



UNAPPROVED MINUTES

Divine Mercy School Council Meeting

May 30, 2022 6.35 pm | Meeting called to order by Mary Andrews

In Attendance

Janneke van der Zee	Pearl Mofunanya	Regrets: Vivian Correa-Pinto Sandra Shehadeh
Johnson Lai	Susan Wilson	
Karen Chan	Tanya Brancalion	Guests:
Lisa Bitonti-Bengert	Daniela Letterio	
Mary Andrews	Angela Trewartha	
Paula Mendoca	Adriana Paniconi	
Mera Guindy	Pam Leermakers	
Tashani Parker	Matthew Nahkla	
Luz Del Rosario	Elaine Dantas	

Opening Prayer/Introductions

M. Andrews welcomed everyone at 6.35 pm, led introductions, opening prayer and read the Land Acknowledgment. Last meeting of the school year.

Approval CSC Meeting Minutes April 25, 2022

Edit total \$14460.38 cents actual balance in account as per Angela. Minutes approved by Lisa Bitonti-Bengert and Johnson Lai.

Chair's Report

Presented by M. Andrews. Pizza days are underway and is going very well. Next pizza session starts May 31, 2022.

Principal's Update

Presented by S. Wilson.

June 30th last day of school. Balance \$18,000 and change includes cookies and pizza.

Vice-Principal overview presented by Ms. Brancalion

- Outdoor grant money received went to school activities well used.

Parish Report

Presented by Ms Dantas. The youth chair middle school ministry program edge they got three more events: Cohort A May 31 and June 14th and June 7th. Grade 5 can attend any of these Edge nights. End of Year social June 24th, please join. Monseigneur wishes everyone a happy month

Treasurer's Report

Presented by Ms. Trewartha

We haven't spent money, some things have been ordered. Bank balance \$18796,43 in account as of April 30th; big deposit pizza deposit. Total expenses for May would be \$7447.12. Second pizza session will be \$5082. Got Je Lis Program.

Budget was updated too. Agenda cost more this year than budgeted. Total expenses to be estimated at \$10K. First pizza session we made \$1000, second session to be estimated \$1345 for expenses. End of year balance about \$5K.

Teacher/Non-Teacher Report

Presented by Ms. Letterio. Reminder BBQ payment due June 6 via cash online. Ms Leermakers thanked council for the plant funds.

OAPCE Report

Presented by P. Mofunanya

Relevant takeaways from OAPCE conference:

- Bishop Joseph Dabrowski – Encouraged parents to continue to listen to our children's hopes and dreams. From their last poll result, our youth value witness as inspiration for their own personal growth beyond what we say, our actions matter. Remember, the gift of Catholic Education is rooted in the gospel values of our Lord Jesus Christ who gave us the discipleship of equals. He says 'Let the little children come to me' and was never too busy for children. In modern times, this may mean utilizing technology to reach them where they are – combining written word, sound and video in a balanced way and encouraging them to seek support and help with partners available to help restore them to good health of body, mind and spirit.
- Dr. Neil Orłowski – Director of Education, The Abraham Global Peace Initiative spoke on the Power of One. We were encouraged to drown out the voices that 'why bother?' Why did Gandhi, Malala, MLK, Terry Fox, Greta, Anne Frank etc. bother? – because one individual, one average/ normal person can make a difference and make tomorrow better.
- Greg Frankson – Founder/CEO Voice Share Inc. – We as a community are enriched by the voices of diversity. We need to value, own our voices and take responsibility for the things we say and teach our children the same.
- Dare To Be Youth Charity – Invests in our youth (14-24) to create resilient and well rounded individuals and leaders of tomorrow. We watched two amazing presentations from youth who have graduated from their programs. All programs are free and they can be reached via their website Dtby.ca or socials @dtbyhalton.
- Teresa Hartnett – Director of Family Ministry for the Diocese of Hamilton – encouraged parents and councils to read the 3 letters (This moment of promise, Fulfilling the promise and Renewing the promise) from the Ontario Bishop's to the Catholic Education community. We need to ensure our parents feel connected to the school community, encourage new ideas and assist rebuild our confidence in parenting.
- Paul Davis – Social Media & Online Safety Expert – we were asked to retweet the event to win a free presentation for Grade 3,4 & 5 which I did and will reach out to confirm details for booking him. He spoke on holding parents to a higher level of responsibility assisting their children navigate the world of technology. As an alternative to social media or gaming we can steer them towards coding, robotics, app development or take apart/rebuild an old machine. From what he has seen, he stressed : 1) Don't give them too much too soon, 2) Be on the same page with your partner/find common ground for parenting 3) As a parent, stop being afraid of your child's reaction to 'No' 4) Ensure the kids know that no matter what there will be no judgement, shame or embarrassment and if we don't have the answers, we will get the answers.

Questions and closing

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7.27 p.m., passed unanimously.