



St. Francis Xavier Elementary School

"Together We Grow in Mind and Spirit."

111 Bartley Bull Parkway | Brampton | Ontario | L6W 2J8 | 905.459.0646

October 13th, 2021, Catholic School Council (CSC) Minutes

10.13.2021 at 6:35 PM | Meeting called to order by Arlene Aguilar

In Attendance

Anna DaSilva, Trustee	Catherine Ambrose
Arlene Aguilar, Principal	Rachel Anderson
Maureen Baldino, Non-Staff Rep	Renee Crone
Ellen Mastrangelo, Staff Rep	Geraldine Cabral
Michelle Walters, Staff Rep	Ricky/Charissa Da Costa
	Amy Donnelly
	Chris French
	Samantha MacNeil
	George Oppong

Trustee Update

- Anna DaSilva provided the following updates:
 - Anna's newsletter was distributed via email on October 10th and provides Board updates along with useful links
 - COVID19 Update
 - 60 cases as of last week (total across board of 157 schools)
 - several schools have closed classrooms
 - overall doing well and numbers are manageable
 - 1-2 outbreaks overall; majority in Mississauga area
 - Courtesy Ridership (refers to students who are not eligible for transportation but may access courtesy seats available on some bus routes)
 - Anna has received several calls from parents however Courtesy Ridership had to be cancelled for Elementary students
 - Peel Public Health has provided direction to limit 2 students per seat (vs. 3 students per seat pre-COVID) to allow for distancing.
 - Some inconsistency with Elementary and Secondary students
 - Photography has resumed as of October; a composite class photo will be provided like secondary schools
 - Anna's contact info is available on the [board website](#)

Welcome and Introductions

- Arlene welcomed everyone; members introduced themselves

Land Acknowledgement and Opening Prayer

- Arlene provided the new Land Acknowledgement
- Arlene along with nominated CSC members did the opening prayer and liturgy

Approval of Minutes from May 2021 Meeting

- The minutes from the May 2021 meeting were approved. Motion by Arlene, moved by Chris; Seconded by Amy

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Elections

Arlene Aguilar reviewed positions; elections not necessary as only 5 nominations were received

- Principal: Arlene Aguilar
- Chair: Chris French
- Non-Staff Rep: Maureen Baldino
- Staff Rep(s): Ellen Mastrangelo, Michelle Walters
- Secretary + Parish Rep: Amy Donnelly
- Treasurer: Rachel Anderson
- OAPCE Rep: Renee Crone
- Community Rep(s): Geraldine Cabral, Samantha MacNeil

School Fundraiser/ Virtual Trips

Maureen provided information on this year's school fundraiser:

- Returning to QSP Magazine fundraiser; all online via company's website and will be open all year
- Money raised from QSP fundraiser will be put towards literacy and numeracy workshops

Maureen provided information on virtual field trips which have been well-reviewed and booked for the school year including:

- October 18-22: ROM – Indigenous workshop (intermediate students)
- November: Ontario Science Centre
- December: Region of Peel ECO Team
- January (to be confirmed): Peel Police Community Helpers etc.
- Feb/March: Scientist in the School

Principal's Report

- Staffing updates:
 - Ms. Costa is our Kindergarten teacher for Ms. Gellert (on leave)
 - Ms. Sardelis is our Grade 2 teacher for Ms. Khoury (on leave); (Ms. Wolak previous LTO)
 - Ms. Cava is our Grade 5 teacher for Mr. Burlon (on leave)
 - Ms. Volpatti is our Grade 8 teacher returning from re-assignment to a remote teaching position last year
 - Ms. Fung is our Kindergarten remote teacher
 - New planning time Teachers:
 - Mr. Tersigni (on contract) for Ms. Ramanauskas returning from leave Thurs Oct 21
 - Ms. Mykhalyuk (Mon, Tues)
- School population remains stable at 452
- No class reorganization was required in September however may be required in early 2022 when parents have the option to have students switch learning modes (in-person or remote). There are 31 students currently remote.
- Renee Crone has accepted the position of Student Monitor however there is still 1 vacant position. Coverage is currently being done by Wayne Campbell and/or Arlene Aguilar
- Due to current COVID restrictions there will be no open house, teachers are in the process of welcoming parents
- A total of \$1,160 was raised for the Terry Fox Walk/Run
- The Virtues Program continues, the virtue for October is "Empathy"
- St. Mary's Church has a new Associate Pastor – Rev. Feliciano Merchan; this year's first (virtual) mass took place on Oct 7; December 1st is the next (virtual) mass, and all are welcome to attend online
- Religious Sacraments – at the direction of Pastor Rev. Liborio Amaral all sacraments are handled by the Parish; questions about sacraments should be directed to the Parish office
- Extra-curricular activities are still on hold at the elementary level, continue to have Youth Faith Ambassadors who organized the Orange Shirt Day and a very successful Thanksgiving food drive
- There are 8 designated play areas in the school yard; each class has a lunch period of 30 minutes indoors and 30 minutes outdoors (8 classes indoor and 8 classes outdoor at given time); teachers are on duty for 20 mins.

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- COVID19 measures continue including but not limited to distancing, masking, staying home when not well (including siblings per Peel Public Health direction), HEPA filters running all day in kindergarten classes, windows open in all classes with windows, new portables all have air conditioning
- As previously communicated via email, there are 2 new entrances being constructed for kindergarten
 - Areas will be draped, vestibules will be part of classroom, area will be fenced, construction will occur after hours and hoping to be completed before Winter
- Lots of lost/found items– please label items such as balls etc. so they can be returned
- Reminder for kids not to climb fence(s) into neighboring yards to retrieve items as this is trespassing
- Kiss and Ride
 - A lot of illegal parking before and after school impeding bus traffic, crosswalk and blocking fire/emergency route; by-law has been asked to attend. Reminder to be active and green (use feet, strollers, rollers etc. to get to school)
- Parents/Caregivers are asked to stay behind “orange line” when on school property to allow staff to be able to monitor students when on duty; pets are welcome however should also remain on the perimeter and behind the orange line
- Edwin project – students in Grades 7 & 8 are assigned Edwins, this year Grade 6 students in a Grade 6/7 split class also had the benefit of having Edwins which also include online textbooks
- School generated funds have been used to purchase:
 - outdoor play equipment for kinder classes and outdoor learning kits (foam, clipboards etc.)
 - 40 new iPads and 30 new Chromebooks to replace existing laptop cats and iPads which need to be decommissioned this school year
 - Smart Boards for portables – currently have 2, looking to purchase a third
- Fire Drills - Mr. Campbell has been running modified fire drills (3 per term are required) and lockdown drill (1 per term required) and these are to be concluded in next few weeks
- Photo Day – will be on Oct 21st, re-take date to be communicated. Grad photos have also been booked for early 2022.
- Progress Reports (cover the first 8 weeks of school) to be distributed Nov 9th, phone interviews will take place on Nov 11th
- Parents are welcome to call school to speak to Administration, especially with any positive comments and/or news
- For anyone not receiving school communications via email, please check spam folder

Other Business

Religious Sacraments

- A question was raised regarding whether the school administration would support collaborative sacrament preparation with the parish for students should the current direction from the Pastor of St. Mary's Parish change. Arlene confirmed the school would work collaboratively as required.

Comments from Chair (Chris)

- We will try to adhere to meeting agenda/timelines as much as possible
- Meetings should remain positive and are not a personal platform for individual issues – these should be discussed separately with the school Administration

Fundraising

- A question was raised regarding starting up the “Flip-Give” account again soon to generate funds for the school; Geraldine offered to set this up again this year and prepare the communication for distribution. All agreed this was a good initiative last year (~ \$400 raised) and should proceed again this school year.
- Chris, Arlene, and Maureen to provide additional information on any current fundraising restrictions (such as minimizing product contact etc.) due to COVID for the purpose of planning additional fundraising initiatives.

Next Meeting

November 3rd, 2021, | 6:30 PM, via Zoom Call

Motion to adjourn was made at 7:54 PM and was passed unanimously.