

## **St. Gregory Catholic School Advisory Council**

### **Minutes of meeting for Wednesday September 22, 2010.**

Attendees: John Cassidy, Riccardo Agostino, Teresa Coelho, Frank Massari, Anne Mishko, Marianne Williams, Jeanine Larmour, Michelle Niedbala, Vince Arone, Michael Olah, Olivio Fatigati, Anne Shaw, Nadine Lustri, Sandra Antoniadis, Maya Deiulis, Rick Sarabia, Vita Peri, Angela Severino, Antonella Wild, Dorothy Price, Franco Vizeacoumar, Jesslet Siluvairayan, Melanie Fernandez-Alvares, Tanya Giaquinto, Christine Kettel, Jackie Dansereau, Daniela Balsamo.

7:10 Opening prayer, Mr. Cassidy

- 1) Motion to adopt minutes from last CSAC meeting – Michelle Niedbala, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeanine Larmour. Passed.

#### Principal's Report – Mr. Cassidy

- 2) Mr. Cassidy comes to us out of his first year of retirement. He was principal at Our Lady of Sorrows. Thank you to parents for patience during the first few weeks of school.
- 3) Enrollement this year is 625 students. There are no changes scheduled as of yet.
- 4) As this is a critical time for Catholic education he encourages everyone to make St. Greg's a visibly Catholic community.
- 5) Safety for all at school is a priority. This includes students, staff and visitors. He would like to stress that it takes a whole community to educate a child successfully. Wants to encourage an atmosphere of inclusion and fairness for all.
- 6) His policy in short is "Happy kids learn. Sad kids don't."

#### Vice Principal – Mr. Agostino

- 7) Mr. Agostino advises that to ensure kids are happy and safe, any time there is an issue it is addressed immediately.
- 8) Primary students are discouraged from using the play structures in the green space during recess. They are welcome to use them when they are being directly supervised (i.e. during gym or DPA)
- 9) They have found that the Peace Garden was being misused and the trees were being damaged. The students have been asked to stay off of and outside of the small fence.
- 10) Students are being sent to the washroom in pairs. They are also being reminded that they can turn to any staff if they need help – they are not limited to their teacher for that school year.
- 11) Birthdays are announced over the PA and celebrants are given a ribbon to wear for the day.
- 12) Both the girls and boys soccer teams won the divisionals and will be advancing. Volleyball is coming up next.
- 13) The new school website is up and running. Can be accessed from the board website. [www.stgregorytoronto.com](http://www.stgregorytoronto.com)
- 14) LCD projectors were installed in 9 rooms over the summer and power issues have been fixed. Mrs. Barone the librarian will see to the teacher's training.

#### Treasurer's Report – Teresa Coelho

- 15) Teresa reviewed the handout – Treasurer's Report for the year ended August 31, 2010.
- 16) Pointed out that the carry-over from previous years has been reduced and Mr Cassidy advises that the board mandates that the funds raised should be used in the school year they were raised.
- 17) Nadine Lustri, parent at St. Greg's and a CA provided the Review of the report. The Accountant's Report is attached to the above handout. She also advises that attendance at the annual Budget Subcommittee meeting is important and open to all parents. This is where parents have input on how the funds will be used this school year.

#### Parent Involvement Sub Committee – Anne Mishko

- 18) Anne advises that the Bingo night last year was well received as was the family skate. There are plans for another skate and possibly a movie night for the community.
- 19) Notes that the Math night and gingerbread making were run by the school administration and/or the student council.

#### Health and Safety Sub Committee – Jeanine Larmour

- 20) The big topic this year will be the upcoming school dress code. Has to be implemented as of Sept 2011.
- 21) Thank you to Angie Severino who headed some great events last year that the students really enjoyed.

#### Swim Meet Sub Committee – Michelle Niedbala

- 22) The swim meet is a competition available to all students in Gr 2 or higher. Practices occur at Montgomery Pool.
- 23) We need to look at possibly hosting the spring 2012 event, but this is a huge undertaking for the school community – many volunteers and man hours are required.

#### Curriculum, Programs and Presentations – Teresa Coelho

- 24) This is a great opportunity for parents to become familiar with and involved in the student's learning plan.
- 25) Last year's teacher survey about fund allocations was very informative. Majority wanted to retain the Scientist in the School programs, but over half were interested in having science materials purchased for regular use in the classrooms.
- 26) Many teachers had concerns around updating and maintaining the technology available as well.

#### Pizza Lunch – Jackie Dansereau

- 27) Pizza lunch to occur every other Thursday. Pizza Nova has been our supplier, but Panago pizza has provided samples this evening as a solicitation for our business.
- 28) The QSP campaign is starting this Friday the 24<sup>th</sup> and will run until Oct 13<sup>th</sup>. The link is available on the new website and we encourage internet orders and renewals.

Milk Program – Sandra Antoniadis

29) Sandra and Dorothy Price will be running the program this year. Milk distribution to begin Oct 4<sup>th</sup>. They are considering the option of smoothies as well.

30) Students are encouraged to keep tickets at home.

Pastoral Council – Vince Arone

31) Vince advises that the Pastoral Council for St. Gregory's Church meets every 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month. It is comprised of the various ministries within the church.

32) The major issues last year were the Roger's tower and the launch of the website.

33) This year the Archdiocese is focusing on each parish sponsoring a Catholic family from Iraq.

BRICKS Sub Committee – Daniela Balsamo

34) Information regarding the BRICKS is available on the school website. The nomination forms are also available there.

35) This year will focus on the new points program aimed towards the intermediate students.

Chair's Report – Adam Grnak

36) Welcome to Mr. Cassidy and welcome back to Mr. Agostino.

37) The new website is available and the LCD projector installation has begun. These are a result of the Jan2009 brainstorming session CSAC hosted with parents and faculty.

38) Curriculum BBQ was a success.

39) Congratulations to the BRICKS award recipients from the graduation ceremony last spring.

40) The Dream to be Green project is complete, as are the new games painted in the school yard.

41) The new joint website is a wonderful way to build closer ties between the church and school communities. Also notes that there will no longer be emails going out to individuals. The information usually provided this way will now be made available on the website for all.

42) The Family Skate party and Bingo night were well received and the work of the Parent Involvement Sub Committee was appreciated.

43) Thank you to the 2009/2010 CSAC for all their hard work and to all the parent/teacher and staff volunteers for making St. Greg's a wonderful place for our children.

Resignation of the 2009/2010 CSAC: Motion Michelle Niedbala. 2<sup>nd</sup> Teresa Coelho. Passed.

There are 14 applications for CSAC positions. There are 10 positions available. These will be determined by a vote of all those present.

Remaining applicants are invited to sit with council as Community Representatives.

26 ballots are tabulated by Mr. Cassidy, Mr. Agostino and Mrs. Lustri.

8:35pm. New council for 2010/2011 is: Jackie Dansereau, Daniela Balsamo, Adam Grnak, Jeanine Larmour, Frank Massari, Anne Mishko, Michelle Niedbala, Michael Olah, Vita Peri and Angie Severino. Community Rep positions accepted by Olivio Fatigati, Tanya Giaquinto, Jesslet Siluvairayan and Rick Sarabia.

New Council Positions

Chair – Adam Grnak (Motion Mike Olah, 2<sup>nd</sup> Anne Mishko)

Vice Chair – Jackie Dansereau (Motion Michelle Niedbala, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jeanine Larmour)

Secretary – Daniela Balsamo (Motion Jackie Dansereau, 2<sup>nd</sup> Angie Severino)

Treasurer – Frank Massari (Motion Jackie Dansereau, 2<sup>nd</sup> Anne Mishko)

Sub Committees

Budget – Michelle Niedbala

Curriculum, Programs and Presentations – Vita Peri

Technology Renewal – Rick Sarabia

Health and Safety – Jeanine Larmour and Michelle Niedbala

BRICKS – Daniela Balsamo, Michelle Niedbala and Jesslet Siluvairayan.

New Fundraising – Angie Severino

Historic Fundraising – Daniela Balsamo

Parent Involvement – Anne Mishko and Mike Olah

Special Projects – Michelle Niedbala and Tanya Giaquinto

Pastoral Council Rep – Vince Arone

The Budget meeting has been set for Wednesday October 6<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the music room.

CSAC's next meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday October 20<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the music room. The agenda for the meeting will be available on the website two weeks before the meeting.

9:08pm – Meeting adjourned.