

CATHOLIC FAITH ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING



St. Clair Catholic
District School Board



Date: Monday, May 31, 2021 – 5:00 P.M.

Via: Virtual Meeting

Attendance

Chair: Laura Callaghan, Superintendent of Education

Trustee: Brenda Rumble

Present: Ann Clarke – Chaplain, St. Patrick’s Catholic High School
Greg Vandeschoot, Teacher and OECTA Elementary Representative
Joanne McCreery - Principal, St. Philip Catholic School
Marcia Vermey – French Immersion Parent, Ursuline College
Margaret Palmer – System Chaplaincy Leader
Michelle MacLean – French Immersion Parent, St. Anne Catholic School, Blenheim
Sherrie Daudlin - Principal, Good Shepherd Catholic School
Joan Martell
Thomas Dula
Leanne Moran

Regrets: Melissa Fernandes – Teaches, Ursuline College Chatham
Angele Monette, Teacher, Monsignor Uyen Catholic School

Recording Secretary: Kim Fitzmorris

1. Welcome

Laura Callaghan, chair of the meeting, called the regular CFAC meeting to order.

2. Opening Prayer – All

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion: (Brenda & Joanne) That the minutes for the Catholic Faith Advisory Committee Meeting of Monday, February 1, 2021 be approved. Carried.

4. Approval of Agenda

Motion: (Brenda & Joanne) That the agenda for the Catholic Faith Advisory Committee Meeting of Monday, May 31, 2021 be approved as presented. Carried.

5. Review from this Year

Catholic Education Week- Theme: Nurturing Hope
Some Highlights

- Anne Jamieson spoke to administrators about Leading during tough times
- Links posted to Staff Learning Hub for classroom activities, family activities, prayers and music
- Online Mass for Catholic Education week was promoted- on the Sacred Heart of Jesus by Cardinal Collins
- Visit by Brooke Rothshank- Author of Tiny Gratitudes visited with 2 Secondary classrooms and 64 Elementary Junior/Intermediate classrooms
- Students created their own tiny gratitudes and posted them in a Tiny Gratitudes Across St. Clair Catholic slideshow

System Chaplaincy Update

- Virtual Morning Prayers were formatted for ease of use during online learning
- UCC/St. Pats have slides to share with students each day- Brenda shared that the morning prayers are beautiful and she was very happy to see Faith brought into online learning
- Coffee with a Friend Prayer service- Started at beginning of Lent

- June- continuing with morning prayers and will connect to the Sacred Heart of Jesus
- Crowning of Mary prayer was created for staff to use with their class
- Take Good Care staff site- Faith formation and supports are highlighted each month to make staff aware of what is being added
- June 4th- PA day- Dr. Anne Jamieson will join staff virtually for a morning reflection on Hope- this will be livestreamed

Cardinal Collins: Heart Speaks to Heart

- Encourages us to place our weary hearts in the care of Jesus
- Pastoral letter - explaining how precious the heart of Jesus is and allow Jesus to speak to us
- Encourages- Read the gospel, Holy Hour, participate in the First Friday masses
- Margaret has created a resource that highlights this pastoral letter including prayer services, prayers, activities etc.

Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ- Grade 8 will be available in the Fall, We will have access to the digital platform for our teachers, students and parishes (Kindergarten will be available in 2022)

6. Reflect on Pastoral Plan Year 1 and Year 2

Looking Back, Acting Forward- chart was created to look at goals achieved and what our next steps are

- We may consider carrying over some of our goals as we reflect on the year we've had with the pandemic
- Next steps: Focus on Called to Serve our World- Goal to work alongside our Pastoral teams
- Engage Schools in Development and Peace
- St Pats- engaged in a virtual ThinkFAST- worked together to promote Cyclone Aid during Lent- started a social justice focus that they hope will take shape when return to face to face learning
- Stewardship connection: Taylor Maris Environmental and Energy Coordinator will work with us to help in our goal- Called to Serve our World
- Promote faith resources through staff Take Good Care site and innovative adult faith formation initiatives
- OCSGE- prayers, ICE has put out some resources for the Catholic Graduate expectations

- Promote the use of GIF GIC- Grade 8 will be available in the Fall and cross curricular connections will be promoted
- Goal is to have a draft of pastoral plan sketched out over the next couple of weeks to be shared virtually with CFAC members once the draft is completed: would appreciate any feedback
- Laudato Si School Certification Program- invite schools to participate- badge program; suggestions from Development and Peace on how we can bring the environment to top of mind- will hopefully bring to principals once it is fully developed

7. Faith Day 2022

- Some initial thinking around our faith day for 2022- looking for feedback- CFAC committee is integral to our Faith Days
- Typically we have Mass and a keynote speaker geographically
- With the unknown about the upcoming year and how we can gather face to face- wondering about trying something different
- Faith Day Series- Sept PA day, Oct PA day and then November would be a retreat in a box
- Looking for a common theme- Equity and Inclusion through a Catholic Lens? Talk about Accompaniment- See Jesus in everyone, We are all welcome Here
- Theme explored with different speakers over the 4 days
Feedback from the Committee- Joanne expressed how this is a wonderful way to enrich the schools
Leanne- sees merit with both options for Faith Day- spreading over the PA days gives time to sit with and revisit the theme
A full day allows you to be immersed in the Faith experience
Laura: We will reflect on “How will we make it a real spiritual experience and have connectivity with everyone in place of a full day?”
Ann C- Worries that when Faith day is at the beginning of the year there might be tensions as people are trying to get year started
Suggestion- theme: focus on building community, need to learn to receive communion in different ways, opportunity to reflect on what we have and what we’ve lost
Rather than trying to solve a problem, can we frame it in a positive light on how we are addressing diversity and inclusion

Sherrie- likes the idea as there has been a disconnect with staffs and coming together with a faith lens is a beautiful way to start the school year

Joanne- could the series be spread out across more months rather than Sept, Oct, November

Margaret- if it is at the beginning of the year- might meet people where they are and acknowledge that sense of community that people need

Laura is posing a challenge to the committee- if you have suggestions for speakers, people worth exploring we would like to hear from you

Consider : Everyone is welcome and ready to rebuild this community together

Michelle- students have become so resilient, God doesn't give us more than we can handle- students will be stronger in their Faith, will be appreciative of so much more when we return

We want people to see the positives, we've had to learn to do things differently

We have a lot to learn from our young people

Could we include testimonials from students about what they've learned, how they've adapted, bounced back

Margaret suggested that anyone who would like to come together sharing more ideas reach out to her

8. Looking Ahead

Year of the Family Plan

- Will be included in our work next year

Year of St. Joseph Plan

- Will be included in our work next year
- Margaret suggested we do some planning with the Year of St. Joseph next time we come together

Adult Faith Formation Brainstorming

- Will revisit at our next meeting
- If you have any ideas we are always looking for suggestions

What would you like to see for the format of CFAC for next year? Some online, some virtual , meetings earlier in the year- let's consider what will work for our committee

9. WFMP - Virtual: October 21-23, 2021

It will be virtual this year and offered for Free

Keynote speaker - David Wells; Looking for people to lead workshops. It will be recorded.

10. Closing Prayer – All

11. Adjournment – the meeting was adjourned at 6:30