



St. André Bessette Catholic Elementary School Council

APPROVED Meeting Minutes

Date | Time 11/15/2023 6:30 PM | *Meeting called to order by* Melissa Galluzzo

In Attendance

Juliet Lugtu, Melissa Galluzzo, Sabrina Schiralli, Miranda Loberto, Reva Sulaka, Erin Rosart, Marta Dawod, Imma Vitale, Tania Dell'Erario

1. Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge that we are on the sacred Indigenous territory and thank the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation for being stewards of this land.

2. Opening Prayer

Council Prayer

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light;

And where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

To be consoled as to console;

To be understood as to understand;

To be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motioned by: Sabrina Schiralli; Seconded by Reva Sulaka; Approved

4. Approval of Minutes

Motioned by: Miranda Loberto; Seconded by Melissa Galluzzo; Approved

5. Treasurer Update – Miranda Loberto

- Balance in account is \$2156.68
- Changes since last meeting include a \$500 parent involvement grant in and a \$5.00 banking service charge out
 - Parent involvement grant can be used for parent/family nights such as a mental health and wellness night, a math night, an education night (ie. Planetarium).

6. OAPCE Update

- OAPCE has a new website
- Commemorating 85th Anniversary
 - Theme this year - Celebrate OAPCE 85: A Yearlong Celebration of Change, Commitment and Catholic Education
 - As part of celebration, unveiling a new logo, symbolizing unwavering dedication to families in Catholic Education

7. Parish Update

- Revised celebration dates were sent out
 - Communion – April 30
 - Confirmation – May 8
- Information sessions have already taken place and monthly classes have begun

8. Teacher Update

- On October 11th, St. Andre Bessette hosted the Junior Volleyball Tournament.
- On October 20th, our Multilingual (MLL) and SERC students went to Chudleigh's Farm
- On Halloween, students in Kindergarten to Grade 6 participated in a dance with our very own DJ Mr. Cioffi. The students had a great time!
- The YFL sold Halloween cookies for Sharelife. They raised a total of approx. \$400
- YFL students made riddles for the morning announcements, and we had a candy corn guessing jar.
- YFL also took Kinder to ⅔ teachers sign up for Halloween art. Students picked the activities and went into classes to help the teachers with the task. They also read stories to classes.
- On November 29th, Barbarinde Williams from Drums et al. will visit our school to deliver drumming workshops to our students. Mr. Williams's anti-bullying presentation titled “ All Different All Equal” addresses bullying on all levels in Ontario schools. This is an empathy-based assembly that assists in character building.
- For All Souls Day, a binder was placed on the altar in the front foyer for people to write the name of a loved one.

- On November 11th, classes participated in a Remembrance Day Liturgy led by Ms. Iafrate and Ms. Costantino's classes.
- The YFL continues to highlight the Virtues of the month in the announcements. This will continue all year.
- Students in grade 4, completed the CCAT this week, a test used to measure verbal, nonverbal and quantitative reasoning.
- The YFL will be launching an "Anti-Bullying" week starting Monday. Students will partake in a Spirit Week with activities centred around stopping bullying and bringing awareness.
- Snack Shack is back in full force every Friday.
- All grade 8 students were invited to St. Thomas Aquinas on November 2nd for the Grade 8 Outreach Day!
- On November 1st, we had The Dairy Farmers present educational sessions to our intermediate students.
- The intermediate boys and girls Volleyball family of school tournament will be held on Wednesday, November 26th, at St. Lourds.
- There will be a Chess Invitational Tournament on November 30th. The team will consist of 6 junior and intermediate students.
- In our Cross Country board meet, E.T, in grade 5, placed 1st, meaning he's the fastest grade 5 boy in our board. Thank you to Mr. O'Neill for placing an order to have a banner made for him. Banners are only made for teams, not individual runners.
- Thank you to Riverstone Community Center for hosting the grade 8 retreat on Friday, November 10th.
- Dec 1st Holy Name High School is hosting a coding day for all Grade 8 female students. All 29 students will be attending.

9. Principal Update

- Dental screening took place for students in kindergarten, grade 2, 4, 6 and 8.
- Progress reports went home yesterday (Nov. 14)
- Teacher interviews will take place tomorrow (Nov. 16)
- Mr. Sub lunch orders have been submitted – 69 orders
 - Will begin the last Wednesday of November
- The school's pastoral plan has been submitted to the church
- EQAO results have come in
 - Overall grade 3 reading – 75% at or above provincial standard
 - Overall grade 3 writing – 67% at or above provincial standard
 - Overall grade 3 math – 42% at or above provincial standard
 - This score is lower than the province and board score of 60%
 - Overall grade 6 reading - 81% at or above provincial standard
 - Overall grade 6 writing - 90% at or above provincial standard
 - Overall grade 6 math – 38% at or above provincial standard
- Board has deemed us a school of need based on math scores
 - A math facilitator has been assigned to co-teach with the grade 3 and 6 teachers
 - Will come for select days monthly
 - The students do well in knowledge and understanding questions, the need is in application and thinking (communication)
 -

Upcoming Events

- Confession for grades 3-8 with Father Abraham – November 27
- Liturgy for the staff with Father Abraham
- Advent mass – December 12
- Christmas committee has met – chosen a tentative date of Wednesday Dec. 13 for Christmas Open House
 - Crafting evening, karaoke
 - Event for kindergarten-grade 6, with grade 7&8 students volunteering as leaders
 - Council to sell milk and cookies (S. Schiralli to look into Terra Cotta cookies)
 - Potential vendor market – need to confirm that this is possible
- Christmas Spirit Week – last week before break
 - Earth Rangers coming in, Gr. 1-8 - Wednesday Dec. 20
 - Movie Theatre Day Gr. 1-8 (Wonka) – Thursday Dec. 21
 - \$18 – covers ticket and bus cost
 - No food will be available to purchase at theatre
 - Backpacks not permitted in theatre
 - Kindergarten students will watch a movie in the gym

10. Lunch Discussion

- Mr. Sub already underway – 69 orders
- Portuguese chicken lunch
 - We pay \$8, charge students \$9
 - Will start off with every other Friday and see how it goes
 - Dec. 1&15, Jan. 12&26
- Shwarma – find out prices, maybe start after chicken
- Beef Patties
 - Run this same as pizza lunch – partial preorder + collect money morning of before placing order
 - Have patties at school for lunch period – 11:50am
 - Will begin on Mondays in January

11. Spring Fundraiser

- Chocolate sales – World's Finest Chocolates
 - Students buy a full case and then sell, \$3 a box
 - Families have to commit to buying the full case
- Greeting cards
 - Big Box of Cards - \$35 for box of 30 cards (profit?)
 - Dieleman's Fundraising Sale – 40 cards, 50% profit
- Little Caesars – pizza kits
 - \$30 kit, comes with 3 pizza doughs, sauce and cheese
 - \$6.00 profit
- Dominoes Pizza night
 - 1 large pizza for \$10, \$5 goes back to school
 - Students get a code to use for a certain night
 - Online orders only

12. New Business

- Concern with safety of intersection where buses leave school
 - Kids are crossing to get to park, parents crossing from where they parked on the side street
 - Is there a way to move crossing guard over since that is where most people are crossing after school
 - Must be a designated crosswalk to have crossing guard
 - Council member to submit a school site inspection request
- School skating night
 - Problem encountered last year was finding a location that had skate rentals
 - It is not an inclusive event if students are not able to rent skates and do not have their own
 - If parent council running it using funds raised by school, has to be accessible for all students
- Bowling night – rent out a number of lanes
- School jerseys – looking into purchasing for soccer, possible basketball and volleyball
 - Quote from board approved company quite high - \$48-50 per jersey
 - Looking into possibility of council gifting the jerseys, would be able to find a vendor with a lower price point
- Classroom Games
 - Indoor recess bins need to be replenished
 - Need board games, cards, dice, lego
 - In past, \$100 per classroom was given – teachers bought their own supplies, submitted receipts
 - 22 classrooms total
- School Council goals for future
 - More family engagement
 - Boost spirit and morale
- Spirit Wear
 - T. Dell'Erario to speak to Mr. Cioffi about this

13. Adjournment

11/15/2023 8:40 PM

Meeting adjourned – Motioned by Miranda Loberto; seconded by Reva Sulaka

Upcoming Meetings:

Wednesday, December 6

Wednesday, January 17

Wednesday, February 7

Wednesday, March 6

Wednesday, April 17

Wednesday, May 15

Thursday, June 13