

St. Ann Catholic School Council Minutes
Monday, October 25, 2021
6:00 p.m.
Via Remote

Attendance: Joseph Curto, Principal; Steven Docherty, Principal Assistant; Maggie Tapp, Iryna Holovatska, Maureen Weatherston and Colette VanBodegom

Regrets: Vicki Amato

Prayer: C. VanBodegom provided the opening prayer.

September 27th, 2021 Minutes: were approved and posted to the HWCDSB website.

Parent Council Goal: Parent Communication and Engagement with Faith Focus

Parish Rep's Report:

- Fr. Oehring continues to have two classes at a time visit the church for instruction and viewing the sacred relics that are in the care of St. Ann Church.
- Fr. Oehring will also continue to participate in the liturgies for the school in place of the monthly masses.
- It is hoped that in the New Year, the students, in a couple of classes at a time, may be able to celebrate mass in the church.
- Fr. Oehring was very pleased with the donation the school made from the proceeds of the art projects the students undertook last spring.
- Fr. Oehring now has an assistant to help liaise with the school.
- Plans for Confirmation and First Holy Communion are going forward under the supervision of Fr. Oehring.

Community Rep's Report:

- There are no new plans underway for expansion of the playground or increasing green space at the school. J. Curto will touch base with the superintendent to inquire how St. Patrick's School is addressing this issue.

Treasurer's Report:

- J. Curto advised that proceeds from parking for the TiCat football games is an excellent source of revenue for the school. The monies are used in the purchase of new technology equipment for the classrooms.
- In the following school year, J. Curto would like to focus on replenishing the sports equipment for the students.
- The Grade 8 students are looking after the sale of pizza and popcorn with the events alternating weekly on Fridays.
- J. Curto will provide the council with a financial report at the next meeting.

Chair Report and Current Business:

- M. Tapp received a response to her inquiry re the purchase of the Dream Tree. This information was forwarded onto J. Curto

- M. Tapp and I. Holovatska will participate in the Catholic School Council Gathering and Commissioning Ceremony that will take place virtually on October 26th at 6:00 p.m.

Principal's Report:

- J. Curto advised that the school will purchase the Dream Tree with delivery expected within two weeks. The unveiling will be part of the school Advent celebration. The students will be awarded leaves to place on the tree by doing acts of kindness.
- The Spook-a-thon will be held on Friday, October 29th with two classes at a time enjoying the festivities in the gym. Games such as Halloween Bingo and dancing will be provided. The donation of prizes will be gratefully accepted at the school up to Friday. Prizes will be awarded for costumes and games.
- Plans for the Outdoor Retreat were provided to the council by J. Curto. The event can take place on Thursday, November 18th from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. at Camp Marydale. It will include a reflective nature walk and end with a Christian meditation session. HWCDSB will undertake the cost of the event. All staff, council members and parents will be invited. J. Curto will poll the parent population to see if enough are interested and in need of a bus ride to Camp Marydale. This can be arranged by the school.
- It is hoped that a Spring Fling event can take place in May 2022 with families gathering for a BBQ in the playground.
- Wednesday, October 27th will be Child Protection Awareness Day.
- Reports Cards will be sent home on November 16th.
- EQAO dates will be set up in May 2022 for grades 3 and 6.
- A special day for pitas at lunch will be arranged with the parents being given six weeks' notice.
- Emphasis on handwashing will continue at the school in an effort to combat the spread of Covid 19.
- J. Curto shared a fundraising idea that involved the sale of assorted and/or birthday cards. The cost would be \$33 for 33 cards with the school receiving \$11 proceeds from every box sold. The process is completely virtual, there would be no deliveries at the school. This can be done anytime, possibly after Christmas.
- The manager of the No Frills on Main Street will donate a portion of parent sales back to the school. J. Curto will connect with the manager to determine the most profitable date. The manager will also donate food for snacks to the school.
- J. Curto advised that the HWCDSB Anonymous Bullying Reporting Form has been sent to all parents via email. He will continue to include the form in all upcoming communications to the families. The completed forms are sent to the principal for follow up. He advised that he has not been made aware of any serious incidents of bullying at the school. The majority of issues are misunderstandings among friends. The anti-bullying pledge is read every day as part of the school announcements. He will send a copy of the pledge to the council members.

Prayer for meeting: M. Weatherston will provide the opening prayer.

Next meeting date: Monday, November 29th at 6:30 p.m. It will be via remote.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.