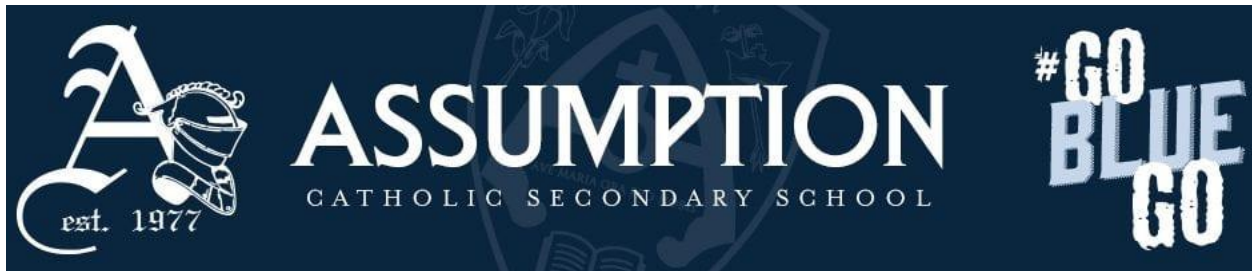


## ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Via Teams Video Conference

Wednesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021 @ 7:00 pm

1. Call to order-with opening prayer – Santa Silvestri
2. Roll Call
  - Present:
    - Maria Lourenco / Santa Silvestri / Lindi Barz / Michelle Bradshaw / Mike Clark / Chris Chliszczyk / Rocco DeVito / Jeff Hall / Patricia Langdon / Michael Mark / Clark McDougall / David Owen / Nadia Sawchuk / Lidia Silvestri / Mark Sheehan / Kaitlynne Tan / Andrea Taylor / Mia Thomas / Miranda Walsh
  - Regrets
    - Greg Ausman / Maurizio Silvestri
  - Mary Yachetti tendered her resignation from Council; Mary had attended the initial meeting but was absent thereafter.
  - Andrea Taylor, School Chaplain, joined council.
3. Approval of Agenda
  - Mover: Lidia Silvestri
  - Second: Lindi Barz
  - Opposed: None
  - Carried
4. Approval of minutes from January 20th , 2021
  - Mover: Lidia Silvestri
  - Second: Lindi Barz
  - Opposed: None
  - Carried
5. Business Arising from Previous Minutes
  - Reviewed chart.
  - Discussion on the best practice for online study; follow-up on sharing same with the community. A link to resources on the Board website would be provided.
6. Subcommittees Report
  - Fundraising Committee - Lidia Silvestri



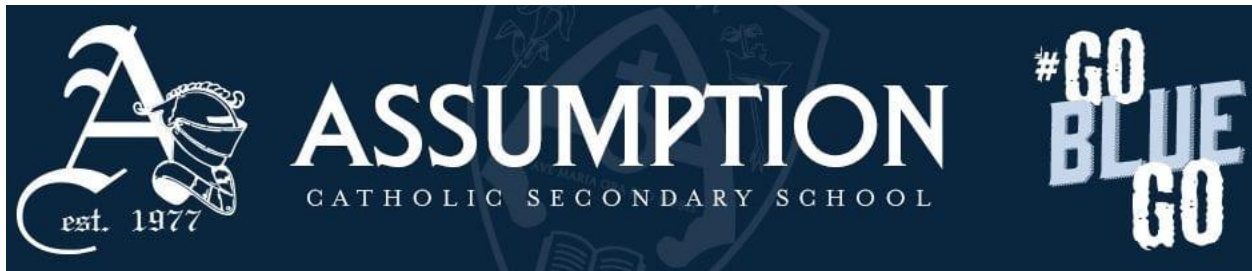
- To date, raised \$290: Flip \$150 / Cobb \$100 / Indigo \$40
- The Committee reviewed the flyer created by Jeff Hall – all felt it was excellent. The Committee suggested the flyer should be communicated to the community.
- The Committee discussed a fundraising item – replacing the Nativity Scene.
- PRO GRANT- Michelle Bradshaw
  - This item will be managed at the Board level this year and there will be events available for all parents hosted by three different board level committees (SEAC, CPIC and IEAC). The item will be dropped from the agenda.
- By-Law Review - Maria Lourenco
  - A shareable version of the By-Laws will be provided. Members are requested to review the document and add comments.
- School Facility Renewal (grand re-opening & school decoration) - Maria Lourenco
  - A general discussion proceeded on aesthetics, the school currently has a lot of white walls, the decorating intent is to ensure visitors are aware of both the Catholicity of the facility and honour the history of Assumption.
- Used Clothing Sale - Lindi Barz
  - The Committee noted a pipeline concern and sought to ensure the availability of continuing support for the future needs of families requiring same. Collection is a concern, with Covid protocols and the Ministry of Health prohibiting the collection of used clothes, effectively there is a two year gap in collections, which could potentially create a shortfall in supply. Mia Thomas advised notwithstanding Covid protocols those in need will be assisted. Additionally, the Committee was reminded, as part of the RFP, the successful uniform provider would make a sustaining commitment to assist families in need of support.

#### 7. Treasurer's Report – Clark McDougall

- As Mary Yachetti tendered her resignation from Council, a brief update was provided by Clark McDougall. The continuing nature of this presentation will be reviewed.

#### 8. Student Report - Kaitlynn Tan

- An update was provided as to the student body activities. Covid protocols limiting interactions and a virtual environment continue to create challenges with respect to engaging the student community beyond that of the classroom. February successes included promoting awareness of Black History Month and the introduction of 'This or That' Thursdays (a fun activity using Instagram where participants vote on the selection of which of two photos they prefer). Student Council is working on activities for St. Patrick's Day celebrations. The school talent show will be



rescheduled to the spring and will be presented in a virtual format with participants showcasing their talents through a short Tik Tok style performance.

#### 9. Teacher's Report - Nadia Sawchuk & Miranda Walsh

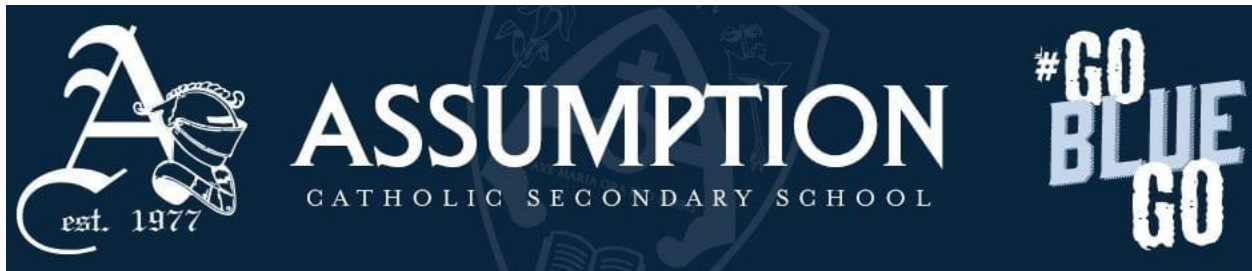
- Nadia Sawchuk provided a math department update. The Grade 9 EQAO Test was rescheduled to the fourth quadmester, Assumption does not have a Grade 9 math class occurring in the fourth quadmester, as such the EQAO Test will not be administered this year. The Committee was advised there are math contests running independently, any student interested in participating should contact Mr. Soster. The Committee queried about the destreaming of Grade 9 math, no information was available; the Committee expressed concerns on the destreaming and the potential adverse affects. The Committee was advised Assumption Math on Twitter is an excellent resource for what is going on in math.
- Miranda Walsh provided an update on Catholic Education Week (May 2<sup>nd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>), the CEW Committee is reviewing the theme of Nurturing Hope.

#### 10. Principal's Report - Clark McDougall

- Volunteer hours – the Committee was updated with respect to the number of hours as a requisite of graduation and the adverse effect of Covid on the availability of volunteer opportunities. A decision for the current academic year is pending, the required hours in the previous year were reduced by half.
- Graduation update: with the intent to make graduation a special occasion in a virtual setting, the administration was able to ensure the completion of graduation portraits and is giving consideration to a grad book yearbook, a D2L shelf grad box, commemorative mask, t-shirt, or Rosary.
- Sign – the Committee was provided an image of the new signage.
- Uniform – hoodie option, the Committee fully supported this clothing option.
- April break – 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>. The Committee noted this decision was mandated but expressed concern over the three orphaned days remaining in the term following the 16<sup>th</sup>.
- School Generated Funds – There was a general discussion with respect to both activity funds and fundraising proceeds. Student activity fees are a significant source of funding, with Covid protocols restricting activities, so too has payment of the activity fees reduced. Activity fees are voluntary but are important source of revenue. School Generated Funds support the cost to publish the yearbook, athletics – uniforms repairing / replacing equipment, the purchase of music instruments, the cost of transportation to events. Additional items pertaining to fundraising proceeds included items such as an electric scrolling sign (noting this carried a significant cost), and shelving for library. The Committee requested a fulsome list of requests along with a cost and prioritization.

#### 11. Parish Update - Rocco DeVito

- With Covid protocols restricting attendance and activities there is very little to update on, parishes have only recently opened to provide Mass. Michael Mark provided an update on the



sale of the Knights of Columbus Hall – the Hall has been sold and closes April 30<sup>th</sup>. The Knights will continue to meet, using parish facilities. Fundraising in a virtual environment continues to be a focal point. Andrea Taylor spoke to the creation of a virtual chapel on Assumption’s webpage as a resource for parents and students. Crusaders In Action enrollment is up. Laudato si’ curriculum activities continue partnering with classes or completed by individual students.

#### 12. OPACE Report- Michelle Bradshaw

- In advance of the meeting, the Committee was provided a summary highlighting activities, including OPACE’s newsletter and a parent engagement link.

#### 13. New Business

- Facebook Page. The Committee revisited January’s discussion of a Facebook page. As similar with the previous discussion, concerns with respect to culture, privacy, the veracity and consistency of information, and the substantial effort of the schools’ administration to monitor it’s current social media footprint, the Committee reiterated the January conclusion and reconfirmed the decision not to support the creation of a Facebook page.
- Grade 9 Communication. The Committee noted a common experience as students transition from Grade 8, not all embrace self-advocacy, some can be overwhelmed with the variety of channels conveying information and this can lead to missing events, timelines or required submissions. The Committee did note the efforts of the administration – Student Success Seminars (and the availability of the same, recorded on-line), peer mentorship through the Ambassador Program, Twitter and Instagram platforms, the advice of teachers and the availability of Guidance, notwithstanding, there remains a common degree of challenge conveying information to the Grade 9 students.
- 40 Acts of Generosity Lent Challenge. Andrea Taylor outlined the challenge: participants elect one of two options daily, either to be generous with a gift supporting the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul foodbank, or to be generous in one’s presence.

#### 14. Closing Prayer and Adjournment

- Mover: Lidia Silvestri
- Second: Santa Silvestri
- Opposed: None
- Carried

NEXT MEETING: April 6<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm.