



**\*APPROVED\* MEETING MINUTES**

Robert F. Hall Catholic School Council

Monday, October 2, 2023

7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

ATTENDANCE REGISTER		COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR TERM: 2023 – 2024					
CSC VOTING MEMBERS	ROLE	OCT 2 2023	NOV 6 2023	JAN 8 2024	FEB 5 2024	APR 8 2024	MAY 27 2024
Karrie Daponte	Chair	P					
Vacant	Co-Chair	n/a					
Silvana Cordoba	Secretary	P					
Andrew Patterson	Treasurer	P					
Vacant	DRAPCE/OAPCE Rep	n/a					
Vacant	CCCSC/BECDM Rep	P					
Andrew Patterson	Parish Rep (St. Leonard)	P					
Laura Prestia	Parish Rep (St. John)	R					
Jennifer Selvaggi	Parish Rep (St. Timothy)	P					
STAFF MEMBERS	ROLE						
Diana Speranza	Principal	P					
Filomena Littlejohn	Vice Principal	R					
Antonio De Franco	Vice Principal	Leave of Absence					
Kryisia Ratulowski	Teacher Representative	R					
Laura Fodaro	Non-Teacher Representative	P					
Victoria F.	Student Representative	P					
Malena C.	Student Representative	P					
GUESTS							
Cindy Aristizabal, David Cordoba, Edith Pencil, Ida Lara, Joanna Godino, Keri Walsh,							
LEGEND		P = Present		R = Regrets		A = Absent	

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

The Robert F. Hall Catholic School Council met in person on Monday, October 2, 2023. The principal called the meeting to order at 7:10p.m.

**2.0 ATTENDANCE**

The principal welcomed returning, and new parents, staff, and students.

**3.0 OPENING PRAYER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Virtue of the Month: Empathy. The Aboriginal Lands of Canada were Acknowledged.

**4.0 SCHOOL COUNCIL BUSINESS**

**4.1 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion: Moved by Silvana Cordoba, seconded by Andrew Patterson, “That the Robert F. Hall Catholic School Council approve the Agenda.” CARRIED.**

#### 4.2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

An amendment was proposed to change the attendance record from "absent" to "present" for the parent member: Edith Penal on the May 29, 2023, meeting minutes. A revision will be made available on the school website.

**Motion: Moved by Silvana Cordoba, seconded by Andrew Patterson, “That the Robert F. Hall Catholic School Council approve the School Council May 29, 2023 Meeting Minutes.” CARRIED.**

#### 4.3 NOMINATIONS/ELECTIONS

The council's voting positions were introduced, and the responsibilities were explained to the guests in attendance. Self-nominations were invited, and all roles were successfully assigned, except for the cochair positions in DRAPCE/OAPCE Representative. The principal will be sending a follow-up email to all interested members to seek a co-chair volunteer. **(Refer to APPENDIX)**. Additionally, the principal will appoint a representative to represent our council as DRAPCE/OAPCE Representative.

Karrie Daponte	Chair	Vacant	CCCSC/BECDM Rep
Vacant	Co-Chair	Andrew Patterson	Parish Rep (St. Leonard)
Silvana Cordoba	Secretary	Laura Prestia	Parish Rep (St. John)
Andrew Patterson	Treasurer	Jennifer Selvaggi	Parish Rep (St. Timothy)
Vacant	DRAPCE/OAPCE Rep		

#### 4.4 SETTING OF MEETING DATES FOR TERM 2023-2024

The council has resolved to schedule a total of six meetings, each from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM, on the following dates:

1. Monday, October 2, 2023
2. Monday, November 6, 2023
3. Monday, January 8, 2024
4. Monday, February 5, 2024
5. Monday, April 8, 2024
6. Monday, May 27, 2024

#### 5.0 REPORTS

##### 5.1 STUDENT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

The student representatives have informed this committee that they are actively working towards achieving their fundraising goal of \$5000 for the Terry Fox Foundation. To kickstart their fundraising efforts, they collected donations by selling Terry Fox t-shirts in early September for Terry Fox Day.

On October 4th, they have planned a full-day event called "Feast Day: Terry Fox Movement Day" along with a Pep Rally, with the primary aim of reaching their target. They have collaborated with various departments, including Hospitality and Wolfpacks, among others. The day will commence with an opening mass led by Father Bob, followed by a special treat of a free lunch for students attending the first period. Cash-only sales of cotton candy, freezies, and popcorn will be available.

In the afternoon, students will have the opportunity to watch the senior boys and junior boys football games. To ensure widespread participation and awareness, this initiative will be promoted through the school morning announcements, RFH Announcement - Twitter, and the Student Council's Instagram account, providing students with all the necessary details and encouraging their active involvement.

## **5.2 CHAIRPERSON REPORT**

No presentation or information was provided for the item on the meeting agenda.

## **5.3 TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

Ms. Krysia Ratulowski couldn't attend today, but she forwarded updates for the committee:

Observed reconciliation day was held on October 2.

- Students showed support by wearing orange t-shirts.
- The flag was flown at half-mast from September 29 to October 2.
- Orange feathers were distributed to students, who were encouraged to write their thoughts on "every child matters."

Grade 9's retreat day on September 27 included:

- A morning mass led by Father Bob.
- A planned day of activities including team building occurred at the Caledon Community Complex.
- Students were gifted t-shirts to wear on Swag days.
  
- The school will be participating in the "Scare Away The Hunger" food drive for the Orangeville Food Bank. This is to provide support during the period following the Thanksgiving long weekend when food banks typically face reduced inventory levels. Everyone is encouraged to bring non-perishable items.
  
- Parent-Teacher Interviews will be hosted on Wednesday, October 18, 2023. Communication will be sent out to all parents.
  
- Academic Awards Night for grade 9 to 12 from the previous term 2022-2023 will be held on November 30, 2023. Further communication will be shared.

## **5.4 VICE-PRINCIPAL REPORT**

Our Vice-Principal, Mr. Antonio De Franco, is presently on a leave of absence. If this situation persists, we will arrange for a replacement. In the meantime, Vice-Principals from neighboring community high schools are providing temporary assistance at Robert F. Hall on a rotating basis.

## **5.5 PRINCIPAL REPORT**

This term, our student enrollment has risen to 1440 students, while our building's capacity is 1519. The principal and staff are diligently collaborating to identify and repurpose unused spaces within the building to accommodate this growth.

Next week, parents will receive communications regarding the possibility of some classes splitting. Our aim is to maintain a maximum of 23 students per classroom per teacher.

This is excellent news because it will enable the school to hire an additional 3 teachers to support this adjustment, ensuring that class sizes do not exceed the ideal 23-student-to-teacher ratio. We will take into account the specific needs of individual students, input from teachers, and other relevant factors.

## **5.6 PARISH REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

### **5.6.1 ST. TIMOTHY PARISH – ORANGEVILLE**

No presentation or information was provided for the item on the meeting agenda.

### **5.6.2 ST. LEONARD'S PARISH – BRAMPTON**

No presentation or information was provided for the item on the meeting agenda.

### **5.6.3 ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH – CALEDON EAST**

No presentation or information was provided for the item on the meeting agenda.

### **5.6.4 OAPCE/DRAPCE REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

No presentation or information was provided for the item on the meeting agenda.

## **6.0 NEW BUSINESS**

### **6.1 SPECIAL OLYMPICS**

presented by Karrie Daponte, Chair.

During our meeting on May 29, 2023, we were presented with information about Special Olympics Ontario. At this time there is an opportunity to attend a 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament on Saturday, October 28, 2023, in Scarborough.

To form a Unified Team, we're looking for one additional athlete with an Intellectual Disability and one Unified Athlete. While having a teacher would be fantastic, it's not a mandatory requirement as we have dedicated parent volunteers ready to participate.

The 2024 Special Olympics School Championships are set to take place in Chatham, Ontario, in June 2024. The deadline for "Athletics" registration and athlete time submissions is April 1, 2024, for both Athletes and Unified Athletes.

For other sports such as Floor Hockey, Bocce, Basketball, and Soccer, qualifying events are already underway, each with its own unique registration deadlines.

Takeaway: The "Back to School Welcome Email" pertaining to this item has been sent to the RFH principal for further discussion within the school community.

### **6.2 THE INTRODUCTION OF SHORTS AS PART OF THE STANDARD UNIFORM**

presented by Cindy Aristizabal, Council Member.

A parent introduced the idea of incorporating shorts as part of the standard uniform due to student interest. During the meeting, visual references and other materials provided by our McCarthy's Uniforms representative, Carlos Rios, were presented. To proceed, we must provide a response to the uniform

representative by October 31, 2023, as a minimum order of 500 shorts is required for the upcoming school year.

In the next steps, the principal has requested the parent to gather more comprehensive information and prepare a presentation for administration. This presentation will include a physical sample of the proposed shorts to gauge student interest. Additionally, this initiative will undergo review by various internal committees before final approval is granted. The Student Council will also play a role in gathering student insights, and a vote will be conducted to ensure sufficient interest for the purchase.

Takeaway: Cindy Aristizabal will collaborate with Edith Pencil and Silvana Cordoba to create a presentation and gather the necessary materials for submission by the upcoming week.

**Motion: Moved by Jennifer Salvaggi, seconded by Silvana Cordoba, “That the Robert F. Hall Catholic School Council recommended for approval the addition of McCarthy Walking Shorts to RFH student uniform to Administration, Student Council and other internal Committees for final approval.” CARRIED.**

### **6.3 HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH IN CANADA**

presented by Cindy Aristizabal, Council Member.

- Hispanic Heritage Month in Canada takes place during the month of October.
- As a representative of the Orangeville and Area - Celebrating Latin Diversity group, Cindy, along with other parents, would like to advocate for students and request that RFH continue to incorporate cultural engagement and celebrate diversity.

The principal mentioned that students had already initiated a celebration for this group in mid-September. However, Cindy clarified that this specific time frame is recognized solely in the United States and suggested considering the month of October for upcoming years.

Takeaway: This suggested was noted by the principal and will be taken into consideration.

### **7.0 CLOSING PRAYER**

### **8.0 ADJOURNMENT**

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:42pm

**APPENDIX**

On October 5, 2023, at 7pm, a dedicated Zoom meeting was convened to officially endorse the co-chair position. Marina Glinski – Parent, expressed her interest in the role, and all present members unanimously supported her self-nomination.

**Attendance:**

Karrie Daponte	Chair, CCCSC/BECDM Rep
Silvana Cordoba	Secretary
Andrew Patterson	Treasurer, Parish Rep (St. Leonard)
Jennifer Selvaggi	Parish Rep (St. Timothy)
Diana Speranza	Principal