

# École Catholique Cathédrale School Council

## Minutes for September 21, 2016

---

### In attendance:

Lesley Kelly, Christine White, Len Whalen, Sandra Chaykowski, Rachel Young, Shawn & Gislaine Geurkink, Joshua Wakelin, Jimmy Hassan, Scott Benn, Ruth Bakewell, Jenn Sawyer, Katie Layman, Deleen Overvelde, Michael & Dana Deasy, Tiffany Emery, Mike Arsenaault, Ahdy Guirguis, Csilla Lasso, Margaret Winchar, Catherine Bohn (My apologies for spelling!)

### Regrets:

Brittiney McDonald, Sean Kelly, Helen MacIntyre

### **Opening Prayer:**

Mike led the group in prayer.

### **Review and approval of September Agenda**

Mike requested a review and approval of the September 2016 Agenda.  
All were in favour.

### **Election of 2016-2017 Council**

Co-Chairs - Tiffany Emery & Katie Layman  
Co-Secretaries - Helen MacIntyre & Ruth Bakewell  
Treasurer – Ahdy Guirguis  
Goodwill – Jenn Sawyer  
Communications – Dana Deasy  
Webmasters - Ken Davies & Sean Kelly

### **Past-Treasurer's Report**

Review of prior year financials: total revenues = \$21,701.39 and expenses = \$27,801.32  
Account balance as of September 1, 2016 = \$6,057.11 Full Report attached.

### **Teacher's Report**

Mme. Sandra Chaykowski reported the following:

- The reorganization of the primary classes was complete and had gone well.
- Swimming @ Queen's pool is planned for Grades 1-3 – there will be two sessions in October and two in May. Parent volunteers will be needed to maintain supervision ratios.
- Soccer will begin next week.
- Terry Fox walk will be held September 29<sup>th</sup>. Jump Rope for Heart will occur later in the year.

## Principal's Report

### Enrollment / Re-organization

- Current school enrolment is 314 with 104 JK/SK students. Due to the high numbers, the school was allocated an additional teacher. This often happens at the beginning of the year, despite submitting projections in February and May of the previous year.
- Classroom limit in JK/SK is 15 students per teacher OR 15+ students per teacher and an Early Childhood Educator. There is no upper limit in kindergarten classes.
- The maximum number of primary students in a classroom is 20, or 23 by rare exception (limited number of classrooms across the board.)
- The reorganization eliminated split grades in primary and created 4 JK/SK rooms, 2 rooms of each grade 1,2,and 3.
- There is still a formal hiring process that is required. The position was posted yesterday and the process may take through the month of October.
- A question of whether the school had a maximum number of students allowed was asked and Mike answered that yes, and the school was approaching that limit.

Mike also highlighted the school's new website; some features include: room for a news banner & notices, links to Triboard transportation & school council, calendar, and student announcements.

Homework calendars will be going home next week.

### EQAO testing

- A full report is available on the EQAO website by school. As well, students receive individual results.
- Testing indicated that students enjoyed learning
- Excellent results; both grades scored higher than school board and province averages, in all areas.

## Other Items

### Breakfast Program

- Catherine provided an overview of the program – a hot meal and positive social environment available to all students each school morning - and encouraged any grand/parent who was interested in volunteering to contact her.
- The program is run for grades 1-8 in the Rotunda each morning from 8-8:25. Breakfast snacks are delivered each morning to the 4 kindergarten rooms for the JK/SKs.
- Catherine explained that the Food Sharing Program provides all the food for the program at no cost to the school or Council. She stated that because of allergies, the program couldn't accept food donations from parents but they were always open to suggestions of ideas for breakfast meals.

### Hot Lunch Program

- Program is up and running.
- Hot dogs are offered once/month. Pizza and pitas are offered each Thursday. Milk is available each day.

### Fall Family Fun Dance

- Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup> 6-7:30pm.
- Christine White will coordinate by email.
- The evening will require volunteers for donations and activities.

### **Next ECC Council meeting: Thursday October 20<sup>th</sup>, 7pm.**

- Council decided to alternate Wednesday and Thursday evenings for meetings. It was hoped that this will be inclusive to all families, appreciating that many have conflicting priorities.
- The idea of having childcare available at meetings was suggested for those families who may require childcare for younger children in order to attend meetings. It was agreed that this should be made available and would be able to be facilitated by senior students.