



## Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School School Council Meeting

# MINUTES January 14, 2020

*Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm by Erin Bell .*

- **Prayer & Welcome** – Council was welcomed by Chair Erin Bell New Year's prayer led by Mrs. Halycz as well as acknowledging that our school was built on Treaty 13B and that our indigenous brothers and sisters occupied this land. Attendance was noted. Following members were in attendance: Jenny Archibald, Kathryn Gall, Erin Bell, Marco Di Muzio, Josie Halycz, Elisabeth Michienzi, Marguerite Murad, Maria Quinn, Susan English, Tina Cenedese, Laura Nasato, Anita MacPherson, Monica Navalta, Janet Stewart, Julia Yoo, Jessica Lim, Tony Pavelic, Andrew Coughlan, Janice Nesmith-Naylor, Cathy da Costa, Samia Taugeer, Catharine Murphy, Adriana Reyhaga
- **Student Council Update-** Olivia (Grade 11 President) presented. She advised that Candycane grams at Christmas were a great success, so they are considering some sort of Valentine's Day grams with chocolate. Council has planned some de-stressing activities during exams such as colouring in the atrium. Also, as February is HT Family month a family movie night is in the works.
- **School Council** – Josie H. reviewed the following:
  - a. Catholic School Council Code of Ethics, by which all understand that our goal is to discuss the well being of the entire school community, not individuals
  - b. Conflicts of Interest-no one stepped forward
- **Approval of the Nov. 5, 2019 Minutes-** will be approved next meeting.

### School Council Updates

Presented and Erin Bell:

- a. Approval of Nov. 5'19 Meeting minutes-will be done at the next meeting
- b. CPIC Report-Council of Chairs: there has not been a recent meeting. Erin unable to attend, so Sue English has volunteered to take Erin's place for the next Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> meeting
- c. OAPCE: been very quiet, no updates

### Principal's Report:

Mrs. Halycz wished all attendees a happy new year and thanked members for their attendance.

- **PROGRANT:** Has been changed, to a reduced amount of \$1,500 to be shared amongst our F.O.S. Our proposed PROGRANT F.O.S. event is we have invited Jean Clinton, to speak to our parents on Apr. 2. This would be a continuation to our mental health theme from our FOS presentation last year. We would invite stake holder and speakers from our community to set up booths during that evening.

- **Mental Wellness:** Staff and administration have noticed an increase level of anxiety amongst students, with a focus on super high achieving students. As parents and educators, we must all learn to manage expectations and understand that there are various forms of anxiety. A useful website is: <https://smho-smso.ca/parents-and-families/>. Also within the walls of the school, many calm areas are being created for students to find respite: Guidance office now has a quiet, more 'Zen' area, the CYC office which is right off of the atrium has couches and games as well as "Friends" episodes playing. Staff are also in the atrium in the a.m. welcoming students, surveying to see if there are students who appear to be not quite themselves.
- **Uniform Provider:** The board invited parents to consultation meetings being held this week in Burlington and Milton, welcoming feedback regarding specifications that parents are looking for in a uniform provider, and the actual school uniform. We recapped the main concerns held by parents at HT so that these could be relayed to the board if any of our parents attend the meeting. The concerns are: quality and feel of the pants/relating to the stiffness of the fabrication, supply chain issues with lots of out of stock items and back orders, overall fit of the shorts/pants relating to being too short or too long. In general, parents had also wanted a lay-away program
- **O.E.C.T.A.**  
Our teacher's union has been in a strike position as of Dec. 21'19. Jan. 13'20 was a work action day and on Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> there will be a one day strike across the province, all Catholic boards. Teachers have not withdrawn services, they continue to teach, coach and run clubs, but they have withdrawn from Ministry Services such as EQAO. In this case, students' marks will not have 5% weighted from the EQAO test this semester. Teachers are trying their very best in light of the uncertainty. At the time of the meeting, it was not certain if schools were to remain open on the strike day.
- **Month of February:** is HT Family month, as well as Black History month
- **MY SCHOOL DAY APP:** HT Parent council now has a channel on the app

### Vice Principal's Report:

Vice Principal Marco Di Muzio reported

- **Parking**-council was informed that a student was hit by a car in the parking lot (luckily not seriously injured)so solutions to the traffic problems had to be implemented. The 1<sup>st</sup> laneway in the lot was blocked off, forcing parents to drive the entire loop. Ultimately, parents need to find alternative locations in which to drop their kids off.
- **Vaping**-the good news is that suspension rates have decreased. However the ratio of infractions by girls vs. boys has dramatically increased. Female teachers have volunteered to enter the girl's bathrooms to catch offenders.
- **Uniform** Lots of kids are wearing the HT hoody hoods over their heads in school, they are being asked to take the hoods down
- **Exams** begin Thurs. Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> and an email will be sent out with specifics of the timing. There are lots of distressing events run by student council to help students cope. On Monday the leadership group is running a get hot coco and tips on how to study session.

### Parish Updates:

1. Mary Mother of God –Tina C. reported
  - a. There will be a family + friends fundraiser on Feb 8<sup>th</sup>, tickets will be \$70.00/person
  - b. C.W.L. will be in attendance before and after services on Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> and Jan 26<sup>th</sup> to invite new members to join
2. St. Michael's-Monika reported
  - a. There will be fund raiser to help repair the leaky roof
  - b. This is a bilingual parish: English and Spanish
3. Holy Trinity Croatian- Tony P. reported
  - a. Confirmations are scheduled for Jan. 9
  - b. There is a fundraising drive in progress to gather funds to repair the 40 year old leaky roof
  - c. Massive book sale was held on Dec 22
4. St. Joseph's Ukranian-Josie H. reported
  - a. Christmas was celebrated on Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> and New Year will be celebrated on Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>
  - b. On Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> there will be Valentine's dance
  - c. This upcoming weekend there will be a dinner celebrating the baptism of Jesus

### New Business:

- Parents were asked for volunteers to attend the Uniform consultation meetings to relay our specific school concerns, as it is the appropriate venue and timing to voice them. Our past meeting minutes could be reviewed as a tool to have all of our concerns as a council relayed to the board as they look to see how they will handle the next tender process. Side note, that the resale value of our used uniforms, are a major source of income for our council and a huge volume driver are the items from our former provider.

*Meeting adjourned: 7:35 p.m. by Erin B.*

**Next meeting *Tuesday February 4th, 2020 – 6:30 pm***

Please visit Holy Trinity's website for other important dates – here's the link:

**<http://www.holytrinityoakville.ca/important-dates-2019-2020/>**