Peer Tutoring Opportunity:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Ms. Sudak is coordinating this initiative.</li><li>○ Interested students can contact her for information. These hours count towards the volunteering hours required for graduation.</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Virtual Chess Club:</b> Mr. Power is coordinating this initiative.</li><li>● <b>Nativity Scene:</b> Mr. Mondelli is overseeing the installation of the Nativity Scene outside the school.</li><li>● <b>Outdoor Classroom:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ It is being actively used.</li><li>○ Christmas decorations are going up shortly.</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Volunteering Hours for Grade 12 Students:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ A communication will be issued regarding volunteering hours for Grade 12 students.</li><li>○ As an exception, due to the pandemic situation, the minimum number of hours required for graduation has been decreased to 20 hours.</li><li>○ There are alternate ways to meet this objective, for example, tutoring a younger sibling; working students can write a reflection on their job; etc.</li></ul></li><li>● <b>Christmas Message from Principal Cusumano:</b> will be sent to families before the Christmas break.</li><li>● <b>Other Items:</b></li></ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Some parents are asking the school if there will be an extension of the Christmas break due to the pandemic situation. The school does not know yet, but the hope is that students can be back in school in January since, from a mental health perspective, they do better by being physically at school.</li> <li>○ Principal Cusumano has received positive feedback from the community about our students – well behaved, pleasant kids.</li> <li>○ Principal Cusumano shares “Christ in Action” stories with the school staff to promote the sharing of good news, such as the positive feedback from the community.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Student Rep Report:</b> <b>Ella Uppal</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Christmas Week (Dec. 14 – Dec. 18):             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Will consist of various events designed to ensure that all students, including on-line students, can participate. Some of these events include:                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Red and Green Days</li> <li>▪ Sweater Days</li> <li>▪ Contests (through submission of pictures):                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Christmas Tree Decoration</li> <li>▪ Winter Food Creation</li> <li>▪ Ugly Christmas Sweater</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Teacher Report:</b> <b>Mr. McLevey</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Virtual Stewardship Conference:</b> 56 students registered.</li> <li>● <b>St. Paul’s Leadership Team:</b> currently composed primarily of Grade 12 students and 1 Grade 11 student.</li> <li>● <b>Advent:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mass will be held on December 11 at 9:00 AM. It will be recorded in YouTube.</li> <li>○ Advent confessions are taking place this week with Father Terry.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>2020 Christmas Baskets Program:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The school is supporting 30 families. Some are families that are part of our school community.</li> <li>○ This year the program consists of purchasing gift cards through Cash Online.</li> <li>○ Due date is Dec. 11.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Treasurer Report:</b> <b>Daniela Cavatassi</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Balance: \$1373.01</li> </ul>
<p><b>Parish Rep Report:</b> <b>Ann Worobec</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>St. Dominic’s Church:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Attendance is usually 130 people per week.</li> <li>○ Current allowances are for 10 people (max) – must register to attend.</li> <li>○ Mass can be watched through the link posted on the church’s website.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Father Terry was trying to get a YouTube channel to transmit live masses. Unfortunately, there were not enough people enrolled.</li></ul>
<b>OAPCE Report: Rosemary Chambers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● OAPCE Meetings are held monthly and virtually.</li><li>● The OAPCE website (<a href="http://www.oapce.org">www.oapce.org</a>) is a good place to find resources for parents to support children through the pandemic.</li><li>● The OAPCE’s November webinar series focused on “parenting through the pandemic” and is available for reference through the website.</li></ul>
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Mr. McLevey</li></ul>
<b>Adjournment:</b>	8:02 PM
<b>Next Meeting:</b>	<b>Wednesday, February 10, 2021 @ 6:30 PM</b>