

St. Mary's Listowel CSAC Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Tuesday May 17, 2022 7pm via Microsoft Teams

In Attendance: Jane Hartin, Erin Stewart, Brenda Dumond-Novotny, Cheryl Weishar, and Julie Swenson.

Regrets: Julie Murtha, Jennifer McGrath, Tammy Fischer, and Tanya Tersptra.

Welcome Prayer – led by Erin Stewart

Meeting was called to order by Erin Stewart

Attendance and meeting minutes taken by Brenda Dumond-Novotny

Approval of Agenda:

Council was asked to approve the Catholic School Advisory Council's May 17, 2022 meeting agenda. Brenda Dumond-Novotny made the motion to approve the agenda and Julie Swenson seconded it. Carried.*

Approval of Minutes:

Council was asked if there were any errors or omissions from the Feb 15, 2022 meeting minutes before being approved. No changes made. Erin Stewart made the motion to approve the minutes as written, and Julie Swenson seconded it. Carried.*

Treasurers Report & Business Arising from Report:

Jane Hartin reported that the previous amount recorded in the account was \$1043.55 however the monies made from the Domino's Pizza fundraiser had not been added to that number yet. Jane shared she would report those numbers via email after the CSAC meeting once she checked in with Colleen Pletsch. Erin Stewart approved this information as presented and Brenda Dumond-Novotny seconded it. Carried*

Addendum to Treasurers Report: Jane Hartin sent an email to all CSAC members on Wednesday May 18, 2022 and reported that our current bank balance is \$3043.55. She shared that \$1563.96 was raised with the Domino's Pizza fundraiser.

Principal's Report & Business Arising from Report – Jane Hartin

Multicultural Education Opportunities

Jane Hartin reported that the Junior/Intermediate students have had a presentation by Leroy Hibbert from LUSO Community Services located in London, Ontario. Leroy provided a presentation on Racism and Micro-Aggression. It was an opportunity for students to learn about various cultures and how to better communicate with one another. Leroy will return next school year to present to the remainder of students in the various grades and will also be providing a learning opportunity for the parents and caregivers of St. Mary's students. Jane shared that the diversity of students/families at St. Mary's is growing and this presentation was well received.

Open House:

Jane reported that the recent Open House was a great success and that it was wonderful to see everyone that was in attendance. She reported that the scavenger hunt went really well and that everyone had great fun. Jane reported that they are hoping to have an Open House again in the fall of 2022 with a BBQ. CSAC information will be shared that evening to all families in hopes of increasing the attendance and participation from parents and caregivers in these meetings/activities.

COVID Update:

Jane reported that after March Break the landscape changed quite a bit in regards to COVID protocols. The cohorts ended and masking was no longer required at the school, however for those who choose to continue to wear masks are welcome to keep doing so and are being supported. Students are being asked to respect everyone's individual decision in regards with the choice to mask. Hand hygiene is still something being implemented at this time.

Class Trips:

Jane reported that class trips are happening for all classes. Three main places that students will be attending are:

1. Mitchell Park (Park/Animal Area) – Kindergarten
2. Camp Bimini – Primary
3. Camp Kintail – Remainder of grades.

Jane also shared that recently some classes were also able to have a day at the Ausable Conservation Area.

School Projects:

Jane reported that there are a number of school projects being completed this summer which includes an outdoor volleyball net area with sand as well as the installation of a new large sand box. Brad Rapien will be completing these projects.

French Immersion:

Jane shared that French Immersion will begin in 2023. JK's will have an opportunity to enter this new program. It will start in grade one. This French immersion classroom will be part of the main school. See additional information in the WAAG.

English Language Learner Assessments (Pilot Program):

Jane reported that she and Catherine Miller (SERT) are being trained to provide language assessments for students who are new comers to Canada. As well they will be able to assess students whose first language at home is not English in order to best support these student's needs.

Black Heritage Curriculum Program:

Jane reported that she had been invited to be a part of learning about a Black Heritage Curriculum Program. This curriculum was developed by someone from the Waterloo District School Board. This material will be implemented by teachers at St. Mary's and connected to the existing curriculum for students here they will be provided information in an age appropriate way to the various grades. This is a great learning opportunity for all students as they continue to learn more about diversity and various cultures.

EQAO:

Jane reported EQAO preparation has begun with the grade 3's and grade 6's. This year EQAO is all online. It will run from May 30 – June 2nd. Modules are shorter and they vary in time. Any student who has accommodations will still be provided the additional supports and will complete their testing with the support of the SERT. All students have the ability to have the questions read out to them if need be.

Kindergarten Orientation:

Jane reported that Kindergarten Orientation will be in person this year. Students will have the opportunity to be a part of the "First Ride" program where they get to experience riding the school bus, as well there will be small presentations by staff for parents and caregivers. Students will also be given the opportunity to meet staff and explore the kindergarten classrooms.

Sacramental Preparation:

Jane shared that information has been sent out recently (Monday May 16, 2022). Classroom preparation is still happening. Dates have now been provided to parents and caregivers in the recent email communication and families can choose what works best for them.

School Sports:

Jane shared that school sports currently taking place. Two-Pitch will begin in June. Soccer is currently taking place in May, and Track and Field will also start at the beginning of June. A school wide play day will be planned for the entire school at the end of June. Dates will be provided in the WAAG.

The last day of school is June 27, 2022. Please note June 28, 2022 is a PD Day.

Term Reports cards will be sent home on June 24, 2022.

Committee Reports & Business Arising Report –

Safe & Healthy Schools - Julie Murtha not in attendance. No new information to report. Jane shared that the hope is there will be school programming from Huron Perth Public Health (HPPH) that can start again in the new school year. At this time procedures are as they were pre-COVID but of course with more caution and continued good hand hygiene.

Snack Program - Jane reported that Penny Bajurny continues to purchase for the snack program and delivers the items to the school (Thank You Penny!). The snack program continues to be school based. School staff are assisting with the safe delivery of snacks to all students. This continues to be done by admin staff and EA's in the school. Jane shared that there is always a variety of snacks. The snack program continues to be once a week on Thursdays, however there is always food available at the school for any student in need. The funding for this is provided by OSNP (Ontario School Nutrition Program).

Fundraising Committee

CSAC and fundraising committee have offered 2 fundraiser events this school year. Thanks to everyone who was able to participate in the Domino's Pizza Fundraiser this year.

The plant fundraiser continues at this time. Jane was asked to have the plant fundraiser added to the school's social media accounts for families to be able to see and share with others. The plant fundraiser will be open until the end of May!

Parish Report

Tanya Terpstra not in attendance. Jane reiterated that sacramental information has been shared on in the WAAG. Jane also shared that the church bulletin is being added to the WAAG if it is available on the Fridays and if not it is being emailed to families on Mondays.

Jane shared that there will be an in person Mass (End of Year Mass) for all students on June 17, 2022 at St. Joe's. All students will be bused to the church and those who walk will be bused from the school upon their arrival to the school.

Jane also shared that a recent Liturgy had been held in the gym and students were divided in half so the numbers were not too high. This was to honor Catholic Education Week. There will be a second Liturgy held on June 6, 2022. Deacon Wayne will join for this.

Teacher/Staff Report

Cheryl Weishar (staff representative) shared nothing to report at this time.

Jenny McGrath (teacher representative) was absent and there was nothing Jane was aware of that needed to be shared at this time.

Other Business

Sound system is running smoothly and was used for the recent Liturgy and it went well.

CSAC fundraising members asked for Jane to look into getting a quote for an outdoor classroom. Jane shared that some teachers have ideas on what may be ideal for this space. Jane shared it may be possible to use some of the resources that are left over in the back bush area once it is cleared out this summer. There is a contractor coming in the summer to remove any unsafe trees and plants that should not be left in that space. A forestry company has been hired to identify any trees that need removal.

Grade 8 graduation is coming up and will be in person! The graduates will be celebrating Mass together at the church and a small social will take place in the hallway of the church following Mass and then a dance in the hall of the church will follow. Graduation gowns will be provided. Details of graduation can be found in the WAAG.

Upcoming meeting date is as follows:

- No new meetings for this school year. CSAC Meetings to resume in the fall and all are welcome to join. We look forward to having many parents/caregivers join us in the fall!

Closing Prayer –

Led by Erin Stewart (Our Father)

Meeting Adjourned – 8:07pm.