

## **OLMCY Catholic School Council: Monday, November 20, 2023 @ 6:30 PM**

**In Attendance:** L. Marchand (Principal), K. Stephenson, N. Shea, K. Chan, J. Brancaleoni, S. Shehadeh (Virtual), K. Box (Teacher Rep)

Along with our Catholic School Council we were joined by: Brea Corbet – Catholic School Trustee Wards 9 & 10; Mathew Thomas – Superintendent of Operations; Laura Odo – Superintendent Mississauga North

Parents from OLMCY in the audience both in-person and virtually for the French Immersion discussion.

**Regrets:** M. D’Souza, R. Sportello, L. Shenouda, M. Anderson

6:34 Starting

Welcome, Prayer, and Land Acknowledgement: Kayla Stephenson (Co-Chair)

### **French Immersion Discussion:**

- This discussion is a result of a similar discussion that occurred at Divine Mercy after a parent reached out about the transition from Grade 4 FI to Grade 5 FI at Our Lady of Mercy School. The trustee wanted to provide the OLMCY school community with the same discussion that was had at the DM Council a few weeks prior to this one.
- OLMCY working hard to support the transition of students from Divine Mercy coming here in Grade 5
- opportunity to hear from staff and parents about their experiences
- History: population of both schools was significantly larger so it was decided to split for sustainability “Sister model of FI” (grades 1-4, then 5-8)
- Some schools do have the 1-8 model
- Board is looking at a number of options as they look at numbers of enrolment
- Ministry of Education has put a moratorium on school closures, so every school has to stay open creating a challenge
- No changes for 2024-2025 school year

### **Council concerns, thoughts and questions about the French Immersion:**

- Parents and educators engaged in a discussion around the French Immersion program currently at OLMCY
- Opinions were shared mostly in favour of the current model, but there will be no changes for the 2024-2025 school year
- Both schools have worked hard to bridge the gap so that the transition is easier (games, pen pals, etc. to reduce anxiety) and we feel the grade 5’s have been coming in happy and ready to be a part of the Our Lady of Mercy community

Adjournment of Community French Immersion discussion. Our guests left as did the majority of the audience.

Approval of Agenda: 1st : Nadia Shea; 2nd . Karen Chan

Approval of October Minutes: 1st . Nadia Shea; 2nd : Karen Chan

### **Chair's report**

- Update on OAPCE
- Kayla will try to attend these meetings

### **Principal's Report**

- Grade 4's wrote CCAT fully online this year
- Some trips (3 classes gone to Silver Creek), entire junior division to the Rose Theatre, grade 8 immersion students spent the day at Loyola
- Very successful book fair (around \$780 raised)
- Remembrance day took place on Indigenous Veterans day, kids really enjoyed the speaker
- Progress reports (sent out virtually), interview night went very well
- Athletics: flag football on Friday went well and the tent was used well, intermediate volleyball boys and girls
- Aladdin rehearsals well underway
- Bus safety presentation
- Terra Cotta (already made over 500 in commission)
- Coming up Gonzaga band, Advent, Advent mass
- YFA Christmas food drive, sock drive
- 21st of December community event (gingerbread houses) and then X movement takes over

### **Treasurer's Report**

- Currently have a balance of 9954.00
- Money moved for pizza, athletics, tent, and breakfast club
- Look at total cost for school council to purchase dry fit uniforms for the school for teams

### **Fundraising Report**

- Room is ready to go for the Christmas market (December 12th)
- Will go the whole day 9-3pm, schedule for the classes

### **New Business**

- Use of the PRO grant for payment of X movement Community Night: Approved
- Pizza protocol to be discussed with staff and students
- Grade 8 trip: there will be enough staff to have an overnight trip
- Now we can seek out a quote for a camp and a historical town and seek out preferences from parents (possibly Ottawa vs. a camp)
- Will report back on pricing

End of meeting

8:30 pm

Motion to Adjourn: 1st : Nadia Shea

2nd : Karen Chan