

St Gregory Catholic School Parent Council (CSPC) Monthly Meeting Minutes

Meeting Minutes from Wednesday, June 17, 2015 (followed by e-vote on July 17, 2015)

Attendees: PannoZZo, J (*Principal*) VanDinter K (*Vice-Principal*)
Grnak A (*Chair*), Giaquinto T (*Vice-Chair*), Gravina S (*Secretary*), Vokins P (*Treasurer*),
Arone V, Barone N, Bridger M, D'Alessandro G, Filipozzi E, Gentile O, Goncalves C, Hoult
N, Lustri N, Mardegan S, Peri V, Pires J, Pyz J, Ruso D, Severino A, Skinner M, Tenuta L,
Vaccarelli V

Guest Attendee: Father John

Regrets: Daniela Balsamo (*authorized Adam Grnak as proxy*)
Michael Desira (*authorized Sandy Gravina as proxy*)
Anne Mishko (*authorized Phil Vokins as proxy*)
Jessie Ward (*authorized Tanya Giaquinto as proxy*)

7:04pm Adam welcomed everyone to the last meeting of the school year and invited Ms. VanDinter to say opening prayer

Parish News (*Father John*)

The Archdiocese of Toronto, after testing St. Gregory's Parish, has formally allowed that confirmation be held for grade 7 students. You can still get confirmed in grade 8 but minimal age is grade 7. Pictures are ready; candidate has a class picture and a video; you will need to call the parish in advance so we can print off certificate; if you took family portraits, you can contact photographer; this is NOT official, but I am considering that next year changing communion/confirmation day to Saturday instead of a Sunday; Saturday would allow mass to be done in the morning and families can follow with reception; consider making use of the school gym; if we use school gym we can be a bit more organized; due to the lack of space in the church, we were only allowed five (5) persons per family; we cannot use hall for gathering or taking pictures.

Chair's Report (*Adam Grnak*)

BBQ Family Fun Night – we received a lot of positive feedback; netted around \$5200

Sacramental Luncheon – was on June 12th and held in the gym; students had pizza and cake; kids were very well behaved and enjoyed themselves.

Cycle Yonge – still going on as we speak; Phil and group will be doing the ride on June 20th; we have been promoting t-shirts and water bottles; that campaign will wrap up at the end of this week.

AGM/First CSPC Meeting – will be on September 23, 2015

Curriculum Night – will be on September 24, 2015

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Adam continued to highlight the following of CSPC's accomplishments over the course of the 2014/15 school year:

- **CSPC sponsored Curriculum Night / Ginger Bread Building Night / BINGO Night / Family Fun Skate / Shrove Tuesday & two Coffee Sundays**
- **QSP / Pizza Lunch & Dance-A-Thon continue to be successful fundraisers**
- **CSPC sponsored our first ARTucate Arts & Craft Show**
- **Cycle Yonge fundraiser still going strong looks to be a success**
- **BBQ Family Fun Night was a huge success**
- **CSPC supports and funds Fun Food Fridays events at the school**
- **CSPC supports the Milk Program**
- **CSPC funds CPR Training for St Gregory's Teachers**
- **CSPC administers and funds the BRICKS Award & Recognition Program**
- **CSPAC funded the purchase of two new computer karts for the school**
- **CSPC provided funding to repair musical instruments**
- **CSPC provides funds to purchase Extended French language materials**
- **CSPC financially supports the Book Club every year**
- **CSPC supports classroom literacy and numeracy programs at the school**
- **CSPC supports drama presentations at the school**
- **CSPC maintains and funds the school website**
- **CSPC permanently cemented the soccer nets in the school yard this year**
- **CSPC funds the maintenance of the green space**
- **CSPC purchased moving carts / a weed wacker and an ice machine for the school**
- **CSPC provides funds for the purchase of phys ed and recess equipment**
- **CSPC sponsored the SK/Grade 8 graduation / Teacher and Sacramental Luncheons**
- **CSPC provides funding for Artists in the School / classroom supplies for Teachers / Chess Club & the Swim Team**
- **CSPC covers part of the transportation costs for sports teams to competitions**
- **AND MUCH MUCH MORE!**

Adam thanked all CSPC members, staff, teachers, students, parent volunteers who have made CSPC what it is today.

Principal's Report (Mr. Panno) *(Mr. Panno)*

Ms. VanDinter will be leaving St. Gregory; she has been offered the position of Principal at St. Ambrose; thank you for her contributions; our new Vice-Principal will Anna Pires from St. Martin de Porres.

From 2015-18 we will be focusing on harmonizing our faith through family, parish and school

Projected enrollment for September 2015 will be 691; we have 130 students for kindergarten; families have been redirected and Board has upped our cap to 135 kindergarten students; in terms of Extended French, we are going to have 28 students – grade 5, 30 students – grade 6, 28 students in grade 7 and two 20-student classes for grade 8; all classes are always tentative until the end of September.

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We have three (3) staff members retiring this year: Ms. Manieri (French and Special Ed), Ms. Kriscunas (Music) and Ms. Viera who has been with the Board for more than 40 years.

We had simple goals for our School Learning Plan; one of them was to improve grades 3 & 4 EQAO math; engaging in discussion with teachers, we always talked about ven diagrams, students to watch and how we can move kids forward; we have a long way to go; we have initially started talking about setting up positive norms and have given article to teachers; there are seven (7) messages to give students encouragement; some of the teachers are on a different journey and are implementing this; P.A. Day on September 3rd; part of the day is to set up positive norms; teachers have been working on teaching self-regulation and collaboration; we have a lot more work to do and hopefully next year there will be a lot more curriculum going on; we also have differentiated instruction; part of district review; one of our themes we have been working on is learning goals and criteria.

Grades 3 and 6 had EQAO testing

Montreal Trip – grade 8 students on May 27-29th; visited a lot of neat places.

Soccer – boys came in second at Divisionals and girls are City Champions

We had a lot of guest speakers; last Friday we had Greg Kimberly who is an NHL referee who talked to kids about goal setting and teamwork; they were really engaged with his talk

Graduation – Ceremonies will be on June 19th for SK and June 22nd for Grade 8s

Report Cards - come home on Monday, June 22nd

School Mass – last one for the school year is on June 24th

Dress Down Day - June 25th – will be Canada Day theme; kids can wear red and white

School Starts – Tuesday, September 8th

Next CSPC Meeting – September 23rd

Curriculum Night – September 24th

Vice-Principal's Report (*Ms. VanDinter*)

I have been here for two year and have enjoyed being at St. Greg's; it is bittersweet for me.

Report on Budget – we have 5-10% of our budget left; we are looking at various consumables for next year; we are topping up the textbooks we have.

FDK/Early Learning Kindergarten Program – Feedback on program; first year of early years FDK; overall it has been a successful year; one of the areas we have noticed and will continue on are self-regulation; focus has been on emotional self-regulation; students to learn how to talk out their problems; continuing to talk to them and explain how to use their words; we have seen maturity since the first day of school;

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SK helping the younger ones coming into program; goals we are looking at is purchase some more outdoor equipment for their area; staggered recess has been working well; we would like to have more equipment; want to focus on inquiry based learning – children are curious about their surroundings, natural curiosity and looking at their interests; bringing their environment into their classroom.

IT – I was asked about our needs; the iPads and notebooks are fabulous and the karts are amazing; they reboot/power devices up at night; the Board is recommending us to go with Chromebook; designed to be used with internet only; Google app based; specifically meant for classroom use; \$345/Chromebook; we would need 25 of them; best to get a kart as it is invaluable; the kart is \$1880; cost of 25 Chromebooks with tax is \$13,575.50; probably used more with intermediates; route that Board is suggesting; we could also purchase the Apple TV; Apple TV is \$99 each; TV would support the iPads.

Other items on 'wishlist' would be TV in main hallway; lines for outside in the playground; repainting all the games and adding more foursquare games; can be done over summer; possible turf for the kindergarten yard.

Treasurer's Report (Phil Vokins)

Phil presented the financial statements; we have been audited by the school Board; Food Share should be moved to HAT

Lengthy discussion regarding the school's wishlist and budget surplus. The wishlist contained playground lines/games in both yards approximately \$2500-\$2700 to be completed this summer and ready for September; the other item was an Apple TV for the foyer, approximately \$1000.

An electronic vote to be held on July 17th; motion to adopt 1st – Ed, 2nd – Angie; all in favour; no one opposed.

Sub-Committees

BRICKS – (Tanya) students will receive BRICKS awards (x4) along with Foundation Builders (x4) on graduation night

Cycle Yonge - (Phil) – the bike donation sale was a success; we sold 14 bikes - 14 families walked away with new bikes.

Grade 8/SK Graduation - (Angie) – we are all organized; Mr. Pannozzo sent out a letter of what is happening that day;

CSPC Elections (Jennifer Pyz) – Everything is on website

Swim Team – (Jennifer Pyz) – Regards to hosting a swim meet, Vita and I met with an organizer; come next year in November we will do a presentation of what people we would need to pull together and possibly shadow St. Clements

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Adam presented Angie and Vince with a card from CSPC to acknowledge the end of their tenure as long standing members of CSPC and for their contributions over the years.

8:59pm - meeting adjourned until September 23, 2015

E-Vote – July 17, 2015

An electronic vote was held via email on July 17, 2015 to allocate \$2500-\$2700 to repaint the lines and games in the JK/SK play area and school yard provided we have a budget surplus after taking into account monies already allocated to IT through Cycle Yonge and the arts through ARTucate.

Ten (11) voted in favour (Adam, Tanya, Mike, Daniela, Vito, Sandy, Ed, Nadia, Jessie, Celia)

Two (2) undecided votes (Lori, Vince)

No response (Phil, Marjorie, Angie, Diane)

Motion passed.