

Bishop Reding Catholic Secondary School Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, October 13th, 2020 (6:30pm)

Location: Virtual Meeting - Microsoft Teams

Attendees: Justine O’Grady (Principal), Fatima D’Mello (CSC -Chair), Pat Fortun (CSC Vice-Chair), Teresa Castellarin (Vice- Principal), Darlene D’Souza (Secretary), Claudia Gaona (Treasurer), Pat Grisoni (Community Rep), Fatima DeCarha (Parish Rep – Holy Rosary), Deepa Jose (OAPCE Rep), Lorenzo Campanelli (Chaplin/Non-Teacher Rep), Nazneen Duarte, Regina Goze, Amy Guiang-Tumamao, Nidhi Gupta, Sabrina Mantel, Ambica Kaul, Aparna Mukherjee and Naghmeh Razmpoosh.

Guest Speaker: Marvin Duarte (Milton Trustee – Vice Chair), Faiq Farooq (Student Council Rep) and Sarah Gonsalves (Student Council Rep).

Regrets: Donald Alva (Parish Rep – St. Benedict), Uzma Ali (Community Rep), Lucie Brosseau, Amita Anand, Jo-Ann Charles, Jenn Ciavoliello, Janet Rubio, Lubna El-Dhuwaib, Hena Fatima, Alka Jaiswal & Robinette Siracusa.

Item	Discussion	Action
Welcome and Opening Prayer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fatima welcomed everyone and encouraged new members who missed the first meeting to make a brief introduction • Virtual Meeting Agenda for this evenings have been approved by Mrs. Justine O’Grady • Fatima asked all members present to join her virtually in saying the School Council Prayer in the Name of our Faith – “God, the source of every good gift...” 	Fatima D’Mello
Student Council Reps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fatima in her introduction mentioned throughout the School Year Student Reps are invited from various Clubs within the school from Grade 9-12 in giving presentations. This is a great information tool for School Council members in keeping up to date how we can assist and support all students • Faiq Farooq and Sarah Gonsalves introduced themselves 	Faiq Farooq Sarah Gonsalves

	<p>and provided an update on Student Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not a whole lot to report. Currently doing Elections • New Presidents to be elected in two weeks. The two Co-Presidents to be elected and Faiq stated hopefully one of them will be himself will be sitting in on every School Council meetings moving forward • Presently don't have any new school initiatives pending as they're still adapting to the whole Covid situation • Fatima asked members if we had any questions for these students. No questions presently. Fatima thanked Faiq and Sarah for the updates • Fatima also mentioned that Student Council can always count on our support 	
<p>Trustee's Update</p>	<p><u>HCDSB Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pat Fortun introduced and gave a warm welcome to Trustee Duarte, as well as congratulated him on his new designation as Chair for the HCCEF- Halton Catholic Children's Education Foundations • Marvin Duarte first thanked and congratulated our new Chairs as well as elected members and introduced himself as Vice-Chair of the Board and Milton Trustee • Marvin provided an overview of rapid growth in Milton, stated 4 to 5 families move into our Town every day and this will continue for the next 5yrs in Milton which will be an additional over 30k people during this time period, acknowledging the urgent need for additional schools in Milton. • He stated the Boundary Review Committee which includes Bishop Reding Representatives are doing an excellent job throughout this process and are actively involved. • New school update – 2 new schools in the pipeline for Milton; #10 (new Elementary school) and # 3 (new Secondary school). School plan drawings are complete and have been presented for approval. 	<p>Marvin Duarte</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with MP trying to expedite the process • Would need Parent Council support to help expedition • BR Construction update: Construction work is on track. Daycare is expected to be completed this month, cafeteria completion expected by December, and second gym expected to be completed after that. • Full return to school is still uncertain. • Educators are doing an excellent job • Curriculum update: Marvin shared that there is a proposal for STEM based program in Elementary schools. • Marvin also spoke in detail his role as Chair for HCCEF - Halton Catholic Children’s Education Foundation and gave information on how this organization helps families discretely in need who are going through financial difficulty and with these dire times it’s more important than ever to assist those families. 	
<p>Principal’s Report</p>	<p><u>Nomination of OAPCE Rep and Secretary still outstanding</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Justine advised the first need to do is to follow up with the nominations of the last two positions of your Executive Council • Justine gave a brief recap of the Executive Positions already filled from prior meeting • She further explained that we didn’t elect an OAPCE Rep and that was because prior to the meeting information was received with the following changes to the process of selecting your OAPCE Rep • She confirmed with council that an OAPCE member has to be a Catholic Parent within our community and it is a one year term in line with all of the other positions on Council. • We also did not elect a Secretary because no one at the time volunteered for that position • Mrs. O’Grady explained what’s involved with the OAPCE- 	<p>Justine O’Grady</p>

	<p>Ontario Association for Parents of Catholic Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Attending several meetings throughout the year virtual ii) Attending the Council of Chairs meeting iii) Attending a Conference later in the School Year as well as other council members. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Justine asked members if they had any questions of concerns regarding this position. • Mrs. O’Grady invited participants to self-nominate and/or vote for the OAPCE position. • Fatima D’ Mello nominated Deepa Jose for the OAPCE position. Mrs. O’ Grady asked Deepa if she would accept the nomination and Deepa advised she accept. Pat seconded the nomination. • Justine asked any other nominations for this position. No responses. Justine congratulated and confirmed Deepa is officially the OAPCE Rep for 2020-2021 • The position for Secretary is up would anyone like to nominate or self-nominate. • Darlene D’Souza self-nominated for the position of Secretary. Justine confirmed and congratulated Darlene for the following position. Justine confirms to Fatima and Pat this now completes your executive team. • Aditi Kansal’s parent asked if you have to be Catholic to be on the team to self- nominate. Justine confirmed only for the positions of Chair, Vice-Chair, OAPCE and Parish Reps because you’re part of the parish have to be occupied by Catholic Parents. Mrs. Kansal asked if the others if she can contribute. Justine confirmed the other positions were already selected from our first initial meeting of the year, this completes all of our executives. Everyone have a voice on our council as long as your form has been completed and submitted, then you’re 	
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part of all of the discussions and decisions that are made throughout the school year.

Construction Update

- Justine advised Trustee Duarte gave a good update already on the progress of construction work and it's on track.
- Construction of the Cafeteria is coming along. Hoping the café will be finished before Christmas Break, and our new theatre will be completed if not before at least by the end of first semester. The rest Marvin gave a pretty good update.

School Generated Funds Report

- Normally I would have reported this in October as Ida is away I was unable to get a printed out copy to discuss
- Will discuss this report in next month November meeting
- Justine clarified that the report is presented 3 times per year (November, March and end of school year)
- Gives you an idea of the money coming into the school with respect to School generated funds because most of that money is your money as parents in the community and of course to be able to understand how the school is using those funds to support great things at Bishop Reding for our students. So in November I would bring that forward to you.

Discussing the possibility of a Parent Teacher

Interview Option Virtual or Verbal contacting via phone

- Had our staff meeting today and I indicated to staff that we're still in a holding pattern
- In a typical year progress reports would have been received just before Thanksgiving
- We would have held parent teacher interviews this

coming Thursday after Thanksgiving.

- Government didn't release info to the Board till a week ago Friday. They started to give some direction around what reporting times would look like and now it's in the hands of Senior Admin and Trustees to determine what that would translate into for the Halton Catholic Board with respect to our reporting period and Parent Teachers Interviews
- Tentatively the important dates the possibility of a midterm report at this time, however we're not being asked by the Board or Ministry at this time
- Formal interview and reporting timelines are expected to be around mid-November.
- However, considering current situation, these decisions are currently still with the Halton Board.
- Did remind teachers that we're at the mid-term point for the first two courses
- It is important students know what their mid-term marks are. If there's any concerns, they should be reaching out to parents
- In turn I would encourage parents if they have any concerns if they just want an update from teachers, we are always available to know how their kids are doing academically.
- As soon as we have information on the following, we will notify parents immediately.
- I expect the parent interview meeting will be virtual, teams meeting. Can still use the program that was used for scheduling as it worked successfully last year when parents choose their times for meetings. It was a smooth transition.
- More information to come
- Naghmeh commended Justine and staff for making the transition smooth and effective

Family of Schools Transitional Plans

- a) Grade 8 Tours and Carousel – Virtual Event. Visiting different classrooms, etc. participating on different activities Meeting on Oct. 20th as a transition team. Will drop off materials to Elementary schools. Meeting with five members at BR and three from each of our Elementary Schools. Will be discussing how we can do these things with planning effectively. Important for these students who are transitioning to Grade 9 feel connected to the BR experience
- b) AP information night will take place on October 27th Parenting Information Night
- c) My Blueprint Night for Parents Grade 7-10 not taking place this year as we have many virtual events. Plus this from past experience haven't been well attended
- d) Grade 7 & 8's Teacher from each FOS Elementary Schools to attend ECL- Education Career Life Planning Meetings. Some of you would be familiar with the language Pathways. Will be joining us for these meetings. Have great relationship with Elementary Schools. We can create that sense of community with the Bishop Reding Family of Schools. It goes a long way to support our students.
- e) Grade 8 FOS Mass will continue virtually
- f) Grade 7 Leadership Conference had in the past. Will revisit and discuss with Legacy group to see what this would look like. Typically held in the spring.
- g) Spec Ed Transition Day continues to work on transition days for students when they're coming into our school community.
- h) Orientation Day didn't happen in August for present Grade 9 students. Did a virtual welcoming. Unity students created a great video. If you haven't seen its worth viewing as our students did an incredible job of welcoming new students. This video can be viewed on

	<p>Twitter. Would like to build on that in August of next year. Let's all say a prayer together if by not some point this year that we could go back to some level of normalcy that by September 2021 that we can have these students back in our building for Orientation Day!</p> <p>i) Reconfirming with Council Members if they would be agreeable to having their names on the Bishop Reding Website, as well as reconfirming if Executive Members agree to including their email addresses on the site. School website will be updated accordingly with the above information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various questions were asked by members on council regarding the workings of the Cohorts. Justine explained in great detail the functions of the Cohorts 	
<p>Chair(s) Report</p>	<p><u>Upcoming Council of Chair Meeting Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual meeting schedule for October 28th 2020. Fatima will provide an update on that meeting • Justine, Fatima and Patricia will be in attendance • There were a lot of questions from parents regarding the Cohort and online learning. One question in particular was brought up about online students having a different principal. Online principal is mainly for the Elementary and works differently for the High School. • Justine clarified on a secondary level this is not a concern as we have the same teachers interacting with our students. • Newsletter wanting to share a Community News Letter keeping in touch with parents in the community letting them be aware of what's taking place. This correspondence will be sent through inter-mail, posted on BR Website, Social Media, Twitter, FaceBook etc. A great way of keeping in touch with parents in our school community • Point of Contact of Council Members on the BR Website. Chair, Vice-Chair, the two Community Reps 	<p>Fatima D'Mello</p>

School Councils Objectives & Initiatives for School Year 2020/21

- Uniform Sale: Plan to collect uniforms from the past Grade 12 Students of 2020 Graduates on the same day of Diploma distribution.
- First week of November 3rd & 4th.
- Working around protocols of safety during pandemic regarding future sales
- More information to follow re. the sale itself.

New Initiatives 2020/2021

Advent Food Drive

- Discussion on hosting a "Reverse Advent Calendar 2020" at BR with the Students, with a focus on "The Importance of Giving Back". Fatima mentioned Pat brought up idea of this great initiative
- We will work with the Student Council
- Daily drop-off bins will be placed at several locations within the school on all days leading up to Christmas Eve.
- The contents will be donated to a local food bank.
- Our Milton Community are in great need of food items.
- Safety measures will be taken and Justine confirm we can use the sanitizer Ghost Buster machine before taking items to food bank
- Council members thought this was a great idea

BR 11th Anniversary Trivia Night - February 18th, 2021

- Possibly held in Virtual setting
- Planning needs to take place for prep work
- More details to follow closer to date

	<p><u>Connect with Councils of Neighboring Schools</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reach out to various school councils in neighbouring areas to gauge interest in meeting as a way to keep in touch. • Meeting format: Virtual Invitation • Date: To be determined 	
Treasurer Report	<p><u>School Council Funds Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Justine proposed that Claudia contact Financial Secretary on a monthly basis based on meeting scheduling dates • Total dollars currently on School Council Accounts/ Funds is as follows - \$5,051.78 • Total dollars on the following accounts Trivia A/C Balance - \$3,286.34 Uniform Sale A/C Balance - \$ 1,765.44 <p>Claudia was in complete agreement that she will be in contact with the Financial Secretary monthly or as required based on meeting schedule</p>	Claudia Gaona
Teacher's Report:	<p><u>Update and New Teacher Representative</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. O'Grady updating council members regarding new Teacher's Rep • Justine states Tom Sandor has stepped down as the Teacher Rep after two years of being actively involved on Council • Kosta Zafiridis who is new to Bishop Reding will be joining School Council 2020-2021 as the new Teacher's Rep 	Costa Z/ Justine O' Grady
Chaplain's Report	<p><u>Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Did an introduction to all members • Junior Retreat program will look different this year - will be in class Chaplain visit 	Lorenzo Campanelli

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theme for Grade 9 Survival and for Grade 10 Christian Community. Looks differently this year due to Covid and would not be going on Field Trips this year. All would be done in class • A Chaplin’s visit. The importance of connecting with students in person verses doing virtually • Some of the Cohorts would be done virtually • Technology is amazing • The importance of making the transition smooth from Grade 8 to Grade 9 for those students • Grade 10’s focusing on Christian Communities. Similarities differences between community and Christian communities and the BR Catholic Community which is their Christian community for the High School • Amazed with the kids, it’s a Spiritual retreat. The response have been positive. • Getting to know the kids have been rewarding • Teachers have been incredible with Tech Support, very supportive • I let the students know that I’m available, Faith, Church and how they are doing any questions they have about God and faith • Importance of feeling comfortable • That there’s another trusted adult in the school • Staff come together to prayer in the Chapel at noon which includes meditation. This is optional • Holistic development – Emotional, Spiritual very important on life journeys • Happy to be part of an enriched school community with diversity • Bishop Reding is a special community 	
<p>Community Representatives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pat mentioned parents in community expressed concerned if there was a waiting list regarding if they wanted to make a change from online learning to having their children enter one of the cohorts. 	<p>Pat Grisoni Uzma Ali</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pat mentioned Parents were of the impression that it was on a secondary level • Justine stated that there's not a waiting list for Secondary. This is only on an Elementary level. • Pat followed up with another parents question and inquiry regarding distribution of Mask. Pat said based on memory at a meeting that was held a week prior to school being opened that it was discussed mask would be given to the students and that they will be responsible for those mask. Pat wanted to clarify if the mask were given to the students as discussed in prior meeting. • Justine did re-confirm mask were offered to the students at the beginning of the school year as discussed. 2000 was delivered to the school and mask were divvied up with each homeroom • Teachers were asked to offer up a mask to every student and to keep the extra mask in the classroom should a student require one. • That did take place. I do see a lot of the black ones handed out but most students prefer to wear their own. 	
<p>OAPCE Representative</p> <p><u>Boundary Committee Rep(s)</u></p>	<p><u>OAPCE Information Update:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deepa Jose is nominated OAPCE Rep • Deepa will report at next meeting <p><u>Boundary Information Update:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Funding approved for the New Schools #3 Secondary \$41 million and #10 Elementary \$17 million is underway • This approval has been instrumental and helpful with decision making weighing out the pro's and con's • Public meeting on October 14th which will enlighten the community with what's taking place with transparency with suggestions • Has been a very interesting process 	<p>Deepa Jose</p> <p>Pat Grisoni Naghmeh Razmpoosh</p>

