

Ursuline College School Advisory Council Meeting
Thursday, May 28, 2020
Virtual Meeting

- 1.0 **Prayer** - Thomas Dula
Update on “**Celebration of Life**” year-end service.
- Due to the current situation, we are not able to hold our end of the year mass and Celebration of Life Celebration. Thomas is working with local Celebrants who have agreed to offer a mass to honour the graduates and students of UCC. Information will be forwarded to families with dates and times of masses. Families will be invited to participate in the virtual masses. As well, a student driven prayer service is being planned. More information to come as the final details are worked out. Each day, the Lancer family receives an email with a daily prayer and reflection. Once a week, students have been invited to pray the rosary in the UCC Virtual Chapel.
- 2.0 **Adoption of Agenda**
- 3.0 **February 26 Minutes located at UCC Website**
- 4.0 **Correspondence** -UCC received three letters of appreciation for recent dress down day donations from:
1) Chatham Goodfellows,
2) Community Living Chatham Kent
3) United Way of Chatham-Kent
- Remainder of money will be donated to other charitable organizations as decided before school closes for summer.
- 5.0 **SAC Reports:**
- 5.1 **Chairperson** Martha McGregor

No Report
- 5.2 **Board Advisory Rep** Joanne Munroe Michelle MacLean

Joanne participated in the May 11, 2020 meeting. Seventeen schools were represented. Scott Johnson (Superintendent of Education) gave an update on distance learning. Deb Crawford created a “Thought Exchange” opportunity to reach out to parents for their input on distance learning. Joanne encouraged parents to participate in this process.
- 5.3 **Community Rep** Renee Handsor

No report
- 6.0 **Special Presentation** Scott Johnson – Superintendent of Education
Scott did a Power Point presentation of Distance Learning.
- Distance Learning in Action at SCCDSB**
- 1) Over 2000 chromebooks/laptops were given out to students
 - 2) 56 iPhones were given to families to use as hotspots for internet connections – paid for 3 months of data
 - 3) A hotspot was added at the Heritage Centre on Walpole Island
 - 4) Parent Learning Hub was created by the Curriculum Team
 - 5) Staff Learning Hub was created by the Curriculum Team
 - 6) Staff Professional Learning – 550 teachers in the SCCDSB – they have participated in over 2200 learning sessions – each teacher has signed in at least 4 times to take advantage of PD
 - 7) Implementation of Digital Learning Platforms – new way of teaching for

- many teachers – had to learn as they went
- 8) Provided an example of software a teacher could use teaching math
 - 9) Example of a teacher using Google Classroom – teacher had to teach from his car due to poor internet connection in his home
 - 10) Other examples of teachers virtual lessons
 - 11) Digital feedback from English teacher to two students in a Google Meet forum with their work showing
 - 12) Examples of support from EA's and ECE's to classroom teachers and students
 - 13) Overview of the Special Education Section – Learning Hub
 - 14) Providing Psychological First Aid – support of Social Workers and Child And Youth Workers for our students and their families

Ray thanked Scott for his presentation and information provided.

Ray opened the meeting for questions.

1) Assessment and Evaluation

It was announced by the Ministry of Education that schools would be closed for two weeks following March Break. During those two weeks the Ministry supported digital learning by posting lessons for parents to access from JK – Gr. 12. During those two weeks it was determined that the schools would remain closed and that classroom teachers would be supporting their students through a digital platform. In mid-April, the Ministry announced that school boards would be deploying technology to any student who did not have access to a device at their home. Teachers were trying to determine what they could deliver via a digital platform rather than in person in their classrooms.

During this time, the Minister of Education announced that marks prior to Mar. 13 would be the mark that students would achieve at the end of the semester– “Do No Harm”. This mark could not go down during distance learning but could be improved by students during the course of distance learning. No student would be penalized by distance learning.

Teachers were encouraged to be flexible, compassionate and engaging rather than punitive through assessment and evaluation. Special attention was given to Gr. 12 students to ensure that they would graduate. The Ministry provided tools to give every Gr. 12 student the ability to graduate (e.g. cancel requirement of 40 hours of volunteer work to graduate, allow graduation for students that did not pass the OSSLT).

Scott reminded parents that schools were not just giving credits – it was expected that students continue to engage and prepare for Gr. 10, 11, 12 and post-secondary. Scott asked parents to encourage their children to remain focused and to continue working hard.

Ray reported that the Student Success Team would be working to re-engage students who were struggling with distance learning to ensure the success of all students.

2) EDSBY

Scott reported that not all teachers are using the tool to report marks. There is a requirement that all teachers use EDSBY to complete the final report card in June. Because teachers are using other platforms to record marks – he reminded parents that the mark that may be posted in EDSBY may not be an up to date reflection of their child(ren) mark. At this time it is not an expectation that teachers update EDSBY to reflect current marks. Scott suggested that parents email their child(rens) teachers for up to date marks and information about their learning. It is expected that students get up to date feedback and marks from their teachers throughout this time when schools are closed.

3) What happens if a student cannot come to school in September because of COVID 19 (possible concern for their own health, a family members health etc.)?

The school will be expected to provide instruction to all students whether or not they are in the physical building. That may be in the form of distance learning, home instruction or combination of the two.

4) Gr. 10 Literacy Test

It is expected that there may be two Literacy tests next year. One for the Current Gr. 10's who missed it because of COVID19 and one in the spring for the upcoming Gr. 10's. Scott reminded the parents that this requirement was waived for any Gr. 12 student who had not passed the test.

- 6.1 **Job Action Update:** Ray Provincial Agreement was reached March 12, 2020 with OECTA. OECTA still need to negotiate local issues with the SCCDSB.
- 6.2 **Staffing** Ray 23:1 class size is optimistic for September. New positions still TBD.
- 6.4 **Retention Projections:** Ray 84.9 % of the Grade 8 students in SCCDSB elementary schools (231 Of 272 available)
The total projection for feeder and non-feeder enrollment is 285.
- 6.5 **Access to Schools** Rick
There will be an opportunity for students to return to school (schedule will be provided to ensure that we are meeting all COVID requirements) to access their lockers and remove any belongings they have as well as return text books and library books. The SCCDSB is working closely with Chatham Kent Public Health to ensure the safety of students and staff during this return to school. Staff will also be allowed access to the school to close up classrooms and remove any personal items before summer break. Again this will be done by staff signing up for an allotted time block to ensure all COVID requirements are met and that everyone remains safe.
- 6.6 **Graduation Update** Ray
Due to the current restrictions in Chatham-Kent the June 24, 2020 Graduation scheduled for the Capital Theatre has been cancelled. The Admin team tried to plan an October 8, 2020 graduation but as time went on it was clear from the Ministry that even a fall event may not be possible. Senior Admin (Deb Crawford and team) made the decision that all graduations including Gr. 8 graduations would be done virtually at the end of June.
- 6.7 **Graduation Agenda** Lisa
Virtual Ceremony will be streamed from the school website on June 24th at 7:00 p.m. A recording of the staff band will begin streaming at 6:45 p.m. as families begin logging into the website. The ceremony will follow the same format as past graduations beginning with opening remarks by Mr. Power, followed by Mr. Dula (UCC Chaplain) leading us in prayer, valedictorian speech, Mr. Estoesta speaking on behalf of the staff, awards and scholarship announcements, greetings from the Ursuline Sisters, etc. The name of each graduate will be read by one of the VP's as their picture is displayed. Lawn signs will be purchased for every student that they can display at their home. Hug a Lancer Pins have been ordered as well as spirit wear that graduates can purchase. Cap and gowns have been purchased for each graduate. Two days will be organized so that the graduates can come and pick up their gifts, and have their picture taken in their cap and gown in front of the school. Students will sign up for a time slot as we continue to follow the rules set by the CK Public Health Unit in regards to COVID 19. Communication with families will be ongoing as the plans are finalized. Consent forms will be sent to graduates and parents to get approval to use their photographs in the virtual presentation.

Yearbooks

Yearbooks have been ordered. Information about pick up will be sent to families when known. (Note: Yearbooks will not be available for pick up until Sept. 2020)

- 7.1 **Important dates postponed or cancelled:**
- Progress Report Cards – March 9-13
 - OSSLT – March 31
 - Parent Teacher Interviews – April 2
 - UCC Musical – Cancelled due to Job Action
 - Music Society Trip – Montreal, April 23-26

- Muskoka Woods – May 4 – 8
- EQAO – June 11 & 12
- Prom
- Graduation – Virtual – June 24, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

8.0 Lancer Proud Moment

Ray

Gratitude to SAC members and participation

Ray thanked the members of the School Advisory Council for their participation and commitment to the students and staff of UCC this past school year.

Ray also thanked the parents that participated in tonight's meeting.

He wished each family a safe and healthy summer and looked forward to a new school year in September.

All questions posted tonight in this meeting will be reviewed by the Admin Team and will be followed up by one of the team.

Martha McGregor completes 6 years of SAC support!

Ray thanked Martha for her commitment to UCC over the last six years.

Martha began attending School Advisory Council meetings when her first son began attending UCC. After attending the SAC meetings for one year, she accepted the position of co-chair. She remained in that position for the next two years. She has held the position of chair for the past three years. Martha was a UCC graduate herself. Ray wished Martha well in her future endeavours.

9.0 Future Business Suggestions

10.0 Next Meeting and Future Meeting Dates (tentative)

Tuesday, September 29, 2020. The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.