Bishop Reding Catholic Secondary School Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, September, 25th, 2018 (6:30pm)

Attendees: Justine O'Grady (Principal), Norman Roberts (Vice-Principal), Wojtek Kubicki (Vice-Principal), Pat Grisoni (CSC- Chair), Eleanor Rodrigues (Vice-Chair), Tina Caravaggio (Secretary), Olu Iluyomade (Treasurer), Turfia Rashid (Community Rep/ ECL Rep), Lubna El-Dhuwaib (ECP Rep), Sabrina Mantel (Parish Rep), Uzma Ali (OAPCE Rep/ SSP Rep), Tamas Sandor (Teacher Rep), Lorenzo Campanelli (Non-Teacher Rep), Jo-Ann Charles, Mehwish Imran Syed, Patricia Fortun, Janice Brown, Lily Martalog, Amita Anand, Ali Raza, Claudia Gaona, Krystyna Schaper, Eileen Foley Covey, Ambica Kaul, Marvin Duarte, Catarin D'Mello, Deepa Jose, Faheem Kotwal, Yasmeen Viad, Riaz Murad, Mahrukh Javed, Janet Rubio, Donna Chisholm and Saima Ali.

Regrets: Teresa Castellarin (Vice-Principal), Nicole Leece, Lorena Brunskill and Tracy Faulkner.

Item	Discussion	Action
Opening Prayer and Welcome	Mrs. O'Grady welcomed everyone to School Council and expressed in astonishment the large number of parents in attendance for joining this first meeting. This is the most participation ever seen at Bishop Reding. Pat also expressed the same. Made room for all who attended.	Justine O'Grady's Greetings
	Minutes of this evenings meeting will be recorded by Pat until a Secretary has been elected and confirmed.	
	Justine also shared her feelings about this wonderful community. She stated she feels blessed to work with the Students, Staff and Parents. They are so many wonderful opportunities that benefits the students.	
	She is in awe of the parent involvement in this community. She expressed more hands make light work. Looking forward to working together collaboratively with parents on Council. Mrs. O'Grady gave a friendly reminder in our collaboration as Parents on Council, that ultimately she and her admin makes	Members Old and New
	the final decision based on our recommendation.	completed introductions

	Mrs. O'Grady implores everyone at this point that they should introduce themselves briefly. After introduction, Justine asked everyone present to join her in saying the School Council Prayer in the name of our Faith.	Everyone present read the "School Council Prayer"
Calcad Carrati	School Council Prayer- "God, the source of every good gift	Turking a librate di associate d
School Council Overview/Nominations/Elections	Mrs. O'Grady thanked everyone who submitted forms ahead of time and others she gave forms night of meeting to complete Nomination forms.	Justine collected completed forms that were submitted.
	Justine explained the process and responsibilities on what being on School Council entails Having a voice on the table Being part of the executive team Stressed that the chosen/elected Chair/Co-Chair and OAPCE Rep have to be Catholic based on By-Laws set by the board Nomination Forms have to be completed and submitted Official list of School Council Members are to be posted on Website Voting by members is done by consensus Official votes on monies allocations An official vote with School Council Members meets the needs of Students Advisory Groups. Again Justine reminds members Admins make ultimate decisions based on recommendations At School Council, we discuss things related to Parent Engagement, School Improvement Plan, and Student Achievement or to provide feedback to the board. School Council also helps with Fundraising and School Activities where needed.	

Council Roles/Positions	School Council Roles	
	Justine explained last year we had a Chair and (2) Co-Chairs. The reason that happened was due to there was a tide when voting took place last year. Last years Co-Chairs worked with Pat.	
	This year the description of Co-Chair will be changed to Vice-Chair which is better suited.	
	We'll be having several executive positions in the following areas. Chair, Vice-Chair(s) (based on votes), Secretary, Treasurer, Parish Rep, Community Rep, OAPCE Rep, Safe School Team Rep and ECL- Education, Career/Life Planning Team Rep.	
	 School Council Chair: Oversee Council Agenda with the Principal Runs the meetings Attends 3 Council of Chair meetings during the school year (First Meeting on October 17th) brings back information from these meetings to the rest of council etc. Among other responsibilities which reflects on the students, parents and more 	
	At this point Justine advised it's time to elect your 2018-2019 Chair. • Marvin Duarte nominated Pat Grisoni for the position of School Council Chair. Other members 2 nd and 3 rd	

- the nomination. Justine quickly intervened and asked Pat if she will accept the nomination. Pat accepted.
- Justine asked if anyone would like to put forward anymore nominations for the Chair position. No other members put forth their name.
- Pat was once again unanimously declared to be School Council Chair for this school year 2018-2019.
 Pat thanked everyone graciously. Expressed how truly humbled, honoured she was in being nominated and elected

Council Vice-Chair(s) Nomination:

- Justine then requested nomination(s) for the Vice-Chair position.
- Marvin Duarte nominated Eleanor Rodrigues and Patricia Fortun seconded the nom. Justine asked Eleanor if she'll accept the nom and she happily accepted.
- Justine once again asked if there're any other candidates that would like to put forth their name. Riaz Murad nominated Uzma Ali and Ali Raza seconded the nomination. Lily Martalog nominated Janice Brown and Eileen Covey seconded the nom. Both Uzma and Janice accepted the nominations.

At this point Justine advised since they are three nominations, that as a council we are require to vote.

- Justine instructed everyone will be given a voting slip.
 We were all given instructions to place one name only on voting slip. Justine advised the two Vice-Principals present Norman and Wojtek will tally the votes upon completion.
- After votes were tallied Eleanor was declared the new Vice-Chairs of 2018-2019. Eleanor thanked everyone.

Secretary:

Mrs. O'Grady explained the role expectancy of this position

- Take minutes during the meeting
- Email completed minutes to Justine and Pat. After review and approval, Pat will then send out the minutes to all council members via email for their records.

The minutes will be posted to the entire community on the School Website.

 Tina Caravaggio was nominated by Mr. Sandor. Tina was asked if she will accept this position. She accepted and acclaimed for the Secretary Position.

Treasurer:

Justine explained the responsibility for this position

- Will meet and discuss with finance secretary regarding School Council funds
- Will then meet with Principal and Chair
- Will report how funds are being spent to all council members
- Olu Ilyyomade was nominated for consideration by Mrs. O'Grady. Was asked if he would accept this nom. Olu accepted this position. He accepted and acclaimed for the Treasurer Position.

Community Rep(s):

- Act as a liaison between the Parent and the School
- Addressing concerns of parents in the School Community by passing along to School Council and the Admin(s)

- Being the voice of the parents
- Mrs. O'Grady opened up the floor for nominations for this position
- Raiz Morad nominated Uzma Ali. Uzma stated that she's not interested in this position but is patiently waiting for the OAPCE position so declined.
- Turfia Khan nominated herself for this position. No further nominations brought forward. Turfia accepted and acclaimed for the Community Rep position.

Parish Rep:

- Acts as a liaison between the Holy Rosary Church and The School by picking up the bulletin as well as correspond with Carina the secretary at Holy Rosary Parish.
- Sabrina Mantel put forth her name for this position.
- No other nominations were put forward.
- Sabrina was acclaimed as Parish Rep

OAPCE Rep

- Mrs. O'Grady stated based on the Board (based on By-Laws), as well as the OAPCE requirements that the person being nominated for this position should be Catholic.
- The minimum number of years for this position is two years which means this position becomes available for interested members on council.
- At this point, Justine acknowledged and thanked Uzma Ali for her two years in representing Bishop Reding in this position.
- Other requirements, attending Seminars, Mass and meetings (4) times a year, meeting with other reps all over the GTA.

	 Most correspondences are sent via email which reflects on Catholic values Being the liaison between OAPCE and Parent/School Council Justine opened up the floor for nominations. Uzma Ali self-nominated for this position. No other candidates put forth nominations. Uzma was acclaimed the OAPCE Rep 	
	 SSR – Safe School Rep Uzma Ali volunteered for being the SS Rep. 	
	 ECL- Education, Career/Life Planning Team Rep(s): Turfia Khan and Lubna El-Dhuwaib volunteered for being the ECL Rep 	
	 School Council Meetings / Dates: Decisions made by Council are done by consensus Official votes on money allocation meeting the needs of students in various clubs/groups is voted officially by council members present If decisions need to be made between meetings then we will sometimes use email to vote and make decisions. Advisory groups work collaboratively with Admins who ultimately make the final decision based on recommendation. 	
	Justine turned the floor over to Pat, to officially Chair the 2018-2019 Meeting.	
Turnover of Meeting to Chair/ Co-Chairs	Pat thanked everyone again for their nomination and expressed that she's looking forward enthusiastically to working together towards another exciting and successful	Pat graciously thanked Justine and continued to chair meeting for the remaining of the evening

year with everyone. At that point, Pat discussed briefly an overview of 2018-19 School Year of Activities.

Used Uniform Sales Update/Report

- Pat expressed with a great deal of enthusiasm her sincere gratitude to all Council Members who assisted with the Summer "Used Uniform Sales" on Thursday, June 28th and on Thursday, August, 30th, 2018.
- She said we surpassed our goal for funds being raised from sales. It was the first time in BR School Councils history that we've generated over 7k. Monies raised will go towards various club/group initiatives set by the students through the guidance of the teachers in our school community.
- One of the things she strongly felt based on observation, having the sale in **June** verses in July (as it had been for several years), the month of **June** was the perfect time to have sale as it was more workable for parents.
- She put forth a proposal to the council members that we should continue to have the sale in the month of June and August.
- Everyone was in agreement. She also commended the success of those sales was due to team work and encouraged everyone to continue to assist with those upcoming sales in the summer of 2019.
- **Pro-Grant** Focus once again will be on Mental Wellness Family Event. This year we've planned on having two separate events.
- First one is a seminar for the entire school community which is scheduled for Tuesday, October, 4th,

- "Raising Positive, Resilient and Happy Kids" 2017.
- The second event scheduled for Thursday, May, 9th, 2019, Yoga and Steel Pan/Drums for Mental Wellness.
- Pat said this event will be bringing families together (Parent engagement) for a fun evening. It's a fantastic way of reconnecting and decompressing. Plus having events like this is a great way of letting everyone know that there's always a great support system for everyone in our School Community.
- Pat mentioned she applied for the grant of 1k from the Ministry. Still waiting for approval. Pat mentioned upon waiting approval from the government, that since one of the events are coming up, that we will use funds being raised from council to pay for the seminar activity and when we receive approved funds on the 1k Pro-Grant, those funds would be placed back in council funds. Pro-Grants are instrumental in making these events possible.
- Trivia Night- "Are you smarter that a Grade 9, another exciting and worthwhile event. Date Thursday, February, 21st, 2019.
- We surpassed our goal from the previous year! We had a total of 23 teams' verses 19 from last year. It was great having more student participation too. So looking forward to increasing those numbers in 2019.
- Pat explained the importance of having the involvement of all Council Members as this is our main fundraiser. Lots of preparation goes into this event.
- She expressed how thrilled she is in seeing a very large number of parents in attendance who've joined School Council this evening.

•	As she stated it takes a village to work together for		
	the common good of the students. More hands make		
	light work!		

- Pat said this is an incredible Community Event stating that we have teams of nine who participate not only from the community but throughout the Halton Catholic Board.
- Mr. Forsythe is an amazing host and is truly engaging.
- One of the things that we will require is having all Council Members helping/ assisting with picking up donations. Will provide more info in next meeting.

Principal's Report

Principal's Vision

- Degree of Student Leadership
- Working diligently with Staff to create a Safe Community.
- Working hard to sustain a welcoming and supportive environment where students can be successful.
- Stressing the importance of treating everyone with respect
- Continuing working together in partnership with Home, School and Parish

Meeting Dates (Review)

 Justine reviews and discussed a possible upcoming date for My Blue Print for parents to attend. It was originally scheduled for November 16th. It's possible that date will change to another time. Justine also requested everyone to include October 4th for seminar for a Mental Health and Wellness event. Justine also said to save the date for May 9th. Another Mental Health and Wellness event. Pat would provide more details regarding event. Justine reviewed meeting dates for council. Dates are as follows.

School Council Meeting Dates

- Tuesday, September 25th, Thursday, October 4th save the date for a great workshop for parents on "Raising Positive, Resilient and Happy Kids" more information to follow! Re-Scheduling date for some time next year.
- Tuesday, October 16th, Tuesday, November 20th, Tuesday, December 11th – we will be inviting members of our Elementary School Councils to join us to share ideas and to share food as part of a Pot Luck Social
- Tuesday, January 15th, 2019, Tuesday, February 12th
- Thursday, February 21st save the date for our Annual BR Trivia Night fundraiser – more information to follow!
- Tuesday, April 16th regular council meeting in the library from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm.
- Thursday, May 9th save the date for a great evening of information and activities to support "Mental Wellness" for Parents and Students – more information to follow!
- Tuesday, May 21st, Tuesday, June 11th Our Year-End. The purpose of setting those dates gives everyone a heads up and helps with planning.

School Involvement

- Justine require a parent volunteer to sit on the Safe School Team as well as a parent for ECL – Education Career/Life Planning Team Rep
- Uzma Ali volunteered for the position of Safe School Team Rep

- Turfia Khan and Lubna El-Dhuwaib volunteered for the position of ECL – Education, Career/Life Planning Team Rep. Justine welcomed both ladies
- Named 7 Student Groups
- Stress the importance of the Students' Voice as well as the Parent's Voice
- Other focusses Bullying Prevention and Awareness Week
- Catholic Education Week
- At this point Justine mentioned for future meetings, students in various leadership groups, example
 Student Council Reps, SAA's, Leaders in Black etc., will be addressing council on various issues. It is highly recommended that the students will speak first allowing them to leave immediately to complete homework assignments. Everyone was in agreement.
- Stressed the importance of all council members supporting all events
- Next council meeting could discuss divide in groups to form committees revolve around event planning
- Justine also mentioned on Tuesday, Nov 20th meeting voting and approval of funds will be taking place. It's important everyone is present as those decisions are made through consensus by members.

SIP - School Improvement Plan (Overview)

- Meeting this Friday PD Day September 28th with Staff
- Perseverance important Challenge themselves more
- Talking effective teaching strategies
- Continue to improve. Monitoring
- Critical Thinkers. More info to follow

Construction Update

Lighting restructured

- Phase I 29 additional Classrooms
- Café adding
- Day Care addition back of building
- We hoped construction should have started in September 2018. However was delayed. New time given for construction November 2018. New start period.
- Expectant challenges. Slight delays with traffic flow. Strongly suggest that we encourage students to walk to school in order to avoid traffic congestion.
- A new theatre to be built where the cafeteria is located for Drama Program
- Cosmetology Room
- Science Room
- A Forth (4) Gymnasium
- Phase II New Weight Room
- To accommodate all students during this process, we have on the premises 43 Portables on site
- Total of Students 1,870. Expect over 200 more students. This brings some challenges. However we're making it work
- A process is in place
- Justine spoke of Community Care Fund which assist with families going through various difficulties.
- Planting a seed Food for thought... Our (School Council) own initiatives could be used through raised funds to support the replacement of the front windows in the Chapel with Stain Glass which reflects on the Sacraments. If in agreement of supporting this one time project, we would be leaving back a legacy. We can discuss this further at another upcoming meeting. Council members were very receptive and positive towards this idea of support.

Chaplain's Report	Lorenzo spoke on the following:-	
Chaplain's Report	 Spiritual Leader Vice Principal CYC – Catholic Youth Council supports Adults and Children Continuously working together with the Holy Rosary Parish team. Fr. Peter, Fr. Kevin and Sister Kathleen who are connecting spiritually with the community. Retreats Grade 10 will be attending the "Christian Community" Field Trip Sacraments on going stain glass Students take a field trip to a Soup Kitchen in Toronto as an eye opener/awareness. Homeless Men and Women taking a different turn. Need our support Importance of Faith formation piece – Holistically, Social and Emotional Inspiring deepened relationships with Christ, Faith, Dimension and Multi-Cultural. Witness connection with each other inspires His faith journey Opening School Mass. All are welcome. Our school is rich in diversity and those students are still included and go to Father for a blessing. Advent Mass and various Priest are brought in to attend various classes for a question and answer session. Students come by to Chaplain for spiritual guidance. 	
Teacher's Report	Doors are always open. Tamas stated a great start to the school year. Not a lot to report at this time. Mentioned the following: • Is the liaison between teachers and council and will share updates • Thursday, September, 27 th is Civvies day	

Friday, September, 28th awareness of Indigenous Students from Social Justice Class will be wearing Orange tops to signify Indigenous people **New Business** Uzma mentioned students are in the mist of planning a Multi-Cultural event in two weeks to raise funds for two orphaned children. She said in order for this event to be successful that she was asking on their behalf from council to approve \$200.00 for this initiative. Pat explained at this time this is not feasible as we were only now sworn in officially as the 2018-19 Council. Notification of application to groups will be sent in October and official reviewing and voting of applications of clubs/groups will take place in November by council members. Justine did concur and suggested that the students in question should come speak with her to discuss another avenue of assistance. Lily asked Mrs. O'Grady why parents didn't receive advanced notice with reference to the change and option of uniform shoes. Expressed it was an inconvenience for parents. Also wanted to know more regarding the status of the school renovations. First, Mrs. O'Grady apologized and explained that decision was made the day of on the first day of school that students were allowed to wear black shoes with white stripes. She also mentioned the Uniform policy can be found on the schools website. Mrs. O'Grady provided more info with reference to the renovations in more details. At this point she asked Vice- Principal to bring the plans to be viewed by the parents who joined council to give them an overview on what will take place. • Expectancy of 2000 students for next September if not the following year. • 2021 predicting school to be built

	 Possible redirected programs AP & French if further delays take place. Next September cannot add anymore portables to site. Cafeteria may be delayed. Daycare key priority 2019 Mrs. O'Grady advised to visit the BR Twitter for updates as well as the website 	
Minutes Completed By	Pat Grisoni	
Catholic School Council Blessing and Commissioning	Justine and Lorenzo invited all School Council Members to join and to follow them in the chapel so that Lorenzo could do the final Blessing and Commissioning of the 2018-2019 Council Members. Once again this was truly spiritual and moving.	Lorenzo closed with the Blessing and Commissioning

Adjournment: 8:45 pm

Next meeting: Tuesday, October, 16th, 2018 at 6:30pm