



Learning to Live, Living to Learn!

St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Elementary School
 300 Great Lakes Drive, Brampton ON L6R 2W7
 phone: 905-799-2558 fax: 905-799-6198

St. Isaac Jogues Catholic School Council Meeting Minutes

Date: **Wednesday, January 8, 2025**

Time: 5:00 pm – 6:32 pm

Staff Attending:

Principal Matthew Di Fiore
 Vice-Principal Wayne Campbell (Not in attendance)
 Teacher Rep Olimpia Falvo (Not in attendance)
 Non-Teacher Rep Amanda Sousa (Not in attendance)
 Non-Teacher Rep Nina Garcia

Attendees:

Co-Chairs: Jessica Glorioso & Suzy Alves
 Treasurer: Lilly Alves
 Secretary: Giselle Salinas
 OAPCE: Barbara Adjei (Not in attendance)
 Parish Rep: Shalini Boothe
 Parent Rep: Raita Yousif (Not in attendance)
 Parent Rep: Kierra Green (Not in attendance)
 Parent Rep: Maria Laura Silva Oyaneder (Not in attendance)
 Visitors: N/A
 Regrets: Catholic School Trustee Darryl Brian D’Souza, Catholic School Trustee Shawn Xaviour

Items:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opening Prayer & Land Acknowledgement 	<p>Matt Di Fiore read the Opening Prayer and Land Acknowledgement.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome 	<p>Catholic School Trustees – Darryl Brian D’Souza & Shawn Xaviour send their regrets.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of Agenda 	<p>Approved by Suzy Alves and seconded by Jessica Glorioso.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of Last Catholic School Council Minutes 	<p>Approved by Suzy Alves and seconded by Jessica Glorioso</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Update 	<p>Shrove Tuesday Event: The Shrove Tuesday event will take place on March 4th. Jessica mentioned that multiple items had to be purchased for the event, leading to significant out-of-pocket expenses. They are hoping for additional financial support from others to cover the costs. Shalini inquired about the availability of petty cash, but there is none at this time. Matthew asked if students could assist with the event, and it was confirmed that students would be able to help deliver the pancakes. The students enjoyed the pancakes and the event itself, which was held in the gym and described as a “community event.”</p> <p>Christmas Market: The Christmas Market generated \$1,972.00 in revenue, with approximately \$753.90 in profit. The numbers may not yet be fully reconciled, and December’s figures have not been finalized. Lilly Alves estimated that around \$1,000 should have been collected alone. Approximately 150 pictures were printed for the market, and it was noted that photos should have been made as it was the biggest collection event. No feedback has yet been received from the vendors regarding their performance during the market. Nina will verify the figures, but the estimated amount made is approximately \$2,500.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish Update 	<p>Shalini provided an update on parish events and celebrations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pilgrims of Hope - Jubilee Year: This time of year, the parish is celebrating the "Pilgrims of Hope" as part of the Jubilee Year. • Sacrament Dates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Celebration of Reconciliation: Saturday, February 15, 2025, at 11:00 AM ○ Celebration of First Holy Communion: Saturday, May 3, 2025, at 3:00 PM ○ Celebration of Confirmation: Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at 7:00 PM • Mass Schedule: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Monday: 9:15 AM (English) ○ Tuesday: 7:00 PM (English) ○ Wednesday: 9:15 AM (English) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Perpetual Help Devotions included ○ Thursday: 7:00 PM (English) ○ Friday: 9:15 AM (English) ○ Saturday: 9:15 AM (English) ○ Saturday Vigil: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 5:00 PM (English) ■ 7:00 PM (Vietnamese) ○ Sunday: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9:00 AM (English) ■ 10:30 AM (English) ■ 12:30 PM (English)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 8:00 PM (English) ● Parish Website: For more information, updates, and the weekly bulletin, please visit the parish website: St. Marguerite D'Youville Parish.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Treasurer's Report 	<p>Budget Summary Matt Di Fiore & Nina Garcia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Christmas Market: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Total Spent: \$1,972.00 ○ Total Brought In: \$1,993.00 ○ Estimated Profit: \$20.98 ○ December's figures have now been reconciled, with Nina rectifying the amounts. ○ Lilly had noted that approximately \$1,000 should have been collected, but the final tally shows a small profit. ○ Around 150 pictures were printed for the event. It was suggested that photos should have been taken as it was the biggest collection event. ○ No vendor feedback has been received yet on their performance. ○ Nina has verified that the Christmas Market brought in \$1,993, with an approximate profit of \$20.98. ● Budget Report (Matt Di Fiore & Nina Garcia): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Council Fund Balance: \$6,443.23 ○ Nina will update the dates and provide a revised budget report. ● SGF Report (Lily Alves): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Good start to the account with a balance of \$25,297.89.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● OAPCE Report 	<p>OAPCE Report (Matt Di Fiore):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The next meetings will be held on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ January 29th ■ March 4th ■ May 29th ○ All meetings will take place at 7:00 PM. ○ The OAPCE newsletter is available on their website: <i>Parents4Parents</i>. https://oapce.org/parents-4-parents/

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● OAPCE Dufferin-Peel Website: https://oapce.org/ shared. ● OAPCE Instagram and X Handle/Hashtag shared.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Administration / School Updates 	<p>All updates provided by Matt Di Fiore</p>
<p>a) Catholic Community, Culture, and Caring</p>	<p>All updates done by Matt Di Fiore</p> <p>Events and Virtue of the Month</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Virtue of the Month: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ January: Self-Control (Virtual Assembly) ○ February: Respect ○ March: Kindness ● Upcoming Events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Friday, January 17th: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Virtual Assembly for the Virtue of the Month (Self-Control) ■ ERW Appreciation Day ○ Tuesday, January 22nd: Bell Let's Talk Day ○ Tuesday, March 4th: Shrove Tuesday ○ Wednesday, March 25th: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Virtual Ceremony and Mass for Ash Wednesday ■ Distribution of ashes will still take place at the school.
<p>b) Learning Environment</p>	<p>All Updates done by Matthew Di Fiore</p> <p>Enrollment and Upcoming Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2025-2026 Enrollment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Current Enrollment: 375 students ○ Projected Enrollment: 388 students ○ Discussion around promoting SIJ as a wonderful school within the community, encouraging flexibility with boundaries to attract more students. Principals will communicate with each other to discuss flexible boundaries and strategies to maintain enrollment. ○ Emphasis on the importance of maintaining high numbers to sustain staffing levels. Registration of students is a key focus to keep numbers up, as a decrease could have a significant impact on staffing. ● Upcoming Dates:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PA Day: Monday, January 20, 2025 (No School for Students.) ○ Term 1 Report Cards and IEPs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Sent home to parents: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 (PM) ■ Hard copy and digital report will be sent on February 11, 2025 ○ Family Day: Monday, February 17, 2025 (No School for Staff and Students.)
<p>c) School/Community Engagement</p>	<p>All Updates done by Matt Di Fiore</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Admin Items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Junior Basketball & Junior Boys Indoor Soccer: Updates on current team activities and schedules. ○ Nutrition Program: Ongoing initiatives to promote healthy eating and wellness. ○ Mental Health Ambassadors: A big commitment from the ambassadors is expected, with upcoming events and initiatives to be discussed. ● Reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Raptors 905 Basketball Game: Scheduled for Wednesday, January 22, 2025. There are a limited number of tickets available (135 tickets) for students in grades 4-8. The event is very popular with the students, and SIJ has a strong basketball community, so it's expected to have a great turnout. ● Parent Engagement Event: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Brave Understanding Bullying Workshop & Movie Night: Scheduled for an upcoming date, focusing on raising awareness and providing strategies to address bullying. SIJ will be providing pizza, coffee/tea and water. ○ Movie Night: Scheduled for February 26, 2025, at 5:00 PM. ● Additional Events and Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Peel Public Health: Will be presenting at 5:00 PM on the same day as the Brave workshop, discussing healthy eating. ○ Food for Kids: Shalini suggested providing free food to encourage greater parent engagement. Jess will promote this initiative on the SIJ Instagram. Additionally, a grant of \$500 has been secured for this purpose. ● Chess Club: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Shalini inquired if the Chess Club could be offered for free, as it had previously been a paid program. Further discussion will follow.
<p>d) Physical Environment</p>	<p>All Updates done by Matthew Di Fiore</p> <p>Physical Environment & Health and Safety</p>

- **Scoreboard, Projector, and Screen for Gym:** Discussed the need for upgrades to the gym equipment. If anyone knows a company that provides scoreboards, please advise. Matt will also speak with the principal at St. Marguerite d'Youville Secondary School regarding their scoreboard.
- **Floor Washing Machine:** Discussed the need for a new floor washing machine for the school.
- **John Deere Lawnmower and Snow Blower:** Updates on maintenance and equipment needs for outdoor school care.

- **Health and Safety Clinics:**

- **Dental Screening (January 7 and 8, 2025):** Nina and Matt successfully organized the screening to be completed in one day.
- **Hearing and Vision Clinic (January 22, 2025):** A \$20 clinic will run on this day. Forms will be sent out tomorrow. If the clinic is highly valued, they will return the next day as well. Teachers will collect money to ensure a good turnout for the clinic. This is an annual service provided to the school.

- **Smartboard Requests:**

- Some teachers have requested Smartboards for their classrooms. Classrooms 103 and 203 had work orders submitted for repairs and upgrades, and Joyce Pace's classroom has also requested a Smartboard.

- **Art and School Promotion:**

- Discussion on supporting the arts at the school, with a suggestion to change some of the existing artwork and promote school spirit through visual illusions and new displays.

10. AOB

Uniform Discussion & Fundraising

- **Uniforms Discussion:**

- Giselle brought up the topic of uniforms.
- Matt Di Fiore and Nina Garcia discussed the positive and negative aspects of implementing a uniform policy.

- **Positive Aspects:**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Uniforms help students know exactly what to wear, making it easier to identify students, especially in high school settings. ■ Negative Aspects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The uniform initiative has been attempted in previous years but has not had a positive outcome. ■ Rapid growth in children makes it difficult to keep uniforms in appropriate sizes. ■ Issues with cost, laundry, and the need for frequent size changes were raised. Additionally, there is an increase in laundry volume, often resulting in smaller loads, which further raises costs. Subsidizing uniforms would also be an additional concern. ● Fundraising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ World's Finest Chocolates Sale: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ A potential fundraising opportunity during Spring. It is not mandatory, and further details will be determined (TBD).
11. Next Meeting	Thursday, April 24, 2025 @ 5:00 pm in the school Library
12. Closing Prayer	Shalini Boothe read the Closing Prayer.
13. Adjournment	Motion Carried – Approved by Jessica Glorioso and seconded by Suzy Alves.