



IONA CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL
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Minutes of Iona Catholic Secondary School Council Meeting
Thursday, February 16, 2023, at 7:00 pm
Iona Learning Commons

In Attendance: Oswaldo Emmanuel (Treasurer), Nelen Visconti-Avila (Secretary), Nelly Morgado (OAPCE Rep), Joanne Becke, Joseph Farias, Ngozi Okelekekosi, Justyna Czerepak, Emidio Santroni (Teacher Rep), Carl Cini (P).

1. Opening Prayer
2. Land Acknowledgement
3. Welcome and Introductions
4. Review and Approval of Meeting Agenda
 - Approved – O. Emmanuel, J. Farias
5. Review and Approval of Minutes from November 17, 2022 Meeting
 - Approved – J. Czerepak, O. Emmanuel
6. Business Arising from the Minutes
 - Feedback from parents regarding the experiences of their children in preparing for and writing exams.
 - Our Physical Education program includes sessions on self-defense. Our Dance students do not take Phys. Ed. There is a request to include the Dancers in the self-defense sessions.
7. Executive Update – Current Chair of our School Council no longer has a child that attends the school. A new Chair is needed. Expression of Interest asked for. No responses at the time of the meeting.
8. Treasurer's Report
 - Current balance – 935.73
9. OAPCE Report
 - I attended the OAPCE Jan 18 meeting, it was an excellent meeting (first since pandemic).

- The guest speaker was Miguel Martinez who is a motivational speaker, specializing in working with youth. Does a lot of speaking engagements with the DPDCSB. He focused on post-pandemic recovery for kids and that it takes patience and commitment from parents, teachers and school administrators. He is available for parent engagement talks if schools are interested in having him. Not sure if anyone has heard him speak, but he is fantastic!
- The rest of the meeting was the commissioning ceremony of new OAPCE parent liaisons and the introduction of the new OAPCE board members.
- They announced the annual conference will take place April 22 in Kingston at the Regiopolis Notre Dame Catholic High School. All parents are welcome, please save the date.
- The OAPCE website has several great resources for parents. I suggest you visit dufferinpeel.oapce.org/resources.
- One thing I learned about was the Ontario catch up payments that was launched by the Ministry of Education last October which provides parents ~\$200 subsidy to help offset any expenses that families incurred due to the pandemic (supplies, internet costs, tutoring, etc.). I applied and got my payment within 2 weeks. Apply at ontario.ca/page/catch-up-payments.
- Also, a new OAPCE parent newsletter is out, you can visit: <https://www.oapce.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/OAPCE-Parent4Parents-Press-February-2023.pdf>.
- Warmest regards to the staff and parents, and hope to see you at the next meeting!

10. Chaplaincy Report

- Semester 1
 - many opportunities for social outreach
 - Had our Advent liturgy to begin the beautiful season on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception
 - Raised approximately 4000 for Families in Need during Christmas. This was in the form of gift cards
- Semester 2
 - Retreats begin Feb 23 - Dr. Simone (Grade 10), Temple Tours (Grade 11), Street Patrol in Downtown Toronto (Grade 12)
 - Salesian leadership retreat (on currently) to build leaders for future retreats (first to begin the end of April)
 - Ash Wednesday Liturgy (Feb 22) - 2 assemblies
 - Will be introducing our Lenten mission/drive to support a village in Gambia (please show video if you like)
 - Chaplaincy will collaborate with International Business
 - Feb 24 - Winter Chaplaincy Retreat (42 will be in attendance)
 - we have introduced Black Figures in the Bible this month on social media.
 - we will be doing an overnight retreat in May.
 - Catholic Ed. Week in the first week in May
- Iona Chaplaincy can be found on Instagram (@ionachaplaincy), Twitter (@ionachap), TikTok (@ionachaplaincy)

11. Teacher Report

- Swimming Season is Done - Two Students went to Windsor to Represent Iona at OFSAA - Caitlyn Johnston (100m & 200m free) & Devlin Whitelaw (100m back) - Congratulations goes out to all swimmers and coaches.
- Junior Boys, Senior Boys, and Varsity Girls Soccer is underway with Try-outs.
- Track Team is Underway with Try-outs
- Auditions for the play Annie happened this week - Play to commence from May 29th to June 2nd
- Senior Sunrise Spring Breakfast - Senior Students are invited to come to school early on April 21st - the spring equinox - to see the sunrise. Breakfast will be provided afterwards.
- This week we had our Buy Black Sale - It was an opportunity to support future Iona black entrepreneurs. and to support Black owned Businesses in the community.
- We had our Black History Assembly - Was well received by students. Students learned the importance of Ubuntu from Mr. Babarinde Williams. He taught Iona students how to lead and showed them how to beat the drums.
- This Black History month students chose to focus on Black Excellence and Pride and how we can take Black History and move it throughout the year.

12. Principal's Report

- Course Selection for the 2023-2024 school year for our current grade 9, 10, 11 students is open this month. Students are to select their courses through My Blueprint. Guidance is available for assistance.
- Students are asked to pay a \$65 student activity fee for next school year. The fee goes to retreats, yearbook and student activities. It is important that students pay this fee. Without it, our ability to sustainably provide students with co-curricular activities, events, speakers and student initiatives is limited.
- Final Semester 1 Report Cards were distributed on February 10.
- Progress Reports for Semester 2 will be given the week of March 20 (week after March Break). Parent Interviews will be on Thursday, March 30, 2023.
- Grade 10 students and previously eligible students are continuing to prepare for the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT). The test will be administered on Wednesday, March 29.
- Countdown to Graduation is on. The dates for Graduation related events are included in the minutes.
- Graduation fees of \$85 are being collected during March. This fee is put towards the Graduation ceremony venue, gowns, hats, decorations, photographer and awards.
- Class of 2023 Graduation Ceremony is on Friday, June 30 at 11:00 am at the Sixteen Mile Sports Complex.
- Academic Awards for the 2021-2022 school year are being put together. We had a change in our student information system which has delayed our ability to process this information. Breakfast is being planned to celebrate our students' achievements.
- Please follow us on Twitter @IonaCatholic, on Instagram @ionacatholicmississauga and on YouTube at Iona CSS

Meeting Dates

Wednesday, May 3 & Thursday, June 1, 2023

Adjournment

The meeting of the Iona Catholic Secondary Council was adjourned.



IONA CLASS OF 2023

COUNTDOWN TO GRADUATION

February 21 – March 3	Gown Orders Forms to Main Office
February 27 Per 1	Graduation Assembly
March 6 – March 24	Graduation Fees - \$85 – School Cash Online
April 3 - 14	Valedictorian Nominations
April 18 Per 2	Valedictorian Candidate Speeches and Voting
April 21	Senior Sunrise
April 24 – May 5	Graduation Award Nominations
April 28	Community Service Hours Due
May 1 - 12	Prom Ticket Sales via School Cash Online with Prom Attendee Forms
June 7	Senior Sunset
June 27	Prom at Roma Banquet Hall
June 29 7:00 pm	Grad Mass at St. Christopher Parish (Gown Distribution after Mass)
June 30 11:00 am	Graduation Ceremony at Sixteen Mile Creek Sports Complex (Graduates arrive at 9:00 am)