

St. Ann Catholic School Council Minutes
Monday, January 16, 2023
3:30 p.m.
School Library

Prayer: The St. Ann Catholic School Council prayed the Catholic School Council Prayer together.

- **Attendance:** Mrs. T. Fricano, Principal; Steven Docherty, Principal Assistant; Maggie Tapp, Maureen Weatherston, and Iryna Holovatska

Guests: Mrs. Angelini, HWCDSB Trustee and Public Health School Nurse, Margo Corbin

- Mrs. Angelini introduced herself and provided information regarding her qualifications and experience.
- Margo provided an overview of the services that the school-based nurses provide to the schools and the students. She also spoke of the supports that are available to the community. She asked the council members what supports they feel are needed for the students. She advised of the many supports and resources that are available through the HWCDSB website. Any parents or guardians with questions can reach her at Margot.Corbin@hamilton.ca. In addition, please click on the link for further helpful resources <https://www.hamilton.ca/people-programs/outreach-education/healthy-schools>

Parent Council Goal: Parent Communication and Engagement with Faith Focus

November 7, 2022 Minutes: were approved and posted to the school website.

Treasurer's Financial Report:

- Financial breakdown of the funds raised at the School Meet the Teacher Event held on September 21st is as follows: the expenses of the event totaled \$713 but proceeds exceeded this resulting in a positive balance of \$324.00 that will be used for a future school event.

Parish Rep's Report:

- The Advent Night Event held on November 29th was a huge success. This was a parish/school/home event funded by a \$1000 grant that started as a Mass in the Church and ended with Christmas crafts in the School Gym.
- Discussion ensued regarding the students attending Mass in the Church on a regular basis.
- Information regarding registration for the sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation has been sent home to the families. Dates are not yet determined.

Community Rep's Report:

- No report at this time.

Chair Report and Current Business:

- **Parking in front of the school:** a reminder will be sent to all parents that parking in front of the school at dismissal continues to hamper the safety of students crossing the street.
- **Future fundraising opportunities:** the school council does not need to entertain thoughts of another fundraiser for the remainder of the school year as the needs of students have been met.

- **Spring Parent Engagement:** discussion at the March meeting will include thoughts/suggestions for an upcoming event to be held at the end of May or first of June.

Principal's Report:

- Friday, February 3rd at 8:30 a.m. Catholic School Council Breakfast at Michelangelo's Banquet Centre.
- Report cards will be going home of February 17th.
- Child & Youth Worker, Ms. DiPaolo, will be at the school daily starting term 2. She spearheads the Roots of Empathy Program where a mom and a newborn come into the class monthly so that students can see first-hand the infant's stages of development and their display of emotions. Other programs include: Tools For Life, Girls Groups and Boys Groups, and Zones of Regulation. She also checks in pro-actively with students that require it.
- School Improvement Plan: Believing, Achieving and Serving. Fr. Oehring will continue to attend classes and teach students about the parts of the Mass. Under Achieving, Mrs. Fricano advised that the EQAO results indicated the primary students scored very well for literacy. The junior and primary students scored low in the math portion of the assessment. To achieve improvement in math, efforts will be concentrated in the areas of gaps that were indicated. The specific targets will be focused on in the classrooms. Under Serving, the goal continues to be Mental Health.
- To address the Bullying, Mrs. Fricano explained the students recite the anti-bullying pledge every morning. Strategies for reminding students throughout the day to be kind, inclusive and patient were described. This is a plan for the entire school. An indicator of success will be achieving a healthy school certificate through OPHEA.
- HAT (Healthy Action Team) initiatives are many. They will be addressing the bullying survey responses. The majority of episodes of bullying happen during unstructured times at recess and lunch periods. Weekly announcements will include mental health tips. A Mental Health Fair is being planned for the first week of May and Rising Stars will assist with some of the activities. The HAT team also collaborates with Daily School Route.

Next meeting date: March 27th at 3:30 p.m. in the School Library.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:24 p.m.