



Divine Mercy School Council Meeting – Minutes

October 2, 2023, 5:30 pm | Meeting called to order by Nuno Tome

Staff/School Representatives:

Brea Corbet (Trustee)

Nuno Tome (Principal)

Daniela Letterio

Pamela Leermakers

Parent Representatives:

Tashani Parker	Esther Ogunjobi	Katrina Vieira Reis
Lisa Bitonti-Bengert	Lara	Jessica Clayton
Angela Trewartha	Shyanne (Nenny)	Kene
Jonathan Walker	Paula Mendonca	
Lara Jiang	Vivian Pinto	
Monica Munoz	Tannice Ashman	
Adriana Paniconi	Moilola Sowemimo	
Elaine Dantas	Karen Chan	

1. Opening Prayer, Land Acknowledgement, Welcome, (5 mins) – N. Tome

- Introductions- Brea Corbet

- 11000 staff, billion dollar budget, salaries, enrollment drops- GSN is lowered
- 11 board of trustees, 2 student trustees, and an Indigenous trustee
- board meeting public- open to the public- every Tuesday- there's a link, and you can click on that, or you can come to the board office in person
- Brea sends out a monthly newsletter- high-level summaries- when she got elected, she committed to sending out information, aware that parents are receiving a lot of information now, but wants to ensure that parents are aware of what's happening
- The board does a strategic plan, oversees policy for the board, and relays questions/concerns input from parents at the board table- being involved in school communities is important
- Minutes need to be posted for the school community to see; hybrid is allowed

2. Approval of the last meeting minutes and agenda (5 mins) – N. Tome

- Jessica Clayton and Pamela Leermaker approved the agenda for today
- The purpose of the council is to represent the student body and be the voice for all parents at the school
- thanked last year's council
- Pamela Leermaker and Paula Mendonca approved last year's council minutes

3. Principal's Report (5 mins) - N. Tome

- New FDK yards, New Pavement, New Games
- Student Assembly (3 Rules / Using WITS)
- Reorganization –
 - Creation of 2 – Grade ½ splits (Disolved Gr 1, Gr 2)
 - Creation of Straight Gr 3 (Disolved Gr2/3)
 - Creation of 7/8 (Disolved Straight 8)
 - 90 Students impacted
- Open House (Love, Photo, Icecream & Books)
- Book Fair
- Pizza on Tuesday to start soon & Tuck Shop to start
- Fundraiser – Halloween Dance
- Terry Fox - Toonies
- Focus
 - Faith,
 - Opening Mass with Father Iguinz
 - Focus on theme of Love – Family Photos
 - Visits from Seminarian every second Thursday
 - Visits from Rosary Apostle – Morning Star every month
 - Upcoming Retreats for Gr 5-8
 - Thanksgiving Food drive
 - Achievement
 - Divine Mercy Focus on New Language Curriculum –
 - Focus on foundational knowledge and skills (reading and writing, spelling, vocabulary, reading fluency and comprehension)
 - Transferable skills (critical thinking and problem solving; innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship; self-directed learning; collaboration; communication; global citizenship and sustainability; and digital literacy).
 - Digital media literacy (learn to navigate online environments, with appropriate permission, while managing their data, security and privacy.)
 - Applications, connections and contributions of a diversity of voices, experiences and perspectives, including those of First Nations, Métis and Inuit individuals, communities, groups and nations.
 - Social Justice/Equity & Wellbeing
 - Data – confirms our calling to enter into the work of social justice – need to address disparities
 - Some of the work that is currently happening :

1. Truth & Reconciliation Week
 2. Working with Staff – identify and address systemic racism and discrimination
 3. Supporting Diversity in our classrooms:
 4. Every two weeks, teachers receive a bin with diversity books. Teachers display books to promote diversity, have read alouds, independent reading
 5. The use of skin tone crayons and markers available to the students.
- Looking to purchase posters that support diversity.
 - Supporting Diversity in our school:
 1. Have an intermediate students diversity group to discuss topics of concern
 2. Mindful club for Jr. students. Ex:Yoga from diverse instructors
- Wellbeing
 - Gr 1-8 Clubs start up
 - Yard Refresh – New Pavement, Painting, Triple Hoops, 2 FDK yards
 - Gr 7 – 8 Student / Staff workshops – focused on
 - The misconceptions about mental health and the negative impact this can have.
 - The difference between mental health and mental illness, and the dual continuum.
 - How to use this knowledge to help ourselves and those around us.

4. Treasurer's Report (5 mins) - A. Trewartha

Bank Statement - June 1, 2023	Opening Balance	\$ 20,738.21	Budget line
<u>Deposits</u>			
Total Income			
<u>Expenses</u>			
boys and girls retreat replacement cheque	04/24/2023	\$ 350.87	retreats
Pizza	05/25/2023	\$ 680.54	pizza
Pizza	06/05/2023	\$ 680.54	pizza
First Communion supplies	06/06/2023	\$ 55.30	first communion
First communion gifts and workshop	06/06/2023	\$ 179.85	first communion
Grad composites	06/06/2023	\$ 180.80	grade 8 graduation
Scientists in the Classroom	06/06/2023	\$ 2,000.00	scientists in the classrom
Pizza	06/09/2023	\$ 680.54	pizza
Pizza	06/14/2023	\$ 680.54	pizza
Field Trip subsidy	06/14/2023	\$ 500.00	benevolent fund
Pizza	06/21/2023	\$ 680.54	pizza
Wellness Day workshop	06/21/2023	\$ 423.75	speakers
Track and Field transportation	06/21/2023	\$ 237.30	
Total Expenses		\$ 7,330.57	
<u>Uncleared items</u>			
School agendas	04/06/2023	\$ 1,932.30	agendas
Wellness day supplies	06/14/2023	\$ 59.60	retreats
Grade 4 FI Celebration shirts	06/26/2023	\$ 171.98	grade 4 FI
Je Lis license	06/26/2023	\$ 1,163.61	Je Lis
Balance as as of June 30, 2023		\$ 13,407.64	

Bank Statement - July, 1 2023	Opening Balance	\$	13,407.64	Budget line
Deposits				
Total Income				
Expenses				
Wellness day supplies	06/14/2023	\$	59.60	retreats
Grade 4 FI Celebration shirts	06/26/2023	\$	171.98	grade 4 FI
Je Lis license	06/26/2023	\$	1,163.61	Je Lis
Total Expenses		\$	1,395.19	
Uncleared items				
School agendas	04/06/2023	\$	1,932.30	agendas
Balance as as of July 31, 2023		\$	12,012.45	
Balance as of August 31, 2023 (no transactions in August				

Budget for 2022/2023 School Year		2022/2023	Current costs - as of August 31, 2023	
Standing Commitment	Council Commitments for 2022/2023			
x	Agendas 2019-2020	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,932.30	uncleared item
x	Speakers	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,203.50	Saidat and MTCLife Wellness Retreat speaker
x	Bank Charges/Service Fees/Online Charge Fees	\$ 250.00		
x	Benevolent Fund	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	field trip subsidy
x	French books	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 943.03	
x	Fun Day (End of Year Celebration)	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	games for end of year bbq
x	Graduation Expenses	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,277.97	grade 8 tuck shop supplies and composites
x	Je Lis French Reading Program	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,163.61	
x	Gym Replenishment/Outdoor equipment	\$ 500.00		
x	Sacramental Support (Gr 2/7) ,Grade 4 FI Celebration	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 407.13	
x	Scientists in the School (one per homeroom)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	
x	ShareLife	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	
x	OAPCE Conference Fees/Dinner	\$ 100.00		
x	School Wide Activity Support (ie. retreats)	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,159.61	advent retreat and wellness retreat
x	Technology Repair (Projectors, cart repairs, etc)			
x	Transportation Support (bus and taxi expense for school related activities)		\$ 237.30	track and field transportation
	TOTAL	\$ 18,850.00	\$ 15,324.45	
Additional wish list (current year)	Boys and Girls nights	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,503.44	pizza and hopestone
	Clubs	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 475.14	supplies
	Teacher wishlist/supplies	\$ 600.00	\$ 548.71	skin tone markers
	Outdoor improvement - line painting and triple hoops (June meeting)	\$ 7,500.00		
	Total	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 2,527.29	
Total Expenses		\$ 22,450.00	\$ 17,851.74	
INCOME	Bank balance carry over from previous school year	\$ 10,753.83	\$ 10,753.83	
	Pizza - Session 1	\$ 5,950.79	\$ 5,950.79	
	Pizza - Session 2	\$ 5,950.79	\$ 5,478.96	
	Pizza - Session 3	\$ 5,950.79	\$ 5,248.31	Total pizza income is \$16,678.06
	Parent engagement funding		\$ 500.00	
Total Income		\$ 28,606.20	\$ 27,931.89	
End of year balance		\$ 6,156.20	\$ 10,080.15	this is our bank balance without the outstanding uncleared item

- **Parent comment:** Thanked Mr. Tome for all that he does for the school
- Mr. Tome commented that outdoor grant of \$5,000- replenish outside equipment- balls and to pay for Guelph grotto. This year, that budget went to \$2,000.

- may ask Council for the \$500 allotted for last year's expense if not used and \$500 this year
- **Parent Question:** Can we purchase nets for the soccer posts?
 - **Principal comment:** No nets on the post... we did purchase two sets of foldable nets to have simultaneous games happening
 - I. Grades 4-8 use the same field- split the field up during lunch hour- grades 6-7 have big field; grades 4-5 use small nets along the side; first and last recess, grades 6-8 use foldable nets and grade 4-5 use big field
- Budget for kindergarten area- scooters, wagons, bikes, basketball nets, soccer
 - **Principal comment:** FDK team- request toys to add to the sand, etc.
 - I. **Comment from staff rep:** We do have bikes- we bring them out periodically- we play on one side and take them out once a week. We have basketball nets with balls, no scooters. We take out different things at different times during the day. We want some new sand toys, i.e. trucks, cars, buckets, etc.
- **Parent Question:** If there was another opportunity to save some money through another vendor for pizza, is this possible?
 - **Comment from parent council:** The location would have to be extremely close/geographically close to the school; because if there is an issue, we need them to replace the pizza quickly if something happens
- **Tip for new members to council:** When the council budget is created- Mr. Tome and teacher reps will check in with staff for a “wishlist,” i.e. items they wish the school to have, and then we’ll discuss as a council where we can dedicate funds
- **Parent Question:** Can we get the paid version of IXL for all grades?
 - **Principal response:** Think it works similarly to Knowledge Hook, Mathletics, etc. There are some programs that the board supports
 - I. **ACTION:** Mr. Tome will follow up with ICT and see if it would be an option for the school

5. Dissolution of Sept 2022- June 2023 Parent Council (5min) – N. Tome

- Voted: Elaine Dantas and Pamela Leermaker

6. Review of council positions/responsibilities (10 min) - N. Tome

7. Election of 2023-2024 Parent Council (15min) – N. Tome

- Co-chair: Tannice Ashman
- Co-chair: Angela Trewartha
- Treasurer: Vivian Correa-Pinto
- Secretary: Tashani Parker
- Parish Rep: Elaine Dantas
- OAPCE: Pearl Mofunanya
- Community Member: Pamela Leermakers

- Teacher Rep: Daniela Letterio
 - Voting members:
 - Jonathan Walker
 - Karen Chan
 - Lisa Bitonti-Bengert
 - Paula Mendoca; **ACTION:** Mr. Tome to confirm the application was sent on time)
8. Transfer to steering committee
9. Selection of meeting dates for 2023-2024 (10 min) – new chair, N. Tome
- approved the dates: Jonathan Walker, Paula Mendonca
 - Monday, November, 6, 2023 @ 5:30
 - Monday, January 15, 2024 @ 5:30
 - Monday, February 26, 2024 @ 5:30
 - Monday, May 13, 2024 @ 5:30
10. Closing/Adjournment – new chair, N. Tome