



Bishop Reding Catholic Secondary School Council
Meeting Minutes – Dec 10, 2024

Date: Tuesday, December 10, 2024 (6:30pm)

Attendees: Rocco Di Ianni (Principal), Nadia Kallu (Co- Chair), Gina Rajack-Aguilar (Co-Chair), Sonia Sousa (Treasurer), Sonal Andrade (Parish Rep – St. Benedict), Barbara Jancetic-Jelecanin (OAPCE Rep), Pat Grisoni (Community Rep), Marie O’Connell (Chaplin/ Non-Teacher Rep), Karen Boelhouwer (Vice-Principal), Konstantino Zafiridis (Teacher Rep), Ryan Duffy (Vice-Principal), Pavithra Darivemula, Dr. Shonna John, Nicole Lawrence, Rema de Andrade, Preethi Moraes, Naghmeh Razmpoosh, Benny Coniglio

Regrets: Rocco Bellusci (Community Rep), Justin Ieraci (Vice-Principal), Maryanne Sequeira-Brass, Tania Fernandes, Paxwell Pereira, Nisha Rodrigues, Nidhi Gupta (Secretary), Jennifer Santos, Lindsay Quirk, Carol Lobo, Adam Mikitel (Vice-Principal), Monica Santos

Absent: Stephanie Fernandes (Parish Rep – Holy Rosary), Amna Shahzad, Astha Sharma, Francine Countryman, Bhagwat Verma, Gaurav Mittal, Julia Magliaro, Mary Camastra, Nicola Alexander, Rahel Hagos, Randolph Barros, Sean Bitmanis, Smruti Dash, Rosanna Guiang-Tulloch, Adnan Hadi

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Welcome, Opening Prayer, Land Acknowledgement	<p>Co-chairs welcomed all attendees to this abbreviated School Council meeting, as we have a planned Christmas social potluck after the meeting to celebrate the season and our team.</p> <p>Gina read BR’s Land Acknowledgment.</p>	
<p>Nadia Kallu Gina Rajack-Aguilar Marie O’Connell</p>	<p>Our Chaplin, Marie, started us off with an opening prayer. We kept the Milton District community, family and friends of the 17-year old student from MD who tragically lost his life, in our prayers.</p>	
Approval of Agenda and Minutes	<p>Pat Grisoni approved minutes of Nov 12, 2024; Karen Boelhouwer seconded approval of minutes of Nov 12, 2024.</p>	

	Dr. Shonna John approved today's agenda; Pat Grisoni seconded approval of today's agenda.	
<p>Principal's Report</p> <p>Rocco Dilanni</p>	<p><u>Questions/Answers from last meeting</u></p> <p>Grad & Sitting Fees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Dilanni did some calling around to all Catholic high schools to get an idea of their fees. - Re: grad fees, he found that BR's fees are somewhere in the middle compared to other schools. - Re: sitting fees, he didn't find any other schools without a sitting fee for grad photos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Vendors set these prices. o Pegasus reiterated that the sitting fee includes a composite (typically around \$30); cap and gown for photo; this year they will be photographing each graduate at the ceremony (either shaking the principal's hand or when the graduate comes down from the stage). o Feedback from parent at the council meeting – From her experience with other photography companies, Pegasus has been better than the previous vendor. <p>School Activity Fees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - These monies are being used for International, National and local family charities. - Also goes to families in need. <p>Krispy Kreme Fundraiser:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hoping to do this again in the Spring. <p>Relay For Life:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spring 2025. <p>Hockey Buyout:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BR gets a better rate for ice time at Memorial Arena. - Proceeds for hockey buyout to partially support the phys-ed program and the kitty for Relay for Life – this also falls under SGF. <p>School Generated Funds (SGF):</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Civvies money – used for community beautification (i.e. one of the changerooms at Memorial Arena was refreshed). <p>Christmas Concert:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tickets are still on sale – concert will be happening at BR. - Proceeds: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Looking to refinish floor of the stage in future o Replace curtain o We bought a few lights and upgraded sound recently - Dec 19th - Games set up during the day; dance team is performing. <p>January 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5-day exam period to coincide with the 5 periods in a day. <p>Sr Boys Volleyball Team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Took home 4th place at OFSSA! Great accomplishment! 	
<p>Co-Chairs Report</p> <p>Nadia Kallu Gina Rajack-Aguilar</p>	<p><u>Pro Grant 2024/2025</u></p> <p>On November 20, 2024, Nadia and I logged on to the virtual CPIC Let’s Connect Session. It’s an hour-long informal meeting that council members can attend. There’s no agenda, attendees just bring up topics that they’d like to discuss and/or get feedback from other Council members at different schools.</p> <p>The main thing that was discussed was ideas for what the Pro Grant can be used for. The Pro (Parent’s Reaching Out) Grant is provided by the Ministry of Education for the current school year, in the amount of up to \$750. In the proposal, we had to identify an activity our school would like to host (which is what the funds would go towards) and how it links to parent engagement and involvement. This funding supports initiatives that address local parent needs and remove barriers preventing full parent participation in their children’s learning and educational progress. Essential to this process is ensuring parents have accessible and inclusive means to support their</p>	

	<p>engagement. Only schools who submitted a proposal by the due date of Nov 22 were eligible for consideration.</p> <p>After the Let's Connect meeting, Nadia and I put our heads together and thought it would be a good idea to do a wellness themed activity with our group. We reached out to wellness providers to receive quotes and submitted our proposal, with Rocco's approval of course, by the due date. We haven't received the decision yet but will provide more details once we do.</p> <p><u>Bylaws Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Followed the CPIC Guidelines to create the draft by-laws and tweaked it to suit BR's needs. - We would like to put together a sub-committee to review the by-laws that we have drafted. - Barbara, Pat, Naghmeh, would like to join this sub-committee. - This committee will meet outside of the council meetings to review and finalize the by-laws. 	<p>Co-chairs will reach out via email to others who aren't at the meeting tonight to see if they would also like to be part of the sub-committee for by-law review.</p>
<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>Sonia Sousa</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No updates from the Treasurer. - Previously, School Council has given funds to BR clubs. SGF goes towards funding these clubs as well. Question – is that still going to happen? YES - Estimate for Welcome Wall – some money has been put aside for this from the SGF - We can also think about more school beautification, while acknowledging the sponsor(s) on these pieces. - STEM event at Elsie McGill – they build a car and race it – this might be something that BR would be interested in. 	<p>Naghmeh to send Council additional info on this.</p>
<p>Chaplain's Report</p> <p>Marie O'Connell</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advent mass Dec 11; period 1 - Fundraisers – Royal Christmas to support families in our own community - Boxes of Hope through Halton Alive – the school committed to 50 boxes, but the students wanted to make sure every resident at Birkdale received a box. The Grade 12 LIBs pulled together and managed to make gift boxes for every resident. There are over 90 residents at Birkdale. 	
<p>Teacher's Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SHSM Day presentations happened today to Grade 10 students – it went well 	

Konstantino Zafiridis	- A lot of students showed interest in various SHSMs.	
OAPCE Report Barbara Jancetic-Jelecanin	<p>OAPCE's October and November Parents4Parents Newsletters were sent out a few weeks ago. If anyone has not received communications from me, or knows of members on council who have not received communication, please check your junk folder, or alternate email accounts with which you might have registered but monitor less frequently. Feel free to get in touch with me directly/or have members who may be missing newsletter communications to get in touch with Barbara at barbara@nevesj.com</p> <p>Highlights from the last newsletter: Jubilee Year 2025 Reminder: This year is a Jubilee Year for our Catholic Church. The Jubilee Year will run from the opening of the Holy Door in St Peter's Basilica in Rome, on Tuesday 24 December 2024 to the Feast of Epiphany 2026.</p> <p>For those interested in being "Pilgrims of Faith" there is information about the "Open Doors of The Vatican" and how the Church is providing opportunities for pilgrims. For parents interested in participating in a pilgrimage to Rome, you'll find travel details and discounted flight information below under "Jubilee" in the November Newsletter.</p> <p>Recap - November 7th – Inaugural & OAPCE Liaison Representative Anointing Ceremony OAPCE hosted its Inaugural in-person Halton Regional Meeting. Please refer to our last meeting minutes circulated for details from my school council meeting report. For those that have not had a chance to read the minutes, or the newsletters which I shared via email a few weeks ago, please take a look to get caught up on important information including a recap of OAPCE's advocacy on the Provincial level regarding some polices I mentioned last time (i.e. Bill 98, PPM112 / Smart Phones Restrictions and Vaping Policy, as well as the inception, implementation of the Guest Speaker Approval List (vetting and approval policy requirement).</p> <p>Parents are also encouraged to check under heading "Advocacy" in this Newsletter for more reading and details regarding policies to remain informed.</p> <p>Recap – November 20th – ALL Regions Virtual Meeting</p>	

	<p>On November 20, OAPCE hosted its first ALL Regions Virtual Meeting for this year Presentation - Super Parents: Unlocking the Powers of Advocacy – led by Joe Perri Co-Executive Director Takeaways: OAPCE encourages parents to advocate for your child’s education like a Superhero! Advocacy plays a crucial role in ensuring that our children receive the best education possible and that our Catholic values are preserved.</p> <p>OAPCE understands the importance of parents’ voices in advocating for their children’s education, as well as exploring the importance of advocacy, how it relates to parents, neighbors, and the Catholic community, and how OAPCE empowers parents to become Super parents for their children!</p> <p>Social Media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - OAPCE Website: https://oapce.org - Our new Instagram account is now live! Follow us @OAPCE85 - Don't forget to follow us on X @OAPCEONTARIO - Facebook – New Facebook page at OAPCE85! <p>Upcoming Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - APRIL 2025 -Heads Up! OAPCE has our Annual AGM and Conference occurring in early April of 2025 in Dufferin Peel this year so please stay-tuned for date and venue details in coming months! - DECEMBER 2024- OAPCE will also be hosting an Advent Virtual Retreat tomorrow night December 11, via Zoom. It will be led by The Most Rev. Bishop Mathieu. - Please look forward to another summary and newsletter from me in coming days, and ahead of the New Year. 	
<p>Community Rep Updates</p> <p>Pat Grisoni</p>	<p>Several students from Bishop Reding, along with Pat Grisoni, will be volunteering at the Santa Clause Parade in Campbellville, this Sunday, Dec 15 at 1:00pm.</p>	
<p>Parish Rep Updates</p>	<p>Holy Rosary: <i>(Rema provided this update on behalf of Stephanie):</i></p>	

<p>Holy Rosary – Rema de Andrade for Stephanie Fernandes</p> <p>St. Benedict – Sonal Andrade</p>	<p>Advent Evening of Reconciliation (for both parishes) – on Wed Dec 11th at 7pm at St. Benedict Parish – This evening is a time for personal prayer and an opportunity for individual Confession.</p> <p>Knights of Columbus – annual food drive after each Saturday and Sunday mass during Advent until Dec 21st and Dec 22nd. Please drop off non-perishable items at the Knights trailer in the church parking lot.</p> <p>St. Benedict: Christmas Canta - Dec 13th at 7pm – Evening of music and celebration as the Youth Choir will be singing festive songs and Christmas carols.</p> <p>Simbang Gabi (Night Mass) – Filipino Catholic tradition – these masses will be held on Dec 17, 20, 23 at 7pm at St. Benedict Parish.</p> <p>Cross Church Christmas Caroling – walking along Main Street from Grace Anglican Church to St. Paul’s United Church. The group will be stopping along the way at Southside on Main, and Knox Presbyterian to sing a few songs. Meet at Grace Anglican Church on Sun Dec 15 at 2:00pm.</p>	
<p>New Business</p>	<p>Facebook – Bishop Reding Parents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some classes are missing teachers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o This is something out of our school’s control – not enough teachers applying/qualified. o Religion – we have a retired religion teacher but there is no formal evaluation at the moment. o Working closely with HR to address this. o This is not isolated to our school, also not ideal, but BR is doing their best to help the students along. o Teachers are monitoring the classes that are missing French teachers. Currently doing Smash education – self directed online learning. This doesn’t replace the learning, rather a supplement. o There is a plan if there is a supportive family and a motivated student to do well. <p>Graduation and Prom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - May 30 is prom 	

	- June 24 is Graduation	
Next Meeting	Tues Feb 11, 2025	
Closing Prayer	Marie O'Connell lead us in a closing prayer.	
Adjournment	7:43pm – then we commenced our social event.	
	Barbara Jancetic-Jelecanin approved minutes of Dec 10, 2024; Pat Grisoni seconded approval of minutes of Dec 10, 2024 at School Council Meeting on Feb 11, 2025.	