

**PARENT SCHOOL COUNCIL 2022/2023  
MEETING MINUTES FROM Feb 9, 2023**

**In attendance:**

- **Staff:** M. McCann (Principal), A. Litster (Secretary), J. Roy (teacher rep), R. Johnson (non-teacher rep)
- **Council:** A. Cunanan (Chair), A. Patola (Co-Chair), A. Pronski (Secretary), K. Zeljkovic (Treasurer), T. Morris (OAPCE), H. Jagiello (Parent Rep),
- **Parents:** Monique Daniel, Charlene Essue, Tess O'Mara,
- **Regrets:** N. Sarin (Parent Rep), S. Kelenc (teacher rep), L. Ozurigo (Parent Rep)

**AGENDA ITEMS**

1. WELCOME – M. CLOUTIER MCCANN
2. OPENING PRAYER – A. Cunanan
3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT – A. Patola
4. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES
  - Approved – A. Pronski moved for approval & A. Patola seconded motion
5. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY AGENDA
  - Approved – A. Cunanan moved for approval & A. Patola seconded motion
6. FINANCIAL REPORT – K. Zeljkovic

Balance Reported Jan 31	\$6,371.62
Spirit Wear	- \$2,913.40
Grad Awards	- \$315.27
Mabels Labels	+ \$53.04
Donation Fundraiser (total for campaign)	+ \$5,145.00
<b>Available Funds</b>	<b>\$8,340.99</b>

- Council made a profit of \$559.52 from spirit wear (deposited yesterday, included in the above balance)
  - Fundraiser performed better than last school year (approximately ~\$3,822 was raised last year, as at Feb 9, 2022 council meeting)
7. REPORTS – T. Morris
    - OAPCE – Parents for parents. April 22<sup>nd</sup> Parent Conference located in Kingston ON, will have 3 speakers. There is also a regular newsletters for parents (includes topics such as smartphone strategies, children’s self-confidence, exam study tips, support lines, etc.); Thrive newsletter, etc.
      - **ACTION** – Tina to share some links/ details in an email to Ms. McCann



- School Staff provided a list of 7 recommended items for School Council to fund, in priority order (from teachers perspective). These items are aligned to what the students & staff had recommended via survey last school year as well
- Standing Items – council always funds
- Carry forward amount – council always tries to roll over \$1,000 to next years' council to get the year started (e.g. Fall BBQ event, etc.)
- Faith Development – palm cross & Grade 2 sacramental celebration
- Tree Hugger – bench seating around the trees in the school year. Council has funded this for the last several years, nice tradition. Teacher feedback is the kids sit on these benches a lot
- Sensory pathway – designs on hallway walls; currently down primary hallway and enjoyed by the students. These funds would be used to extend current sensory pathway into Junior hallway
- Technology – Chrome Books for educational use in the classroom
  - The school currently doesn't enough devices (Chrome Books)
  - School budget & council budget could pool funds to cover additional Chrome Book needs
  - Council could choose to partially fund the requested \$2,000 for technology
  - School doesn't know how much school budget will be left for Technology, will know closer to the end of the school year
  - Chrome Books are ordered in sets of 10 for bulk pricing, vs. per device orders
  - We could defer technology Vote until final council meeting of the year... by then we will know if skating occurred, as well as any other funds raised through Mabels Labels & Lunch Lady
- MOTION – defer Technology & Sensory Pathway discussion until next Council meeting
  - Approved – A. Cunanan moved for approval & A. Patola seconded motion
- VOTE – to fund items highlighted in Yellow (Standing items (Student agendas, awards, grad tree); Faith Development; Library; ECO team; Tree hugger)
  - Yes: A. Cunanan, A. Patola, A. Pronski, K. Zeljkovic, T. Morris. No: n/a

#### 10. SCHOOL'S REPORT - M. CLOUTIER MCCANN

- Catholicity
  - Family Advent Mass – was a success with a great turnout; thank you for attendance, volunteers, donations. Father was very impressed and wants to make it a yearly tradition.
  - Samantha - Youth Minister - monthly visits
    - Edge Program begins on Feb 24
  - Adriene Adona - Lay Pastoral Associate
  - Rosary Apostolate
  - Ash Wednesday - Feb 22
- Curriculum
  - Carnival Spirit Week
  - Black History Month
  - Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Program
  - Phonics manipulatives - Grade 1
  - Culturally Affirming Resources
- PYP – J. Roy & R. Johnson

- Kindergarten – The Kinder students are reading stories by black authors, such as Sulwe and doing activities such as discussing/researching the story of student's names. The students will also be kicking off our Patterning Inquiry next week with an Alma Thomas provocation and art piece.
  - Grade 3 – The Grade 3 students will also be studying the art work of Alma Thomas next week.
  - Grade 5 – author read along
  - Grade 4 – using art to highlight a black person's accomplishments
- MYP – S. Kelenc
  - Science – Highlighting the achievements and contributions of Black individuals in the field of Science
  - Religion – Continued emphasis on the Catholic Social Justice Teachings
  - Social Studies & History – Experiences of Black individuals and communities around Confederation. Historical and Prominent Black Canadians. Underground Railway
  - Language – Yearly focus on Social Injustices narrows down this month to look at Anti-black racism. In class read aloud discussing equity, privilege and examining unconscious bias. Debates, essays and using our Catholic call to action to produce media pieces around how to be an accomplice
  - Math & Design – Recognizing the contributions of Black individuals in the field of Mathematics. Black Canadian contributions to STEM
- Library
  - Ms. Meyer has been reading Trailblazers; the Black Canadians who have shaped Canada. Children also learned about Lunar New Year. St. James also grew school collection of books that represent Asian characters. Representation in resources (e.g. library books) is very important
- Co-curriculum
  - Basketball – Intermediate team; may run juniors skill building
  - Chess – 1-3, 4-6; 7-8. Extremely popular club! Check out the Chess Banners in the library; Chess tournament is in March; limited spots so TBD how Mr, Kelenc will select who represents the school
  - ECO – students do waste audits, what should & shouldn't go in the garbage & recycle
  - Choir – practice weekly & perform at the virtue assembly
- Facilities
  - Traffic site inspection - Lakeshore & Shaw – did not meet the criteria for a crossing guard
  - Teacher Candidates – 4 teacher candidates joined us (K, G2,4,5)
- Registration
  - Jan 16-19
  - 186 registration + 3 – another record year.
  - Random Selection - Feb 8 – everyone was informed today
- Other
  - Student Led Conferences – encourage parent participation next week; first time in several years that it is in person vs. virtually
  - ShareLife Estimation Event – fundraiser for the Catholic charity that all schools support; Ms. Demelo is running the event; jars will be specific to different age levels

- Upcoming Events
  - Edge Program - St Mary Star of the Sea - begins on Fridays - Feb 24
  - Book Fair - Feb 13-16 – Monday & Tuesday is a browsing day, then sales start
  - Brave Education presentations Feb 15-16 – Grade 4 & 6 classrooms
  - Student Led Conferences Feb 16-17
  - Family Day - Feb 20
  - Ash Wednesday - Feb 22
  - March Break - March 13-17
  - Psalm Sunday - April 2
  - Easter - April 9
- Fire Department would be open to doing a presentation to students
  - ACTION - A. Cunanan to share information with Ms. McCann

11. MOTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING (@ 7:30pm)

- Approved – A. Cunanan moved for approval & A. Pronski seconded motion

**Future meetings (St. James School Library & Virtually via Zoom):**

Thursday April 13, 2023