

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Nov 16, 2017

Attendees

Cynthia Blair, Tressa Brown, Judy Hubbard, Leanne Jackson, Rob Kardas, Lori Kraayenbrink, Phil Kraayenbrink, Victor Matias, Sara Meza, Erin Moffat-Sharpe, Christine Monteiro, Norman Monteiro, Joseph Palko, Amanda Pascavage, Deana Pirt, Chantel Prasad, Isabelle Rossi, Jay Stewart, Frank Torti, Sabrina Treftlin, Michelle Williams

Welcome (R. Kardas)

Prayer (J. Palko)

Call to Order

Motion to Accept Agenda by: M. Williams; Motion Seconded by: C. Prasad

Motion to Accept Minutes by: J. Stewart; Motion Seconded by: P. Kraayenbrink

Student Council Update (I. Rossi)

New council comes in Feb. Determining if changes should be made to makeup of council, reinvent council.

Sharing and Tour – Snoozelen Room (S. Meza)

Thanks were given for support and appreciation for the group that helped put the room together. Group visited the room and heard very nice backstory of how everything came together.

Chaplain Update (J. Palko)

LifeTeen.com Catholic Youth Group – very dynamic program, is alive and fun. Held 7-8:30pm on Friday nights. There are social nights, catechol and issues nights rotating among the topics. Approx. 20 students have been attending. Very positive, constructive interactions.

Franciscan University in Steubenville, OH has 3 day youth conference that will be run in July.

Information is available in chapel for those interested.

Nov 26 – school consecration event. Sunday Mass at 3 with event during mass. All welcome to come. Following mass there will be a Eucharist procession followed by social. Novena handout provided.

Dec 2 – Irish Miracle canned food drive to support St. Vincent DePaul. Meet at 8am and go through lunch. Debating to hold mass before or after due to last year's attendance. Input was that the spirit seems appropriate for the event.

Literacy and Numeracy Test Update: Accommodations (E. Moffat Sharpe, F. Torti)

Nov 7 EQAO memo: how can assessments be more like daily work. All students will benefit from quiet, small group setting; preferential seating (ie front or back); students can now all be prompted

back to work; additional time (IEP) will be done in least disruptive way for both literacy and numeracy tests.

Math dates confirm Jan 18/19 Grade 9

Committee Reports

Board Liaison (P. Kraayenbrink)

Oct 17 reviewed strategic plan; discussed digital Catholic citizens ie follow morals online. EQAO results and Pathways data reviewed. Student achievement focus. Other discussions on faith and leadership/stewardship. Discussed data over the years for grade 3, 6, 9. Can it be predictor of achievement – ie allow intervention? Generally, have seen success improving from grade 6 to 9. Students were invited ahead of school start for 1 week.

Safe Schools Committee / Sabrina/Ryan's Laws (C. Blair)

Last year need was high; school climate survey shows movement in all levels this year. Board mental health strategy 3-year plan for well-being. Revamp survey for relevancy rollout coming this Jan. Can then see the impact of initiatives.

Governing body of Catholic school principals also emphasizing well-being and bullying. Coming out with governing documents providing good direction and guidance. Going past just policy.

Leading PD session presenting these docs on mental health strategies and protocols; start with yourself and mindfulness concept. Handout example provided. Awareness of self. Lynn Ducharme and wellness committee – students serve on team; doing things at all levels. A lot of good efforts in this area.

Uniform Committee (E. Moffat Sharpe)

Nov 1 – no more shorts until spring.

Company under McCarthy label. Quality and fit should be top notch; will see gradual increase in price over next several years. Uniform assistance program set aside about \$5k. School can use to order pieces. Pieces are more limited than in past. In January the budget gest reset on the calendar year.

Will consider another uniform swap in Feb.

Fit shows will be continued in 2018. Internet orders were up 3% this past year.

McCarthy has 20% off for month of Nov. They will have more regular sales.

Uniform choices were streamlined, maintain focus on academics.

Pro Grant Committee (C. Monteiro, C. Prasad, J. Hubbard)

We received \$650 grant not full \$1k. Indication was more detail was needed so next application will be refined. We can now plan to spend funds.

Last initiative was My BluePrint workshop. It was well received. Other suggestions included mental health through the arts, drumming circle, activities to engage parents/students together. Target 45 min per session through an evening. Perhaps OSAP or mixed night with My BluePrint workshop.

Letter to elementary councils with invitation to Feb 15 grade 8 days coming. Judy H will be staff liaison for this effort.

Graduate Acknowledge Committee (M. Williams)

Nothing to report.

Principal's Report (R. Cicchelli)

Principals section deferred.

OSAP (Ontario Student Assistance Program) presentation

Identifying barriers to post-secondary education. 22% indicate university, 24% to college, balance not sure. Cited financial and general anxiety issues.

Needs based program which includes non-repayable aid such as grants, bursaries, scholarships.

60% ON university, 70% college students use it. Reviewed example calculations on income based awards.

Ontario.ca/OSAP for helpful resource materials

Adjourned

Future meeting dates: Jan 16, Mar 27, May 29