

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

## **Meeting Minutes from Wednesday, January 22, 2014**

**Attendees:** Benedek G, Power E, VanDinter K, DeFranco L, Severino A, Peri V, Ruso D, Tenuta L, Antoniadis S, Arone V, Balsamo D, Cimolai A, D'Alessandro G, Donnaperina N, Filippozzi E, Holyday S, Mishko A, Vaccarelli V, Zizek E, Loughlin Plut K, Lustri N, Mardegan S, Pysz J, Staropoli D, Wild A, Williams M.

**Regrets:** Fanelli L, Grnak A, Ribeiro A, Tavares I, Vokins P.

**7:02pm** - Angie Severino - Welcome back and Happy New Year.

**7:05pm** - Ms. Benedek - Opening Prayer

### Agenda Items

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

- a. The **meeting minutes** from the **December 11, 2013** council meeting were approved and are posted on the CSAC website.
- b. Lori reminded all council members that it is their obligation to review, edit and approve the minutes of the **CSAC meetings**. There are parents who are not on CSAC and would like to know what took place at these meetings as well to find out what is happening in the school community in a timely fashion.
- c. The **Much Video Dance-a-thon Fundraiser** kickoff event was held on January 14<sup>th</sup>. The dance is scheduled for February 12<sup>th</sup>. Videos will be age and content appropriate. Students are encouraged to wear red and white in recognition of Valentine's Day and in support of the Canadian Olympians. Information about the dance and pledge forms was sent home this week.

**2. Board Presentation on Conflict Resolution** - presentation by Ms. Suzy Kawasaki, Supervisor of Conflict Resolution, TCDSB. The presentation is posted on the CSAC website.

#### **3. Principal's Report**

- a. The **Christmas Hamper Baskets Project** (Grades 4-8) was a huge success and supported 14 families. The funds (\$615) collected from December Civvies day were used to purchase various items to complete the baskets as well as food vouchers for the St. Vincent de Paul Society. The **Christmas Sweet Read** (JK-Gr 3) was well received and appreciated. Ms. Benedek thanked the St. Greg's community for supporting both of these meaningful initiatives.
- b. **Math Resource Day** for the junior division is being supported by the Board's Math resource department through the provision of 6 code days for the division to address division specific needs and challenges.
- c. Mrs. VanDinter is exploring more efficient, productive ways in making our students more numerate through numeracy and literacy initiatives that see students visiting Michael Power St. Joseph.
- d. On Tuesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, Mrs. Van Dinter, Ms. Italiano and 25 intermediate, volunteered Grade 8 students, are taking part in the **Intermediate Leadership Conference** at Fr. John Redmond.
- e. The school will adopt the "**Daily 5**" which supports comprehensive literacy as a framework for literacy instruction in primary classrooms. The superintendant is very supportive of this initiative. There are three teachers who volunteered and will visit St. Jude's School tomorrow (January 23<sup>rd</sup>) to familiarize themselves with the shared learning module.

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- f. The school held a meeting on January 15 for those families with children in Grade 4 who are interested in the **Extended French Program**. To date, there are 23 students (from St. Greg's) and 5 students (outside St. Greg's) registered for September.
- g. **JK registration** has reached capacity for the three classes that have been allotted to the school and are now wait listing those families that are completing the pre-registration application on-line. The school is waiting to hear from the Board how to proceed in meeting the needs of the community. Since this was a board role out, Ms. Benedek invites families who are on the wait list, to call the trustee/superintendent and voice their concerns. In preparation for the Full Day Learning in September, Mrs. DeFranco and Ms. Aceto are taking part in the Full Day Learning experience at other schools.

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

An action plan was implemented to address the cancellation of the February 2014 Parent Teacher Interviews and to ensure two Parent Teacher Interviews are retained in subsequent years prior to the Board finalizing plans for the 2014-2015 school year. An application was put forward to voice our concerns at the next Board meeting on February 6<sup>th</sup>. Letters to parents were sent home seeking parent participation and support at the Board meeting. Discussion with our local MPP will be arranged after the Board meeting. Parents are encouraged to return their forms asap. If would like to attend the board meeting, please notify Vita Peri.

#### **5. Treasurer's Report**

Domenic presented the December financials. There was little activity this month. The report will be posted on the website along with the minutes.

#### **6. Computers**

A parent inquired about accepting donated computers/laptops from companies who no longer use them. Ms. Benedek will check with the board to determine whether or not the computers/laptops would be supported through the board. Another parent asked about accepting these computers/laptops with the possibility of donating them to families in the school community who do not have access to computers/laptops.

#### **7. Subcommittee Updates**

##### **Communication/Website (Alessia)**

Angie thanked Alie for her outstanding work designing an intuitive website and for also keeping the site up to date. Alie created a "sponsor page" on the CSAC website, thanking all the sponsors for their generous contributions to various St. Greg's events for this academic year.

##### **Community Events (Vita)**

- a. The **EQAO parent presentation** is scheduled on Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the school gymnasium to look at results and data based on the math curriculum. All parents are encouraged to attend.
- b. The **Family Fun Skate Night** to be held at the Mastercard Centre 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. Forms were sent home earlier this week. If there are families who require skates or helmets, they are asked to contact to Angie. Additional volunteers are required for the event. Please contact Vita Peri if you are available.

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- c. **Cyber Bullying and Internet Safety Presentation** to be held at the school gymnasium on February 27<sup>th</sup>. Officer McBryde will provide a presentation on ways of protecting our children in this electronic age. Everyone is encouraged to come out.

### **Fundraising (Angie)**

- a. The **Much Video Dance-a-thon** is scheduled for February 12<sup>th</sup>. Videos will be age and content appropriate. Information about the dance as well as pledge forms were sent home this week. Donations have started to come in. There were concerns from parents who attended the assembly that the sound was "loud". Angie will speak to Rob, from Much Music, to adjust the sound controls.
- b. Fundraising for the **Paving Stones** in the green space will begin at the end of February. The subcommittee (Angie, Vince, Sandra, Gina, Helen, Lori) are finalizing the details. Further information will be provided at the next meeting.
- c. The **BBQ Fundraiser** subcommittee will meet next month to begin planning for this fun and exciting event.

### **Health & Safety (Angie)**

- a. The **Intermediate Health and Safety Day** is scheduled on Friday April 4<sup>th</sup>. The full day, wellness event is geared to Grades 7 and 8 students and focuses on health and wellness. It will be an all day event, with presenters from Etobicoke Dojo, GEM Life Coaching and Consulting and Body Control Pilates. There are a few more presenters that we are still confirming.
- b. **Fun Food Fridays (FFF)** for the primary and junior classes are scheduled on March 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>. The theme is "Calcium". FFF is always a big hit.

### **Pastoral Council (Vince)**

Father John held an introduction session for students receiving the sacrament of **First Holy Communion and Confirmation** on January 15<sup>th</sup>. Sacramental classes started this evening (Jan 22) and are scheduled weekly until June. First Holy Communion is scheduled on June 22nd and Confirmation is June 7th.

### **Foundation/Brick Awards**

On December 19<sup>th</sup>, Daniela, Tanya and Domenic presented an overview of the enhanced **Foundation/Bricks Awards Program** to the intermediate students. The program was well received from the students. Domenic is finalizing the documents and arranging for a final presentation outlining the specifics to the Grade 8 classes in mid-February. Everyone is encouraged to attend the Bricks subcommittee on February 5<sup>th</sup>.

8. The next CSAC meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 19, 2014 @ 7PM.**

**Meeting adjourned 8:37PM.**

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### 9. ACTION ITEMS

Action Item	Person Responsible	Details	Timeline
Parent Teacher Conferences	Council Executive with Council	Collect and collate parent forms. Attend Board meeting on Feb 6 <sup>th</sup> . Contact MMP office after board meeting.	February 2014
Community Events (Skate Night)	Vita Peri	Skate Night – Finalize number of students who do not have skates/helmets Confirm volunteers for event.	February 19, 2014
Community Events (Bike Rodeo)	Ms. Benedek	To contact 22 Division and enquire if they sponsor a Bike Rodeo or similar event.	TBA
Bricks Awards	Domenic Ruso	Subcommittee meeting, Feb 5 <sup>th</sup> .	February 19, 2014
Fundraising (BBQ Fun Fair)	Fundraising Subcommittee	Meet to plan for event	February 19, 2014
Fundraising (Paving Stones)	Subcommittee Members	Finalize costs and develop forms for distribution to parent/school community	February 19, 2014
Computers	Council Executive with Council	Ms Benedek to check if the board will support the gently used computers/laptops. Decide to collect donated computers/laptops from school community or companies for those families who do not have computers.	TBA
IT	Stephen Holyday/Phil Vokins	Develop free short survey of IT needs before Ms Benedek meets with her staff on January 14, 2014	February 19, 2014