



**St. Jean De Brebeuf Catholic Secondary School
Catholic School Council**

Meeting Date: Monday February 28, 2022

Meeting #4
APPROVED

Chair: Diana Battilana

Attendance: Paul Di Ianni, Carm Bozzo, Diana Battilana, Christine DeGregorio, Angela Catania, Jennifer Curtis, Sharon Boase, Alice Vidinha, Pamela Guagliano, Jaclyn, Angelica Leeman, Lucy A, B. Zali Kan Kesh

Regrets: Flora Aloisio

ITEM 1 PRAYER/WELCOME

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm via Teams and S. Boase led the committee in a prayer. The chair welcomed the members. The agenda was reviewed and any new business was added to the agenda.

ITEM 2 STUDENT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORT (B. Zali Kan Kesh)

Tuesday February 29, is Pancake Tuesday. Students will be helping to prep and cook the pancakes starting at 7 am. The Student Council will be holding a raffle prior to March Break. Catholic School Council Members inquired if they could help with raffle prizes. This raffle is to support Toonies for Tuition.

During the month of February, the Council led some school wide events including giving out hot chocolate, organizing a photo booth and Pink Shirt Day as an Anti-Bullying initiative.

ITEM 3 APPROVAL OF THE SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES OF MONDAY JANUARY 10, 2022

MOTION:

THAT THE BREBEUF SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MONDAY JANUARY 10, 2022 BE APPROVED (AS AMENDED)

MOVED BY: D. BATTILIANA
SECONDED BY: C. BOZZO
(CARRIED)

ITEM 4 UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Posting of approved school council meeting minutes on the website
- It was agreed at the previous School Council meeting that approved School Council Meeting minutes should be posted on the school website under the School Council tab. The council minutes from September

27, 2021 and October 25, 2021 have been approved and need to be posted.

- P. Dilanni to talk to the Vice-Principal in charge of the website to post the School Council meeting minutes ASAP

ITEM 5 CHAIR UPDATE:

A) **29th Virtual Parent Conference, “Weaving the Catholic Partnership”**

- The “Empowering Parents in the Digital Age” virtual event featuring Paul Davis occurred on **Wednesday, February 2, 2022 at 6:30 pm** and was well attended.
- Strategies and tips were shared by Paul Davis on how to regulate/monitor children navigating social media. One of the messages was that parents need to take back their power in regards to technology and set appropriate boundaries and to remove all screens from bedrooms.
- Paul Davis recommended the website: <https://www.esrb.org/> **“Our primary mission is to help parents make informed decisions about the video games and apps their children play”**

B) **Catholic School Council Breakfast**

- Was originally scheduled for **Friday February 4, 2022** at Michelangelo’s Banquet Centre however, the breakfast was not held

C) **Bussing**

- After parents reached out to appropriate personnel a regular bus driver was assigned on February 22, 2022 to bus route 6414. Prior to this date, this route was being picked up **after** the bus drivers had finished their regular routes, therefore students were waiting at the stop for 30-60 minutes everyday. This bus is now arriving at the designated stops on time in the morning and is at the school at dismissal time.

D) **Parent Survey**

- It was discussed that a parent survey be distributed in the Spring to the parents in preparation for the 2022-2023 school year.

The Chair reminded the group to email if they would like any items added to the meeting agenda battilanadiana@gmail.com

ITEM 6 TREASURER'S REPORT (F. ALOSIO/P. DI IANNI)

- The treasurer provided a summary of the ProGrant balance and the School Council balance (see attached)

ITEM 7 COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PRO GRANT COMMITTEE (D. BATTILANA)

- The first 2021-2022 school council PD event featuring guest speaker Dean Huyck PD was held virtually on **Thursday February 17, 2022.**
- The committee purchased three \$10 Tim Horton gift cards that were given out at the event through a draw
- 2 of the 3 gift cards have been delivered to the winners however, the third winner has not been responding.
- Feedback at the event was positive and parents were inquiring if Dean could present to the students in person at the school pending Covid restrictions.

- Dean indicated that he would be willing to provide more PD dates if warranted.
- The chair looked into the parameters of the pro grant guidelines and purchasing wall displays to support inclusion, and creating a safe and welcoming environment would be appropriate and meets the guidelines
- The next PRO GRANT committee meeting date is to be scheduled.

ITEM 8 PARENT ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVES (C. BOZZO):

- Facebook Page for SJB Parents and guardians has been created: <https://www.facebook.com/groups>
- Currently there are 39 members that have joined the “Parents of SJB Hamilton” facebook page.

ITEM 9 COVID/ HEALTH + SAFETY UPDATE (P. DI IANNI):

In regards to 3-Ply masks, the school looks toward and follows provincial direction along with the public health and school board direction.

P. Di Ianni informed the committee that not much has changed regarding the COVID protocols. Cafeteria is open for students to use however, food is not being sold in the cafeteria. The board is looking to have a model in place on what this will look like once cafeterias fully open.

The Board has not approved non-essential visitors in the school as of yet, therefore all Catholic School Council meetings remain virtual.

There has been no update from the HWCDSB COVID Steering Committee

ITEM 10 PRINCIPAL’S UPDATE (P. DI IANNI):

At this time there will still be only essential visitors in the school. The theatre will not be able to be rented out to the community nor will the school be able to have evening speakers for the community.

Face-to-face meetings (parents and staff) are being held for special and extenuating circumstances (ie. parents of special needs students, language barriers etc.).

Father Gatto is able to come into the school to record his masses for the school but there are no assemblies as of yet.

With sports, it still remains that parents can only purchase tickets to watch their children play. Students are not allowed to spectate.

All Catholic School Councils have been approached to make a donation to help cover the costs of stained glass windows (\$10, 000 each) for the new St. Catherine of Siena church.

At this time, the Graduation will occur on June 7th at First Ontario Centre as in previous years prior to the pandemic.

SCHOOL YEAR SCHEDULES -

Parents will receive an email to reply to a survey regarding changing the school schedule for the 2022-2023 school year. It is unknown if buses will be available at a new dismissal time if the schedule is changed. There is a possibility of overlapping lunches.

SCHOOL COUNCIL GRADUATION AWARDS AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT

This item to be tabled for the next School Council Meeting.

P. Di Ianni to look into what was done in the previously and report back at the next Council meeting.

ITEM 11 NEW BUSINESS:

SCHOOL MESSENGER:

Parents expressed concern in regards to using the School Messenger app to dismiss their children after the school day has begun. Many parents have had incidents when they have called or used the app to dismiss a child for an appointment and the child can not be dismissed as there is a communication breakdown since the absence wasn't recorded prior to the start of the school day. Teachers, nor administration, can dismiss a child. There is some concern as parents try to call the office to relay the information but the office staff are busy and not always answering the phone.

P. Di Ianni has requested to fix the speaker system in the school that allows the office to call classes and speak to teachers.

DISSEMINATION OF SCHOOL COUNCIL INFORMATION:

- P. Di Ianni agreed to provide notice of upcoming School Council meetings a few days prior to the date (ie, Thursday when the meeting is on a Monday), and send out a reminder the day of the meeting with the link to attend attached.
- It was asked if the school council chair (or an executive member) could have access to the staff member who is responsible for updating the website under the CSC section. It was felt that this may alleviate some of the obstacles in getting information out to the parent community in a timely manner.
- The information on the website under the heading "Catholic School Council" needs to be updated.
- P. Di Ianni assured the council that he would ensure that the appropriate information gets to the website in a timely manner.

BACK TO SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH KIT:

- The chair presented the Back to School Mental Health Kit that was provided to all students at the beginning of the school year. It is an excellent resource and could be considered for future PD for the students via the ProGrant.

ITEM 12 NEXT MEETING DATE:

Monday April 25, 2022 @ 6:30 pm

ITEM 13 ADJOURNMENT -

MOTION:

THAT THE ST. JEAN DE BREBEUF SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING BE ADJOURNED

Moved By: A. Vidinha
Seconded By: D. Battilana
(CARRIED)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 pm