

BISHOP TONNOS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

October 25, 2021

Minutes

Attendees: Mr. Barone, Anthony Mari, Rosie Donnelly, Elizabeth Wong, Bianca Carrara, Jamie West, Stefanie Seiler, Amparo de la Garza, Soonhe, Cathy Tassone, Cassandra Noien-Atme, Tara Perri, Anderson Medina, Izzy Grzelak, Linda Belardi-Maguire, Sandra, Rebecca Newberry.

Regrets: Diana Galama

1. Prayer – see attached – Elizabeth Wong led the prayer.
2. Acceptance of Minutes from last meeting – Minutes available at – Rosie Motions and Anthony seconds. <https://bt.hwcdsb.ca/school/catholicschoolcouncil/?fileID=517691>
3. Chair Report(s)
 - a. Pro Grant - \$1000. Have until November 29th to submit application.
 - i. Elizabeth and Diana will get in touch with the Chair at St. Mary's as this person led this initiative last year where we pooled funds. Mr. Barone suggests checking in on this to see if we will pool money again like last year, before we decide to go ahead and move forward with our own decision on what to use the Pro Grant money for. Last year we had a Speaker series for parents that we may want to do again if we decide to work together with the other schools and pool our money. If we don't go in that direction, we can decide how we will use our funds with our school only this year.
4. Student Council Report
 - a. Student council president was playing at our basketball game so isn't here this evening.
 - b. Welcomed Grade 9 students with activities on the field.
 - c. Running virtual events on our News show in the morning.
 - d. On Friday of this week going ahead with toonies for tuition – Halloween Costume or Spirit Wear or Black/Orange.
 - e. Our student council has been part of a campaign to have students to attend sporting events. Student trustees have put a petition to our board. Being looked at later this week.
5. Principal's Report

- a. New Chaplain is Tina Fitzgerald. Chaplain Tina already done one Ancaster Food Drive for Ancaster Community Services.
- b. She will be running our modified Halloween for Hunger. The students will be going out to homes in our catchment area to hand out flyers. The students will go out and collect food on Sunday night and bring it in on Monday morning.
- c. This year we will be retaining some of the food for the families that we will support at our school. The leftovers will go to the Ancaster Community Services.
- d. Last Friday – Mr. Mike Di Federico – Canadian World Studies Department head. Walk for Wenjack was led by him. We are officially a Downey Wenjack Legacy school.
 - i. The group is to raise awareness and increase reconciliation and awareness.
 - ii. Last Friday we went to our back field.
 - 1. Two gentlemen from the NYA:WEH programs at Cathedral and Bernie Custis performed and honour song. After that, over two thirds of the school participated in walking around the track. Combined, we walked over 600 km. This is significant because it's the distance Chanie Wenjack needed to walk after leaving his residential school to get to his home. Chanie passed away on his walk from starvation and cold. We have raised well over 1000\$ to go to the museum in Brantford. That story will be available on our website and the board website.
- e. Transition to Grade 9 from our feeder schools starting soon
- f. United Way campaign starting soon
- g. Grade 8 information night held in mid-November – it will be like last year as a pre-recorded session. Parents will be able to ask questions, etc.
- h. Message that was supposed to get out from Mr. Barone is two-fold. There were technical issues so it didn't get sent out unfortunately but will go out soon:
 - i. First part was around garnering parent support in the community with how our students behave when they are outside. The students have been spoken to. The incidents have been about 50/50 with females and males.
 - 1. When students get out on their lunch – they turn into a very different group of students. Particularly at the businesses down the street. Not hearing from the businesses selling food but we have heard from the dentist and the women's gym. Some students are impeding people from getting into their businesses.
 - 2. There have been issues with students getting into fights where the businesses are.
 - 3. There has been an issue with students videotaping fights and putting them on social media as well. There have also been Tick Tok challenges as well. One of the latest ones is removing the lug

nuts from a teacher's car – this is very dangerous. Several situations are happening through social media.

4. There are three or four houses on Hamilton Drive that were purchased by some folks to renovate but they are right now sitting empty. The police and bylaw have been advised. Students are hanging out in these homes.
 5. Can we provide opportunities for parents to learn more about social media? We have done this in the past and we can certainly do more of this. Other things that the school board has done is through supporting mental health, Tik Tok challenges, social media, etc.
 6. Anthony has offered to represent our school as well at CPIC. What are other ways that we can provide students with opportunities to connect in a positive way. For example – the outdoor café at STM provides students with this opportunity. But we do need adults in the school to lead this.
- ii. Second part of the message was regarding students driving to school:
1. Some issues include loud music, donuts in the parking lot, mufflers that make a lot of noise, and speeding in the parking lot.
 2. The students have been spoken to. There will be a registration procedure for students and staff – they will be given a parking permit to put in their windshield. Also requesting speedbumps on that stretch of the parking lot, where students tend to speed. Have approached city council as well to put speedbumps on Panabaker. If the area has at least a 75% interest, then we can possibly do that – as a petition – then the city would seriously consider installing them.
 3. Those that fail to comply with those rules will not be allowed to park on school property.

6. Treasurer's Report

- a. \$289. Sign out front is priority this year.

7. New Business

- a. With cold weather coming, will there be places within the school for the children to go during their lunch hour?
 - i. Picnic tables have been used.
 - ii. Student council has talked about intramural activities during lunch hour.
 - iii. Principals have discussed doing a review of the COVID protocols to increase the number of people that we can allow in the cafeteria. Alternatively, we may return to students staying in the classroom

because we can't have all the children in the hallways at the same time. We are limited to the amount of time we can have teachers assigned to supervision.

- b. Will there be mid-term reports during each quadmester? Reporting is end of each quadmester currently (legally). Right now, parents can expect 4 report cards. In the meantime, advice to staff has been to provide feedback to parents and students regularly. Advantage is the LMS is available. Informal progress reports are going to the kids, and they are being encouraged to share those with their parents.
8. Adjournment – Anthony motioned. Rosie seconded.

Catholic School Council Prayer

God, the source of every good gift

You have called us together as servants to do your will

Grant us the light of your spirit

To guide us in our responsibilities as a School Council.

May we work together in harmony for the common good

May we listen to one another in a spirit of genuine respect

May we encourage and reverence one another's unique talents

May we use the gifts of the Spirit in creative Christian leadership

May we approach our decision making through discernment and prayer

May we respond effectively to the needs of the children in our care

God of Love

You give us the gifts of the Holy Spirit

For the common good

May your blessings radiate from us to others

In a new spirit of service

We ask this through Jesus Christ

The Light of the World

Amen