

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

Meeting Minutes from Wednesday, February 25, 2015

Attendees: Pannozzo, J (*Principal*), VanDinter K (*Vice-Principal*), Grnak A (*Chair*), Giaquinto T (*Vice-Chair*), Gravina S (*Secretary*), Arone V, Balsamo D, Berardi E, Bridger M, D'Alessandro G, Desira M, Filippozzi E, Goncalves C, Hoult N, Jacinto S, Mishko A, Pyz J, Severino A, Tenuta L, Vaccarelli V, Ward J

Regrets: Vokins P (*Treasurer*) (*authorized Adam Grnak as proxy*)

7:02pm Adam welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited Mr. Pannozzo to say opening prayer

Chair's Report (*Adam Grnak*)

The CSAC minutes of January 21, 2015 were approved by council and posted on website.

Parent/Teacher Interviews – held evening of February 12, CSAC had arranged a table with information about SGS CSAC including milk program and pizza lunch; offered complimentary decaf and regular coffee for parents.

Family Fun Skate – held on February 15, 2015 at the MasterCard Centre; it was a great event; it was our 6th annual fun skate and 4th year at the MasterCard Centre; thank you to Anne Mishko on behalf of Council; we had a good turn out with just over 200 attendees; we were able to outfit three (3) kids to be able to enjoy event.

Shrove Tuesday – on February 17, 2015; thank you to Daniela Balsamo; it was well organized; we fed the entire school and finished around 11am.; thank you to Nadia Hoult for getting all those gift cards, pancake mix and syrup; we need to acknowledge Sponsors; all extra pancakes were donated to Second Harvest.

Teacher Luncheon – will be held on March 25, 2015 as agreed upon with Mr. Pannozzo.

Dance-A-Thon – will be held on March 27, 2015 for entire school; all grades at different times.

Family BINGO Night – will be held on April 16, 2015, 6pm-8:30pm.

BBQ Fun Night – will be held on June 4, 2015.

Next Sub-Committee – will be on April 8th to discuss fundraiser - Cycle Yonge, to consider whether we continue with QSP next year and to discuss other fundraising options (possibly greeting cards); Graduation Sub-Committee will be meeting that night as well.

Next CSAC Meeting – April 22, 2015

Principal's Report (*Mr. Pannozzo*)

Extended French Information Night will be held tomorrow night, February 26, 2015.

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Math Night – successful event; with 70% of parents’ providing feedback, overall was very good; evening was well organized; parents enjoyed to work through activities with their children; suggestion that perhaps separating divisions in future evenings.

Enrollment – we are at 697 for next year; will be looking at staffing allocations for next year; how many teachers I will be allocating to the teachers model; FDK is quite robust; probably getting an SK1 next year but will update.

African Presentation – rescheduled for Monday, March 9th;

Chess Club – is going really well; consistently Friday mornings we have 55 kids in grades 4-8 and at lunchtime 70 kids; chess club continues for next two Fridays;

Basketball – both girl and boy teams participated in the finals;

Junior W5H – grades 4, 5 and 6 did well in participating in the debate;

Shrove Tuesday – thank you to parent volunteers for helping.

Ash Wednesday – was on February 18th

Swim to Survive – grade 4s will go for three straight Thursdays in May.

Ski Trips – Cancelled due to weather; postponed to March 10th for grade 4 students and March 11th for grades 5-8.

Ice Hockey Team – will be at a tournament on March 5th and 6th at Ricoh.

Swim Team – will be competing on March 7th and 8th; athletes to meet at 7am on Saturday and 8am on Sunday

First Reconciliation – will be next week at 9:15 and then confessions for grades 6-8;

Alumni – Matt Finn came a couple of weeks ago with Connor Brown; Finn went to St. Greg’s and Connor went to St. Clements; they spoke to kids about bullying for about one hour.

Vice Principal’s Report (Ms. VanDinter)

Budget – we have a healthy budget with \$19,000 left; math manipulatives have been ordered for each class.

We are also in process of conducting a climate survey from grades 6-8 to allow safe schools team to assess student perception; to improve needs and strengths and also areas we need to improve.

World Prayer Day – is on March 6th; student leaders preparing that.

Autism Awareness Day – is on March 11th; to raise awareness and understanding on autism

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Student Leader Activities -

- in January we had Jersey Day; we also had a shoe drive and collected a whole skid;
- had Angel Foundation Week which included candygram promotions and read prayers; educated students about what the Angel Foundation is and raised over \$1,000;
- March 13th will be Wear Green Day
- March 27th will be Earth Hour; students are encouraged to wear earth colours; student leaders will be promoting conserving energy that day
- Safe School Charity Project - each school is asked to decorate a chair to reflect a safe school; student leaders will take this on; they want to build a chair and they will decorate it; it is our year of Charity; all chairs are due April 7th; each month the school board will post pictures of a chair

Treasurer's Report *(Adam on behalf of Phil)*

CSAC Financial Statements – Phil, with the assistance of Dominic, prepared financial statements.

There were no questions from Council.

Sub-Committee Reports

Community Events – (Anne) – next event coming up is BINGO night; our goal is to borrow/purchase a decent machine and a good sound system;

Grade 8/SK Graduation – (Angela/Celia) -

- preliminary stages; met with Mr. Pannozzo last week;
- *SK graduation* will be on June 19th at 9:30am., there will only be one ceremony; there will be reception with juice and cupcakes after convocation;
- Preliminary gift ideas: Dr. Seuss “All the Place You Can Go”; CD, frame, book for grade 8s...looking for suggestions;
- *Grade 8 graduation* will be on June 22nd commencing with the “clap out” around 11am (parents are invited to attend clap out); grads will be attending the Old Mill for lunch and be back at the school for 2pm; dance will be in the gym between 2pm-4pm; students will then go home; have made arrangements with Fr. John for church mass at 7pm and then reception at church hall.

BRICKS – (Tanya) – There are two different parts; there is a Grade 8 version and the Foundation Builders; application forms are online as of this morning; packages handed out including endorsement form that grade 8 teachers will fill out; this is a matter of encouraging students to nominate themselves, write an essay, have teachers endorse them and submit application;

We are looking for a CSAC member to join the committee; any one participating cannot have a child in grade 7 or 8; must exercise confidentiality in order to keep it objective; responsibilities would be to go through application packages; take notes; meet as a group and discuss why you choose to have person to receive BRICKS; suggestion by Vince that perhaps a grid would be easier to rank however Dom advised

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that we had the grid but people did not speak to the children as to what they were writing on their essays.

Students who are awarded will be announced during graduation; those who do not receive BRICKS award will receive a certificate; some boys have expressed interest that they want to participate.

Foundation Builders is a little different; a copy of nomination forms have been provided to all the teachers; have asked Mr. Pannozzo if we can tweet about Foundation as a reminder; copies are also in the office; students, staff and community can nominate students, staff or any one in community; nomination forms due May 1st.

Fundraising – (Adam) – Sub-Committee to meet on April 8th to discuss fundraising for the remainder of the year and next year; approached by Mr. Vennare, a long-term occasional teacher in grade 7, who would like to run an art sale event; students will create something and then offered to community for sale; event to be held on May 7th; money to be given to CSAC; we will draft communication that will go out to the student body; Mr. Vennare will be working it out; it will be held during Catholic Education Week.

H.A.T. – (Tanya) – Sub-Committee meeting will be held on March 4th.

CSAC & Admissions and Placement for Secondary Schools (Adam)

We engaged with a lot of other communities; decision deferred by the Board 6-8 months in order to digest feedback and consult with staff for recommendations; there will be no changes for September 2015

CSACs – have decided not to their bank accounts with school accounts; we may still do it and can decide as Council and parent community.

Pastoral Council (Adam on behalf of Dominic)

Trying to arrange another coffee Sunday in May.

Next Subcommittee Meeting – April 8th

Next CSAC meeting - April 22nd

8:27pm - meeting adjourned until April 22, 2015