

Divine Mercy School Council Meeting

Date: November 30, 2020
Location: Virtual – Microsoft Teams meeting
Time: 6:30p.m.

Attendees:

Staff/School Representatives:

Susan Wilson (Principal)
Karen Kilic (Vice-Principal)
Daniela Letterio (Teacher Rep)
Pamela Leermakers (Non-Teacher Rep)

Parent Representatives:

Mary Andrews	James Ahn	Karen Chan
Sandra Shehadeh	Johnson Lai	James McLevey
Angela Trewartha	Lucille Shenouda	Paula Mendoca
Alia Vaz	Adriana Paniconi	Adriana Anzures
Lisa Bitonti-Bengert	Yara Andraous	
Gina Ing	Mera Guindy	

Regrets:

Joanna Zoller;

1. Welcome, Opening Prayers and Introductions

M. Andrews led introductions and prayer
M. Andrews read the Acknowledgment of First Nations Sacred Territory

2. Approval of the last meeting's minutes

Approved by D. Letterio and Yara Andraous

3. Council constitution, bylaws and standing rules

S. Shehadeh will email copy to Council members and K. Kilic will post to website.

4. Chair's Report

Presented by M. Andrews

Attended the family of schools meeting Thurs Nov 12 where they acknowledged the nominees and gave out the volunteer of the year awards and elected the CCCSC executives
Trustees Brea Corbett, Lus DelRosario, and Chair Sharon Hobin attended and gave greetings
Volunteers of the year: Renata Quattrociocchi (St. Martin SS); Gail Briand-Santo (St. Raymond C.E.S.); Judy Gomes (Pauline Vanier C.E.S.)
New CCCSC exec.: Genevieve Rodney (Chair); Wayne Brunton (Superintendent); Silvana Gos (Board Rep); Leanne DeSouza Kenney (North Mississauga Elementary Rep); Dinah Langley (North Mississauga Secondary Rep)
Next CCCSC meeting is Dec. 3, 2020

Attended the hybrid learning and human trafficking seminars

Hybrid learning – outlined the different types of tech that were available to teachers to use

Attended human trafficking webinar hosted by Peel Regional Police and Elizabeth Fry society: people generally think of it like the movie "Taken", but it doesn't have to take place overseas; the victim often lives at home; can be male or female; outlined the signs to look out for and the resources available for students and teachers; they have programs in place to talk to middle school and high school students

Webinar to be posted and available to view

Attended Chairs meeting on Nov 28

No new protocols in place re: COVID; went over our roles and expectations

Stressed cooperation and collaboration between Council as a voice for the other parents in the school community and the school administration to advocate for the entire school community

Stressed in this time of distance that we need more communication.

Ex. Notes discussed in today's meeting won't make it to the website until minutes approved at the following meeting so information given may be outdated

Suggested a section in the school newsletter where ex. Parish news and OAPCE news/webinars can be listed. Also listing the school council email address so parents can bring concerns to council directly since there's no face to face anymore.

K. Kilic offered her email for anyone wanting to add anything to the school newsletter.

5. Principal's Report

Presented by S. Wilson

We currently have 14 hybrid classes operating at Divine Mercy and 6 Remote classes

Celebrated a beautiful Remembrance Day Liturgy and presentation hosted by the Grade 8 students in Mrs. O'Leary's class

Also in November, Mrs. O'Leary's class presented the Virtue of Conscience and will be presenting December's Virtue of Hope on Friday @ 11 am

Our Grade 3s and Grade 8s received the Sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation this past Fall Spirit Week will be occurring December 14-18

Rather than a Christmas Toy Drive, our school will begin a Gift Card drive, starting tomorrow. Gift cards will be collected and donated to St. Vincent de Paul Society and our school Social Worker, in order to support those in need

Spirit Wear Sale- our school selling some spirit wear, t-shirts, hoodies.... The one design shows a small cross with a message "Do all things with kindness", another option is promoting our athletics with a Divine Mercy Dragons logo

6. Treasurer's Report

Presented by A. Trewartha

No September or October financial report as there were no transactions in those months

There was one charge in November for the Grade. 8 Composites and that was \$645.00

The 2020 year end balance for the school year was \$23,068.36

The current budget that was sent to everyone shows about \$13,513.25 of spending this year - that includes the composite number and the \$2000 allocated for the blacktop painting that we are waiting on - so some expense are carry over from last year

The account balance as of November 24 is \$22,409.82

Our usual income is about \$20,000-\$25,000 a year and this year will probably be nothing so we need to think about this when spending

Agendas will cost \$1618.25 if we are billed, we haven't been yet

Raz Kids along with Canadian Reader which we pay for every year and which needs to be renewed again will be approx. \$3061.67 (approximate because it is in US dollars so it depends on the currency conversion rate that day)

Ambiguity on fundraising such as Pizza

Looking at getting line painting for spring time - will get an estimate

Discussion on Raz Kids - D. Letterio will ask the teacher in charge of Raz Kids to find out if the French audio feature is available and if yes, the cost to activate it.

The school requires more money for technology, which is heavily relied on - no decision was made

Discussion on Scholastic - the classroom teacher has to set up an account. S. Wilson will check with teachers if they have done so

Discussion on FlipGive as an idea for fundraising - no decisions made

7. Teacher and Non-Teacher Reps' Report

Presented by D. Letterio and P. Leermakers

Advent liturgy and mass (TBD)
Reminder that the twitter account is being updated

8. OAPCE Rep's Report

Presented by A. Vaz

Attended the November 21st virtual meeting and was unable to attend the November 25th meeting

Link will be sent to K. Kilic to include in the newsletter

January 22nd is the upcoming meeting

9. Parish Rep's Report

Presented by M. Andrews using notes provided by J. Zoller who had sent her regrets

All masses currently cancelled under new COVID regulations (max. 10 people including staff); masses are streamed online (Sunday at 10am; Saturday at 9am; and one additional mass each day)

Grade 3 and grade 8 students received Sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation.

Next meeting for parents of Grade 2 First Communion students will be January 13, 2021

Confirmation students will receive their Sacrament on April 26, 2021

EDGE meetings for Grade 6-8 students will be held virtually on the 1st and 3rd Sundays every month at 4:45pm (Registration is required). Next EDGE date is December 5th.

Gift cards for the St. Vincent de Paul society can be dropped off at the church

Knights of Columbus Poinsettia sales are online with pickup available after December 11 - costs \$7-\$23

Msgr Owen and Father Tom are attempting to arrange a meeting with the Parish reps from the 4 elementary schools with Merciful Redeemer as a parish, to discuss problems and engage in discussions regarding more activities for students. Dates to be determined.

10. Closing

Q: Parent: Are the kids allowed to use their cell phones in school?

A: yes, however they must be given permission by teacher and used for instructional purposes only. When on school grounds they should be turned off and not in use. S. Wilson will send out a reminder to remind students;

Discussion regarding Kiss & Ride issues with cars being left unattended while still running. School will continue to remind parents that vehicles must be parked in parking spots and turned off. Parents are to remain in their cars when at Kiss & Ride.

M. Andrews – thank you to School Council members and Merry Christmas

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm