



ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
Via Teams Video Conference Wednesday, January 20, 2021 @ 6pm

1. Call to order and opening prayer by Santa Silvestri @ 6:08pm

2. Roll Call:

- Present: Rocco Di Ianni, Clark McDougall, Mia Thomas, Maria Lourenco, Santa Silvestri, David Owen, Patricia Langdon, Lidia Silvestri, Christopher Chliszczyk, Greg Ausman, Mark Sheehan, Maurizio Silvestri, Miranda Walsh, Nadia Sawchuk, Lindi Barz, Michelle Bradshaw, Michael Mark, Kaitlynne Tan (student rep), Mike Clark
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- Regrets: Jeff Hall, Rocco Devito, Mary Yachetti

Maria expressed, on behalf of the Members, our thanks to Rocco for all his work and dedication to Assumption during his tenure and wished him the same success at his new assignment. Members agreed that Roco would be missed by the school community. The Committee also welcomed Clark McDougall, the incoming Principal. Council looks forward to working with Principal McDougall for the balance of the year and going forward.

3. Approval of Agenda

- Mover: David Owen
- Second: Michael Mark
- Opposed: none
- Carried

4. Approval of minutes from Dec 2nd, as amended

- Mover: Lidia Silvestri
- Second: Michael Mark
- Opposed: None
- Carried

Question about picture day - confirmed that all students in Cohort A and B had individual photos taken - some of Cohort C has not had their photos taken yet and no definite date planned until schools re open

Maria noted that the date for the next meeting had been moved from February 24th to March 3rd, due to a conflict with the Council of Chairs

5. Business Arising from previous minutes

- Council email for the community to get in touch with members on parent council - was addressed that an “assumption school council” account can be problematic in future with changing chairs ... (ie.) who takes over the account. Rocco recommended that a personal email be used instead of a generic email
- Maria asked that “hand up” be typed in chat if you wish to speak

6. Student Report-student council representative-Kaitlynn Tan

- Spirit week and Christmas competitions had a good turn out but think could have been better if teachers could remind their classes of the events taking place
- For February student Council is planning events for Black history month and Valentine's Day - an Instagram account will be set up for the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement fundraising- civvies day wear red for BLM (for bloodshed and struggles) - all proceeds will go to BLM Canada foundation
- For valentines day there will be a photo contest with prizes - all information will be on student council social media platforms - students will have a chance to vote and winner will be announced Feb 12
- Virtual Talent Show - information will be released the first week of Feb and the deadline for submissions is Feb 26 - interested in submissions of all talent (ie) sports, tiktok, instruments/music, dance etc... - talent show video will be released March 12 and student body will have a chance to vote for each group

-Rocco suggested to Kaitlynn to connect with Mr. Capobianco from Equity group for BLM movement

7. Teacher’s Report-Nadia Sawchuk & Miranda Walsh

- Several teachers brainstormed on 3 main areas of online school and ideas were shared:
 1. What have we learned as teachers?
 - teachers seem to have adapted well and are used to the hybrid schedule, has not changed much from September to now with full remote
 - editing lessons for online teaching is taking some extra time
 - teachers are learning to be flexible with internet outages
 - difficult when students don't turn their cameras on
 - have found that many students do appreciate small talk with teachers online but can be challenging as well as not ALL students participate
 - is very difficult to gauge if students are actually engaged (ie) cameras off
 2. Best Practices:
 - Attendance taking 2x in 3 hour class
 - Downloading attendance at end of meeting

- Mrs. Walsh does a tea time with her religion class in first half hour of class to check in on students mental health and well being
- Some teachers finding asking questions throughout lessons at random helps keep kids engaged
- Some teachers have adapted the model to 45 min teaching blocks with more breaks
- Students are asked to raise hands, the Polls function on Microsoft Teams is handy, as is asking students to submit homework to digital binder on D2L (learning platform) just to assess if students are doing the work - this is not marked just used as a tool for student engagement and checks

3. Student Success:

- students should have a quiet area to work, preferably a desk and out of bed
- eliminate distractions (ie) no phones if possible
- participation online
- logging in on time - set alarm
- reasonable bedtime
- students encouraged to try not to step away from call until scheduled break
- use the Academic Support for help

-discussion from council members to somehow make these suggestions and practices available to share with parents and/or other boards

-Council expressed how impressive these efforts were by teachers

-subject council meetings - department heads from different schools get together to brainstorm ideas - that is where a lot of these ideas arose - importance of student engagement by keeping them socializing online

- Maria inquired about best practices in online learning at a recent CPIC meeting -Director Daly had provided a link to information available on the boards website - Maria to follow up with the link to Council members

-discussion on how to get this info out to the rest of parents that are not on council - suggested to have a google doc to be shared via email and school website

-discussion with teachers on how to help grade 9 students navigate the end of a semester online

-Question regarding tests – what is the approach / consensus on administering a test ... tests are hard to regulate, various information sources available, tests are more like assignment with limited time line ... are open book -for some students having all info available in English & Religion, for example, can be overwhelming – tests pivot to student's thoughts, opinions, reflection on learning.

Mike Clark joined meeting at 7:00pm

8. Principal's Report-Rocco DiIanni

- discussion about extended school closures and resources for quad 3 - Rocco advised that Assumption Department Heads are able to deliver electronic resources to students for many subjects eliminating the need for students to have to pick material up at school
- 2021 Graduation - early plans to mimic last year with some improvements
 - no grad photos yet
 - plans for composite photo for this year's grads - possibly parents to take grad photo and send into school and school will have a provider to turn these photos into a composite of grads
- Extracurriculars - engagement is a struggle - trivia club has only 10 students - lack of a competitive league due to privacy issues with online
 - Equity club and Model UN are running virtually with success
- School Cross and Sign update - slow moving process - commitment has been made by the board to fund - cannot give ballpark date yet, possibly late spring - council members asked if we could look at drafts of concepts and have some input, Rocco agreed

Members expressed appreciation for the honor roll certificates and Academic Awards slide show

9. Best Practices for Online Study - Rocco Di Ianni/Staff

see agenda item 7 for discussion of this item

10. Transition to the new principal-Rocco DiIanni

-New principal is Clark McDougall - he has asked Rocco what he would like to see for the school year - would like to continue to build on Assumption traditions
-Clark was involved in recent new hires and he thanked Rocco for answering numerous questions and sharing his vision for Assumption

11. Treasurer's Report

- Report not available, Treasurer (Mary Yachetti) absent
- Rocco addressed some follow up items:
 - request from staff for needs ? difficult to say as are not in school due to pandemic
 - Some items mentioned included new cafeteria speakers, new banners for gymnasium (PhysEd Dept), new cross for walk with Jesus and other for chaplaincy, artist mural for lobby ..
 - Annual SGF plans - was submitted to board to be put on website - was supposed to come to council for review before board - Rocco to follow up and share

12. Parish Update-Michael Mark

- Not a lot to report - all 3 parishes struggling with attendance due to pandemic and stay at home order
- Difficulty raising funds for maintenance
- Knights of Columbus will be selling their hall
- Michael Mark to reach out to Rocco DeVito if still interested in being a part of CSC for parish reports

Michelle left meeting at 7:58pm

13. Subcommittees Report:

- Fundraising Committee-Lidia Silvestri
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- To date: Flip Give raised \$123 / Cobb raised \$57 / Indigo raised \$40
- Need to promote better ... possibly through Instagram account of Student Council ... secondary set of communication to community through email – remind what is available ... The key is getting word out to parents. Assumption experience not uncommon. Rush to get communication out pre-Christmas lost with a busy time of year and with Covid changes ... take advantage of communication streams to both students & parents – through GoBlueGo ... communication can note what the fundraising purpose is, where the money is going ... suggest creating a flyer / PDF design.
- Persistence in communication, fine balance in volume of messages so as to not create fatigue or resistance.
- Provide updates in the communication as to the level of fundraising. General fundraising goals now and become specific as items crystalized ... some need in Chapel / artist mural – faith or history of Assumption

PRO GRANT

- the govt has taken back last year's money
- this year govt providing \$10,000.00 / family of schools - some discussion about funds to be continued offline

By-Law Review-Maria Lourenco

- good time to review with new incoming principal

New Uniform Provider

- ISW uniforms can still be worn
- perhaps council can look at some new options for uniforms with new provider (ie) dri fit shirts

Used Clothing Sale-Lindi Barz

- still on hold due to pandemic

School Facility Renewal (Grand Re-opening & School Decoration)-Maria Lourenco

- grand re-opening on hold due to pandemic
- School decoration - possible mural on wall “History of Assumption”

14. OAPCE Report

- No report as Michelle (OAPCE rep) had previously left meeting

15. New Business

School Council Policy and Procedure

- School Council Policy and Procedure reviewed every 3 years
- Send email to Maria with any feedback - was emailed out to council prior to meeting
- School board is specifically looking for feedback regarding Catholic vs non Catholic members - increase the number of non Catholic members?
- Any feedback regarding the Policy or Procedure would be welcomed and brought forward

16. Closing Prayer by Santa Silvestri

Adjournment @ 8:32pm

- Mover: Lidia Silvestri
- Second: Lindi Barz
- Opposed: none
- Carried

Next meeting March 3, 2021 @7pm