

**St. Ann Catholic School Council Minutes**  
**Monday, January 25, 2021**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
**Remote Via Zoom**

**Attendance:** Joseph Curto, Principal; Mrs. Sheahan, Vice Principal; Maggie Tapp, Iryna Holovatska, Maureen Weatherston, Natalia Jaramillo, Colette VanBodegom

**Guest:** Tyler Iorio, new HWCDSB Trustee, replacing the late Tony Perri.

**Prayer:** J. Curto provided the opening prayer.

**October Minutes:** were approved and posted to the HWCDSB website.

**Parent Council Goal: Parent Communication and Engagement with Faith Focus**

**Parish Rep's Report:**

- No report at this time
- Fr. Oehring provided links during Advent of the liturgies and homilies for the school to share with the teachers and students.

**Community Rep's Report:**

- M. Weatherston advised that she had sent an email to Mr. Daly on December 2<sup>nd</sup> requesting the email address of Mr. Iorio, the new school trustee. She wanted to update him on the progress on the kindergarten playground expansion project. Mr. Daly provided the email address for Mr. Iorio and also advised that the City's position has not changed with regard to the sale of the property.
- J. Curto suggested that we pursue the possible purchase of the Polish Hall as the owners are interested in selling the land and building. The school and church would greatly benefit from this purchase with the possibility of having a garden, outside space for praying and a larger playground for students. A proposal from the School Council will need to be undertaken that highlights the revitalization of the neighborhood and how it would be advantageous for the entire community.

**Chair Report:**

- PRO Grant Proposal was approved for \$500.00. This possibly could be used for a Parent/School Retreat in the Spring of 2021 at Camp Marydale. The CYO could assist with the planning and implementation of the Retreat. J. Curto will connect with the CYO office staff to inquire about their help.
- Fundraising is on hold due to the Covid19.
- J. Curto reported that someone who wished to remain anonymous has made a significant donation to the school. These funds can be used to replace the outdated electronic devices that the students are using.
- J. Curto also advised that the school has purchased 20 new devices to date.
- Another reminder will be included in this month's newsletter to the parents that donations can be made through the school board website that will directly go to the school.
- Parents Engaged in Education website has several upcoming virtual events for parents. Their website is: [www.parentsengagedineducation.ca/community-events](http://www.parentsengagedineducation.ca/community-events)

- The 28th Annual Parent Conference 2020-2021 will be held virtually on February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. with guest speaker, Sara Westbrook. M. Tapp has registered for the conference.
- Hamilton Recreation Department is offering a “Home Alone Safety for Kids” virtual course for kids aged 9-12 years. The cost is \$25.99. To register, contact <https://www.hamilton.ca/recreation/home-alone-safety-kids>

**Principal’s Report:**

- J. Curto advised that the PA Day will now be on Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Report Cards will be sent home on February 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Spirit Wear – the online voting was held in December. JML will provide tee-shirts for \$7.00. All students will receive one. The students will provide their teachers with their size. 400 shirts will be ordered.
- Wall of Fame – J. Curto has been reaching out to the alumnae for participation in celebrating the history of St. Ann School.
- Mrs. Sheahan has been successful in becoming a Vice Principal and is awaiting placement.
- The Grade 8 students are continuing with their fundraising and will be selling popcorn and freezies when classes return.
- J. Curto congratulated the parents and care takers for their assistance in the virtual online learning.
- It was noted that the students are weary of being online for so many hours per day and it becomes challenging to keep them engaged as time goes on.
- Mr. Iorio advised that he is available for any assistance we may need and he noted that the students and staff are working very hard.

**Prayer for March meeting:** Maggie Tapp will provide the opening prayer.

**Next meeting date:** Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m. It will be via remote.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.