

# St Gregory Catholic School Advisory Council (CSAC) Monthly Meeting Minutes

## **Meeting Minutes from Wednesday, February 19, 2014**

**Attendees:** Benedek G, Power E, VanDinter K, Severino A, Peri V, Ruso D, Tenuta L, Antoniadis S, Arone V, Balsamo D, Cimolai A, D'Alessandro G, Donnaperina N, Fanelli L, Holyday S, Vaccarelli V, Zizek E, Berardi E, DaMetto A, Hall T, Lustri N, Loughlin Plut K, Mardegan S, Pyz J, Santos L, Wild A, Williams M.

**Regrets:** De Franco L, Filippozzi E, Grnak A, Mishko A, Ribeiro A, Vokins P.

**7:03pm** - Welcome by chair and the opening prayer was led by Ms. Benedek.

### Agenda Items

#### **1. Chair's Report (Administrative Items)**

- a. The evening's regrets were noted.
- b. The **meeting minutes** from the council meeting (January 22<sup>nd</sup>) were approved and are posted on the CSAC website.
- c. An amendment to the agenda was made to include Teacher Appreciation Luncheon and Sacramental Luncheon (Ana Cimolai).
- d. Irene Tavares resigned her position on CSAC. Irene's position on CSAC will remain vacant, however, a replacement is being sought for Co-Lead, Fundraising.

#### **2. Principal's Report**

- a. The annual **Ski/Snowboard** day for Grades 5-8 at Mt St. Louis/Moonstone was held on **February 13<sup>th</sup>**. There were over 200 students in attendance and a fun time was had by all.
- b. The **Math** and **Literacy** initiatives continue.
- c. The Board will not support gently used laptops but will accept donations of such to the school that meet minimum requirements and, time permitting, set them up for us. As to families who do not have technology, that does not fall to the Board's mandate.
- d. The **Multi Year Strategic Plan** (MYSP) survey was distributed home with report cards last week. The focus of the survey is to support student achievement and well being. Parents are encouraged to complete the survey.
- e. St. Greg's has been asked to participate in a **research study** through **CAMH** with permission granted from TCDSB. The research project, entitled "Study of Child Development and Prenatal Risk Factors" looks to examine the physical and psychological development of elementary students in the GTA. The research coordinator will be visiting the school on February 26th to distribute the consent forms to the students. Participation is completely voluntary.
- f. The process of automation of the **library books** is almost complete with approximately 5000 out of 14000 books complete. The carpet is being replaced with tiles and an area rug will be placed either in the primary area or the under the smart board. A big thank you to Ms. Barone and all the parents who have volunteered endless hours to this huge endeavour.
- g. **JK registration** - There are no further updates at this time.

#### **3. CSAC Events (Angie)**

- a. Toronto Police, 22 Division, no longer sponsors school community Bike Rodeo's.
- b. **EQAO** presentation was well received. Many parents were happy to see teachers who attended were well versed and represented the school well.
- c. The **MuchVideo Dance** on February 12<sup>th</sup> was a lot of fun. The gross amount was \$10,200; net generated just over \$8000. Thus far, \$794.14 was online donations through Canada Helps, but

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there are still donations coming through and Ms. Benedek will record these amounts. The classes with the most donations in each division receive either a pizza or ice cream party.

- d. **Shrove Tues** - St. Greg's and CSAC will be celebrating its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Shrove Tuesday on March 4. The pancakes (1-2/student) will be served mid-morning. Gluten free and peanut free pancakes will be available for those students who cannot partake of the regular batter. The school and CSAC will share in the expenses. **Council motion was unanimously approved to contribute \$125 towards the event.**
- e. **Dates to Diarize:**
  - February 22<sup>nd</sup>** - Family Skate
  - February 27<sup>th</sup>** - Cyber Bullying and Internet Safety Presentation
  - March 4<sup>th</sup>** - Shrove Tuesday
  - March 6<sup>th</sup>** - Apple Crunch
  - March 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>** - Fun Food Fridays
  - April 3<sup>rd</sup>** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Bi-Annual Health and Wellness Day
  - April 10<sup>th</sup>** - Bingo Night
  - April 23<sup>rd</sup>** - Teacher Appreciation Luncheon
  - June 12<sup>th</sup>** - BBQ Family Fun Night
  - June 19<sup>th</sup>** - Grade 8 Graduation
  - June 20<sup>th</sup>** - SK Graduation
  - June 23<sup>rd</sup>** - Sacramental Lunch (Grades 2, 7, &8)

#### **4. Parent Teacher's Conference Follow up (Vita)**

Vita made a presentation to the Student Achievement Committee of the Board (Feb 6<sup>th</sup>) regarding the elimination of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Parent Teacher Conference. Vita thanked all of the parents who came out and showed their support as well as parents who sent in letters as part of the letter writing campaign. Trustee Ann Andrachuk was paramount in supporting this and moving the Board to take quick action. Superintendent Doug Yack was very appreciative to see so many parents attend the meeting on behalf of St. Gregory's school. The Board communicated the following 1. The tentative plan for the 2014/2015 academic year includes two interviews, 2. A letter was sent out to schools providing guidance on meeting with teachers even though there are no formal interviews and 3. The Board write to the Premier and Minister of Education on how the reduction in the number of interview dates is contrary to Parental Engagement and Student Achievement. A Toronto Star article was prompted by the St Gregory initiative and was briefly discussed on Talk 1010 with John Tory. A letter was sent out to the parent community informing them of the outcome of the meeting. A meeting has been set to meet with MPP Donna Cansfield for February 28.

#### **5. Treasurer's Report (Domenic)**

Domenic presented the January financials. Request made to note "milk revenues" flow under "net revenue". This change will be made commencing with the February financials. There is likely a need for a 3<sup>rd</sup> fridge to house milk for the Full Day Kindergarten in September.

#### **6. Teacher Appreciation Luncheon/Sacramental Luncheon (Ana)**

The annual **teacher appreciation** luncheon is April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Parents are asked to donate desserts. Further information will be circulated. The **sacramental luncheon** is June 23<sup>rd</sup> and will be held in the church basement to accommodate the communion/confirmation candidates. CSAC will supply the meal and cake. Parents with children in Grades 1 & 6 will be asked to supply a healthy food item. It was decided that a check list of food items be circulated to avoid duplication to parents in Grades 1 & 6.

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### 7. Subcommittee Updates

#### A. Community Events (Vita)

1. The **Family Fun Skate Night** to be held at the Mastercard Centre (Rink 1) on February 22<sup>nd</sup> (6:45-8:15). \$2 per skater will be collected to cover the cost of renting the ice. Cookies/hot chocolate/coffee will be served at no cost. Helmets are mandatory.
2. **Cyber Bullying and Internet Safety Presentation** to be held at the school gymnasium on February 27<sup>th</sup>. The presentation will discuss ways of protecting our children in this electronic age. Everyone is encouraged to come out.
3. **Family Bingo Night** to be held on **Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup>** in the school gym.

#### B. Fundraising (Angie)

1. **BBQ Family Fun Night** (June 12<sup>th</sup>): Subcommittee meeting deferred until next month.
2. **Pavers**: The subcommittee team met and discussed the possibility of 3 paver types.
  - 4x8": \$125 (2 lines)
  - 8x8": \$300 (3 lines)
  - 8x8": \$500 (Corporate logo)

It was suggested that the campaign support the "IT update" and "Musical Instrument repair" requirements with a fundraising goal of \$6,000. The start of sales/promo program will begin shortly after March break for a 5-6 week period (March 17<sup>th</sup> to May 3<sup>rd</sup>). The subcommittee is finalizing the details and will send all communication to council before circulating to the parent community.

#### C. Health & Safety (Angie)

The **Health & Wellness** team is arranging an interactive day for the intermediates on April 3<sup>rd</sup> with a combination of guest speakers and wellness activities. Fun Food Fridays for JK-Grade 6 students, is planned over 2 Fridays in March for students from JK-Grade 6. The theme is "calcium". The school is the recipient of a \$1000 grant from the "Green Apple Foundation" and will help fund the Health and Wellness Day. Ms. Benedek will communicate these important events to parents to help achieve and maintain health, wellness and balance in their child's life. In addition, she will contact the board to showcase these important events on the TCDSB website. An invitation will be extended to Trustee Andrachuk and Superintendent Mr. Yack.

#### D. Pastoral Council (Vince)

The church kitchen was affected by the summer flood and will re-open at the end of February. CWL is hosting Coffee Sunday on March 9<sup>th</sup>. Refreshments will be served after each mass. CSAC would like to host a Coffee Sunday in April/May and as with previous years council would donate any baked goods or refreshments. **Council motion was unanimously approved to host Coffee Sunday and contribute \$80 towards this event.** Vince will discuss dates with Father John and confirm back at the next CSAC meeting.

#### E. Bricks/Foundation Building Awards (Domenic)

Domenic received great feedback. The forms will be finalized next week. Domenic will meet with the Grade 8 students on March 5, explain the program in detail and distribute the final packages. The nomination committee is not finalized however, will consist of Ms. Benedek, 1 non CSAC member, 1 CSAC member who does not have a child in Grade 8 and, 2 individuals from the community. If you would like to be on the Committee, email your nomination to Domenic and at the April CSAC meeting, council will vote by ballot. Also, email to Domenic any potential Community Members that you feel would be suitable candidates to sit on the Committee.

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### F. IT (Stephen)

The main focus for IT is to complete the basic equipment purchase and get each class a working device, as well as complete the survey for recommendation and concentrate on a 3-year plan in setting a roadmap for the school/CSAC funded usage. As we move towards, a more current "vision" for a technology platform using tablets, wireless etc. would make the interactions more current to what teachers, students and parents use today. The Board received a report outlining the status of implementation of WiFi in elementary schools, reflecting the Boards commitment to 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning, and enabling Bring Your Own Device (BYOD). While the TCDSB has established a "BYOD" protocol for the academic use of electronic devices in the classroom setting at the teacher's discretion, the social use of such devices is **not** allowed at St. Greg's.

8. The next CSAC meeting is scheduled on **Wednesday, April 23, 2014.**

**Meeting adjourned 8:51PM.**

### 9. ACTION ITEMS

Action Item	Person Responsible	Details	Timeline
Parent Teacher Conferences	Chair & Co-Chair, CSAC	Meeting with MMP Donna Cansfield.	February 28th
Administrative Items	Ms. Benedek & Chair, CSAC	Finalize total amount of online donations (dance a thon) through Canada Helps.	April 23, 2014
Sacramental Luncheon	Chair & Co-Chair, CSAC & Ana Cimolai	Enquire about a donation for drinks.	June, 2014
Pastoral Council	Vince Arone	Confirm Coffee Sunday date.	April 23, 2014
Bricks Awards	Domenic Ruso	Finalize forms and nomination committee & confirm nomination committee by ballot at April CSAC mtg.	April 23, 2014
IT	Stephen Holyday/Phil Vokins	Develop free short survey of IT needs before Ms Benedek meets with her staff.	April, 2014