

ST. ANGELA MERICI CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

Minutes

3/21/2018 6:35 PM | *Meeting called to order by* Dominique Darmanin-Sturgeon

In Attendance

D. Linardic (Acting Principal), M. Vitale (Vice Principal), Dominique Darmanin-Sturgeon (Chair), Leanne Milando (Fundraising Chair), Taria Rossi (Treasurer), Jennifer Szarota (Community Rep.), Steve Birnie (Co-Secretary), Christine Vigneault (Parish Rep.), Silvana DiBello (Non-Teaching Staff Rep.), Amy Marasco (OAPCE Rep.), Lisa DeLeo (Parent Member), Karen Lindsey (Parent Member)

Regrets

Dianne Poole (Teaching Rep.), Stephanie Plummer (Parent Member), Sandra Vella (Parent Member), Carla Estavao-Machado (Parent Member), Karen Maraj. (Parent Member), Colleen Birnie (Secretary), A. Giovinazzo (Teaching Rep.), Lenche Pandovska (Parent Member), Angel Baltazar (Parent Member), Candace Carter (Parent Rep.), Susan Dal Dosso (Parent Rep.)

Opening Prayer

Mrs. Vigneault led the Council in prayer.

Introduction

Mrs. Darmanin-Sturgeon welcomed everyone to the meeting at 6:35 PM.

On behalf of Council, she expressed thanks to the Mississauga's of the Credit First Nations for their stewardship of their land.

Approval of Minutes and Agenda

The minutes of the February 21 meeting were reviewed. Mr. Birnie moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Mrs. Rossi.

Mrs. Vigneault moved to approve agenda, seconded by Mrs. Rossi.

Chair's Report – Mrs. Darmanin-Sturgeon

Mrs. Darmanin-Sturgeon introduced Miguel Martinez of MTClife (<http://www.mtclife.com>), a company dedicated to empowering youth and developing skills through movement based activities. Mr. Martinez presented the programs they offer which Council could choose to book using the funds from the Parents Reaching Out (PRO) grant.

- MTClife does motivational workshops at schools intended to develop young people's skills.

- The format MTClife follows for schools is to do four 50 minute sessions, one per week, for students, broken into separate sessions for grades 1 to 4, 5 to 8 and kindergarten; kindergarten sessions are 40 minutes.
- After those four sessions are done, there is a one hour parent engagement event that both students and parents attend.
- The themes for the four sessions are 1) Difference between positive and negative attitude, 2) Self-Control, 3) How to be a support for each other and 4) We're all a family.
- The cost is \$375 for each of the four weekly sessions, and the parent engagement night (normally held from 6:45 to 8:00 PM) is free. So total cost is \$1,500 plus tax, or \$1,695.
- Turnout for the parent engagement night is usually robust because students sell it to their parents after the weekly workshops.
- Mrs. Lindsay expressed concern that these workshops would take time away from core curriculum. Mrs. Linardic indicated teachers could adjust their schedules to accommodate the 50 minutes per week the workshops require.

After the presentation, Council discussed whether this would be good use of the PRO Grant funds.

- Mrs. Darmanin-Sturgeon said the rules for the PRO Grant have changed for this year, and any event funded with this money must be held by May 18. Both Jump 2 Math and DrumFit, two other organizations considered by Council, are unable to host an event before that date.
- Mrs. Szarota said a Social Media awareness session for parents, which Council discussed previously, is still a good idea, but child care would have to be provided to enable parents to attend. Council agreed this was a topic to revisit at a future date.
- Council agreed to allocate the PRO Grant funds to the MTClife group of workshops. A tentative date of May 16th was set for the parent engagement night. An additional \$695 from Council funds will cover the difference.

Mrs. Darmanin-Sturgeon distributed flyers for the Central Committee for Catholic School Councils (CCCSC) event on Saturday, April 14 from 8:30 AM to 12:45 PM.

- This event, open to all Council members as well as volunteers, features several workshop that attendees can choose from. There are also vendors present who offer services such as fund-raising activities, gifts for graduates and students completing sacraments, and other presentations.
- Interested parties can register at <https://goo.gl/VEZcBF>
- In addition, Mrs. Darmanin-Sturgeon will be attending the next meeting of CCCSC Chairs on April 5th.

Administration Update – Mrs. Linardic

- The week of March 26 to 30 is Holy Week. Several events will be held at the school, including the Stations of the Cross display and first reconciliation for grade 2s.
- The Youth Faith Ambassadors will be attending a retreat for all Ambassadors from Brampton West schools on Friday, April 13th at Cardinal Leger Secondary School.
- The next Virtue Assembly on March 23rd has been moved to the morning.
- March 21 was Crazy Sock Day, intended to raise awareness of Down Syndrome. Students participated enthusiastically.
- The school's Eco Tram has already hosted the Big Crunch and will soon be hosting the Big Gulp.
- The ballroom dancing performance by grade 6, 7 and 8 students was March 5th and was very well attended by parents.
- The African drumming session will be on March 26th.

- The next school newsletter will cover both March and April.
- The next PA Day is April 27th.
- First Communion for grade 2s will be on April 14th and Confirmation for grade 7s will be on April 11th.
- Mrs. Puopolo has left the school for a permanent appointment elsewhere. A new French teacher has joined the school to replace her.
- School administration is facing a challenge because one of the French Immersion teachers is off and the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board has been unable to find a qualified replacement. The school has been working with the Board to try to find a solution.
- The dance team will be competing in an event on April 12th.
- Mr. Giovinazzo has advised that the school jerseys have been ordered.
- June 5th is the deadline for next year's PRO Grant application.
- Mrs. Linardic reported that discussions were held with staff regarding how to give more students an opportunity to participate in team sports. Staff currently involved in coaching advised they are unable to increase the number of students due to supervision for practices and their time over lunch hours is already maximized. More opportunities could be made available if more staff get involved in coaching, however coaching is voluntary.
- Mrs. Linardic relayed the concern of Mr. DiGiovanni, the basketball coach, that students can get discouraged if they compete in tournaments against teams with a much higher skill level.
- EQAO testing will take place for grades 3 and 6 between May 22nd and June 4th.

Parish Update – Mrs. Vigneault

- Guardian Angels parish will host a youth ministry event for students in grades 6 to 12 on Saturday March 25th from 1:00 to 3:30 Pm.

OAPCE Report – Mrs. Marasco

- There was nothing to report.

Fundraising Update – Mrs. Milando

- Pizza sales for April to June are underway.
- Some of the envelopes distributed had data in one row of cells missing; emails and written communication has been sent to parents advising of the issue. The dates were all correct in Cash Online.
- The Lunch Box service has been approved and three restaurants have been identified. The restaurant providing food will rotate each week. The service will be provided on Thursdays and will commence once the pizza deadline passes.
- This is a trial and if it goes well could be provided in future years.

Treasurer Report

- Financial statements up to February 28, 2018 were provided. This did not include funds that have recently come in from pizza sales.

- Mrs. Rossi distributed some samples of this year's sacramental gift, which are rosary bracelets assembled by students. This was done through Beading Buds (<http://www.beadingsbuds.com>)
- Mrs. Rossi suggested Council allocated funds towards these gifts for next year.

Community Representative's Report

- Nothing to report.

Teaching Staff update

- Mrs. Linardic conveyed Mr. Giovinazzo's reminder that the sales of Spirit Wear go through to the end of March.

Other Business

- None.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

The next meeting will be Thursday April 26 2018 at 6:30pm

Future meetings:

Wednesday May 30 2018 at 6:30pm