



Minutes -ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Via Teams Video Conference

Wednesday, February 9th, 2022 @ 7:00pm

1. **Opening prayer** – Clark McDougall – Principal
2. **Honouring the land** – Clark McDougall – Principal
3. **Attendance**

Belinda Bastos – Chair
Melanie Skrlac – Co-Chair
Jacqueline Vaz - Secretary
Pascale Lapointe-Antunes – Treasurer
Maria Lourenco – OAPCE (Absent)
Parish Representative – Gabriella Starcevic
Michael Mark - Community Representative
Principal – Clark McDougall
Vice Principal – Chris Chliszczyk
Vice Principal – Mia Thomas
Chaplaincy Leader – Adriana Rerecich (Absent)
Teaching Representatives – Mario Soster, Miranda Walsh, Evonne Quintal
Student Representative – Laura Ponikvar (Absent), Mia Rodgers, Taylor Popovacki
<u>Parent Representatives</u>
Briana Hamlet (Absent)
Lindi Barz (Absent)
Sheila DeSousa (Absent)
Michelle Bradshaw
Mike Clark
Santa Silvestri

4. **Approval of Agenda**

- The agenda was approved

5. **Approval of minutes from November 9th, 2021**

- No objections, approved.

6. **Business Arising from Previous Minutes** - Updates

- Principal McDougall updates previous meeting’s items
 1. Exam Writing
 - a. Subject teachers have included exam type questions in their assessments to students
 - b. Board report is expected to be available by April meeting
 2. Community outreach
 - a. Principal McDougall and Maria Lourenco had an initial meeting, there is a little more to do.
 - b. ***Action - Will report back to the council at the April meeting**

3. Link to OAPCE's website has been added to the school web page

7. Student Report

- Athletic Council Student Report – Laura Ponikvar (absent) update was sent in and read
 1. Not too many changes in status, waiting for restrictions to be lifted in Ontario
- Student Report-student council representative- Mia Rodgers & Taylor Popovacki
 1. Valentine Day events are being organised to keep up school spirit and student participation
 - Carnation Drive, students can purchase to present to friends with fun message, limited quantity
 - Photo Booth in café
 2. Crusaders council was formed
 - Leaders and executive member from the major clubs
 - Meet monthly to discuss and coordinate events, avoid overlaps
 - Help with plans for the Aesthetics of the school

8. Teacher's Report-

- Evone Quintal, ESL teacher. Proud of the diversity at Assumption. Quoted "Ontario's Diversity is one of our greatest assets"
 1. Bridging language barrier
 2. Current working with 80 students from 24 countries
 3. Newcomers are met by a Welcome committee, can converse in student's native language
 4. Planning multi-cultural events, so that students with diverse backgrounds can participate and be part of the Assumption community. Currently these students are not involved in many clubs
 5. Starting a STEAM Club with the assistance of teachers. Focus group Grade 9 and 10.
 6. Principal McDougall expressed his thank for the awesome effort being made in connecting with students, their assessments and integration into the school.
- Miranda Walsh
 1. Religion department is introducing 2 new programs starting from Grade 10. Same curriculum will be covered in all religion programs
 - AP Diploma Caption
 - Religion through Dramatic Arts (more hands on)
 2. English departments introducing focus on Indigenous studies
- Mario Soster
 - Wall padding being put up for Small Gym
 - Wall Art in the Main Gym by basketball nets
 - Virtual attendance at Yale to participate in Model UN. Assumption students did very well. 2 students received delegate awards, 1 students' paper is to be published
 - Science/Math/Business Departments moving along
 - Math Madness taking place

9. Treasurer's Report - Pascale Lapointe-Antunes

- Updated on the funds being raised through Flip Give, Indigo and Cobbs Bread initiative – collections are coming in steadily

10. Fundraising Committee Update – Mike Clark

- Committee met and came up with 4 items to address
 1. Need to understand the School Generated Funds and Parents Council Funds. Are these Funds utilised for separate purposes? can they be used jointly?
 - Principal McDougall to discuss with committee directly. Clark advised that the funds generated from the student activity fees has been low this year. Efforts will be made to increase contributions.

Suggestion was made for a targeted email that pitches the need for the funds, outlines how the funds are used and the benefits to both the school and students.
 2. Can monies be used from the School Generated Fund to finance items on the Wish List?
 3. Listed 'wants' and 'needs'. Identified items that can be fulfilled through community help or volunteers. Example: A Cross – might be made by someone in the community instead of being bought. Larger items may need help from the Board.
 - A survey will be sent out to help narrow down top 5 items and to prioritise fund raising strategies. Request was made for a quick response
 4. Is there a way to get student involvement in fulfilling some of the 'asks'. Share the lists that are being worked on with the students, so that they can have input.
 - Maybe they can help in achieving these goals
 - Maybe they can get volunteer hours out of it
- Committee requested member to let them know if there is awareness of fund-raising opportunities that require low involvement with a good return, similar to the ones currently in place with Flip Give, Indigo and Cobbs Bread
- Principal McDougall advised that initiatives like Flood Lights and Sports Bubble require coordination between the City of Burlington, Trustee and Facilities; these are being worked on

11. Uniform Committee Update - Clark McDougall

- Successful contact was made with the McCarthy's rep.
 - Girl's pant
 - Currently there is only option for– forecasts are completed by October, so buys have been made for this and next year
 - Suggestion on a pant that is made of a spandex type of material that is comfy to wear
 - Samples will be given. Decision will be made for next year
 - Long-sleeve golf shirt
 - Viable option. Can be made available immediately
 - Blue seems to be a good option
 - Samples will be given
- *Action - Will report back to the council at the April meeting**

12. Mental Health Speaker Series Committee Update – Belinda Bastos

- Working through this initiative with Corpus Christi and Notre Dame. Lots of interest and enthusiasm.

Very excited that the 1st Speaker's Series will be hosted by Assumption on April 28.

target audience of this series will be parents,

Presentation to inform parents about systems in place in schools to help parents to support their children

- Makes a plea for volunteers to help in this initiative

13. Aesthetics Committee - Clark McDougall

- Met on June 26
- Toured the School. Showcased the building, renovations, areas that can be aesthetically enhanced
- Academic Awards Showcase is being created in the Foyer by the Office, will highlight Honour Roll and Academic Awards
- Trophy Showcase to have equal representation of athletic and non-athletic achievements
- Principal McDougall met with the Crusaders Council, to get student's input.
 1. Focus on the history of the building
 2. Incorporate a recurring colour scheme, theme, pattern
 3. Students very enthusiastic
 4. Created a Wordle around/about Crusaders
- Identify phases, what can be accomplished and a timeline
- ***Action - Will report back to the council at the April meeting**

14. Principal's Report - Clark McDougall

- End of Quad and Beginning of new semester. Gone well. Students were concerned but have the transition very well; they feel that the days move faster, get to meet different teachers and classmates in a day, develop new relationships and skills
- Lunch – 2 grades on lunch at a time. Some initial issues around places to sit, these have been addressed. More tables and chairs were put out. Everyday things are getting more orderly and organised
- Traffic issues at front of school. There seem to be more vehicles vying for space with the buses. Snowbanks, cold weather may be contributing to some parking issues. Concern for Special Ed students waiting for transportation
Suggestion was made for a split dismissal. This could help curb congestion
- In person learning numbers are up, positive impact on student's welfare
- Communication will be going out regarding updates on some of the above items
- "Slow re-opening to normalcy"
- Grad committee will be meeting Feb. 10. Planning/hoping for a live graduation and a Prom. Banquet Centre booked as well as venue for the Prom.
- Athletic Banquet being planned
- Potential events: Music Night on the back patio, Student Dance, Welcome BBQ for incoming Grade 9

15. Chaplain's Report-Adriana Rerecich (sends regrets)

- Mr. McDougall updates
 1. Students dropping into Chaplain's office for chat/support

2. Season of Lent coming up. Students and families are encouraged to attend services at their respective church for distribution of ashes
3. Plans for 24 hour fast with HCDSB schools on Mar.31. Challenges with sister schools in order to raise funds through donations.
4. Students to decide on what they want to fast from during this Season of Lent
5. Department heads to be interviewed during the Morning Show to promote courses and options for students as they decide on courses to take next year
6. Retreats to be held in school for Grade 9 and 10
7. Inclusion theme Spectrum, GSA, Crusaders in Action, Equity Matters – students to understand issues and create awareness

16. **Parish Update**- G. Starcevic

- St. Raphael's - Deepening Faith Understanding, every Wednesday 7-8pm
- St. Raphael's - requesting used stamps – Development and Peace
- Diocese of Hamilton - Youth Ministry Certification Program
- St. Vincent de Paul - needs food to stock shelves
- Holy Rosary - 75th Anniversary Lenten Retreat Apr.2-5. Speaker: Fr. Mark Wendling, Former Assumption Student to preach
- St. Patrick's - Witness of Faith in the Home Feb.16 7-8:30pm

17. **OAPCE Report**- Maria Lourenco (absent)

- No update

18. **Closing Prayer and Adjournment**- Clark McDougall

NEXT MEETING- Wednesday, April 6th, 2022 @ 6:00pm

