



**John Cabot C.S.S.  
School Council Meeting  
Monday, February 6, 2023.  
-Minutes-**

PRESENT:	REGRETS:
CHAIR: ELIZABETH MCGEE COMMUNITY REP: DIANE KOWALSKI TEACHER REP: CYNTHIA LAN PRINCIPAL: (ACTING) PAT ROMERO TRUSTEE WARD 1&3: MARIO PASCUCCI TRUSTEE WAR 4: STEFANO PASCUCCI SECRETARY: CINDY FLANDES STUDENT REP: HASHIM VICE PRINCIPAL: MARY CUTRARA	TREASURER: VESNA GANDIN PARISH REP: SUE PARISH REP: JOANNE OAPCE REP: MARK GANDIN SCHOOL CHAPLAIN: CAROLYN ESVELT

1. Prayer and Land Acknowledgement: Stefano Pascucci
2. Approval of the minutes: deferred to next meeting
3. Trustee remarks:
  - Stefano: newsletter sent out
  - February: Black History Month: lots of events.
  - Enrollment: over last three years has been declining year over year: people moving out of city; Oct 31, 2021-Oct 31, 2022: lost 274 secondary students; we get funding from government depending on student numbers, trustees are speaking with MPP to see if can get funding that is needed. Student numbers are provided to the ministry three times per year. This is not only a DPCDSB problem but rather a golden horseshoe problem. Many are leaving the city to live further away. Also losing many teachers as they are also leaving the city area.
  - Feminine hygiene products: government of Ontario requested that all schools have these available for free to all students. They have been installed. DPCDSB has more than required.
  - EQAO: is online this year. Grade 10 will write; figuring out issue of enough computers/chrome books. Grade 9 will write math EQAO online as well.

- Trips and excursions: Schools are currently going on international excursions and trips are being planned and taken.
- Mario: concern about COVID with disruption to students “leave no child behind.” Want to make sure that all students have same opportunities and right to be able to pursue post-secondary education. Will be meeting at end of April, meeting 286 members put motion together stating that tutorials worked, now need more money to offer again. If it passes, then we will bring to the ministry. Transfer information to parents via newsletter. Need to make sure students are graduating with sufficient marks to be able to pursue post secondary.
- Any questions: please feel free to reach out to Mario or Stefano email or through school and questions and concerns will be forwarded to trustees.

#### 4. Student Rep Updates: Hashim

- On student council two years
- Representative: Minister of community events.
- Friday semester two started. Students are happy exams are over and starting new semester.
- December Christmas events: candy grams, musical chairs, family feud, Christmas karaoke all successful.
- Exams: first time for many students. Students were very scared. For majority marks not too impacted as many over studied. Many had exams worth less and compensated by CPT.
- Marks are now available on MyBlueprint.
- Valentine Day events: Ideas waiting for approval: roses for sale ~\$5, photo booth, karaoke, kahoots, valentine theme conversation starters.

#### 5. PRINCIPAL Updates Pat Romero (acting):

- Worked at John Cabot 2018-2019 and now back now; impressed with how well school is functioning; it was projected that there would be only 98 ELL students however it is currently at 198 therefore lacking resources to meet their needs. Currently school population is at 730. This issue will be brought to planning meeting.
- Teacher shortage: ministry is aware of concerns.
- Awards night to awards day: this is the direction moving towards. Idea: any student in gr 10,11,12 receiving an academic award will be called to cafeteria, have breakfast, and receive award and celebrate with peers. Would be livestreamed through John Cabot YouTube channel so that parents can livestream when child receiving award.

- Health and Safety re: board information insurance for parents who participate in fund raising activities outside of the physical school. Determined that this is not applicable to Cabot parent council.

#### 6. SCHOOL COUNCIL CHAIR UPDATE

- No update

#### 7. TREASURER'S REPORT

- Grant obtained \$500 from the province needs to be used for parent engagement. Sara Westbrook: presenter. Can think of parent engagement with Philip Pocock and Father Michael Goetz. Does this topic 'Nurturing your teen's emotional well being' sound like something that parents would enjoy?

**ACTION:** chair to reach out to Philip Pocock and Father Michael Goetz, to see if can pool monies together to obtain a speaker. Email will be sent to council re: choices and vote for decision.

#### 8. SECRETARY'S REPORT:

- No update

#### 9. PARISH REPORT:

- No update

#### 10. CHAPLAINCY REPORT:

- Cabot Christmas Campaign was tremendous success. Worked in partnership with St. Vincent de Paul Society. Each homeroom class supported a family in need in the community by making donation of gift cards. Big thank you to parents, staff, and students over \$3680 was raised. Fifteen families in the community were incredibly grateful to receive this support.
- Retreats for this new semester for all students taking religion this semester. Gr. 9 will be going to St. Patrick's Church for retreat, grade 10 will be going to St. Kateri Tekakwitha for retreat led by Hope Stone. Senior students will have opportunity to participate in a service retreat at Regeneration Brampton. All students going on retreat will also participate in liturgy of the work in the chapel to start the day.
- Ash Wednesday is February 22<sup>nd</sup>. All staff and students will be invited to receive ashes in the chapel. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. This year school wide Lenten sacrifice will be a clothing drive called 'Take the shirt of my back.' Gently used clothing for men, women, and children will be collected and donated to Canadian Food for Children and Regeneration. During Lent we will also be offering the rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy during lunch periods.

- March 9<sup>th</sup> is the Ordinandi Youth Event. It is a day for students to participate in Vocation Activities, to listen to the inspirational vocation stories of those who are to be ordained to the priesthood this year and the witness story of Religious Sisters. His Eminence Cardinal Collins will be present to address the young people.

#### 11. TEACHING STAFF REPORT:

- Exams: glad it is done. Students incredibly stressed. Refreshing for both students and teachers to reconnect with the procedures and collaboration among departments and administration.
- Feb: Black History Month: Many great activities including Daily Fact Raffles: Scrolling announcements will have trivia game.
- Feb 21: Grade 11 guest speaker.
- Feb 24: Black futures student workshop
- Feb 9<sup>th</sup>: St. Paul SS Cafeteria: How to pay for post-secondary school presentation 6:30-7:30 geared to grade 11 and 12 students and their families
- Cabot 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in April will be having celebration: mass and open house for former and current students. Will be held on Saturday and in the evening event for formal students. Committee started and in planning phase. Information will be disseminated to community for details.
- Waterloo Math contest: University of Waterloo. For grade 9-11. Student contacts Ms. Viera. February 22 period 2.

12. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:48. Diane Kowalski motioned, and Ms. Lan seconded.

### **NEXT MEETING: MONDAY APRIL 24, 2023.**

John Cabot Catholic Secondary School Prayer

***Gracious and holy Father, please give me:  
Intellect to understand You, Reason to discern you,  
Diligence to seek you, wisdom to find you,  
A spirit to know you, a heart to meditate upon you,  
Ears to hear you, eyes to see you, a tongue to proclaim you,  
A way of life pleasing to you, patience to wait for you  
And perseverance to look for you, grant me a perfect end,  
Your holy presence, a blessed resurrection and life everlasting.  
St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Lily of the mohawks, pray for us.***