



Holy Trinity CSS

Catholic School Council Minutes

Feb. 8, 2022 (Teams) @ 6:30pm

1. Welcome

Teresa Castellarin

2. Opening Prayer/Honouring the Land/Chaplain Updates

Lorenzo Campanelli

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e1EVhelK6BQ>

- We are into Semester 2 now. February is Ordinary Time in the church calendar. Ash Wednesday is March 2. Initiative that we are working on: Valentines for Seniors sponsored by Titans for Life supporting the LTC homes in Oakville giving the residents Valentines.
- Jr. Retreat program being organized next week
- Planning for a virtual Ash Wednesday Liturgy

3. Review & Approval of January minutes (previously shared)

Joe Morgante

- Minutes approved. Seconded by Marguerite Murad.

4. Student Update

Andrew Palucci/Claire Gamble/Danielle Dinno

- **Danielle** - Student Council update: released a series of short videos on our Instagram, Covid protocols, Black History month posts and daily announcements featuring prominent people
- Valentine's Day this will be a civvies day and we are selling flowers during the lunch period, one flower for two dollars and 3 for \$5.00.
- Daily Olympic updates on the announcements
- Eating Awareness Week
- **Andrew** – SHIELD update
- Focus this semester - helping grade 9 students transition to a semester. Video 'How To' – shared with students, heart post-it-notes on the lockers with inspirational words
- Photo booth Feb. 14
- 25th activity
- 28 – live drop-in regarding course selections
- We are running a musical this year, 'You Are A Good Man Charlie Brown' from Broadway, directed by Ms. Smith. Rehearsals have begun and the show dates will be April 6,7,8.
- Robotics – has been running since the beginning of January and students have been working after school until 6:00 pm during the week preparing for a competition at Humber College on March 5th.
- Sports – we look forward to running sports again.
- Equity group – focus this month is Black History Month as we celebrate modern day people with Black excellence, playing music in the morning, they are putting a video together.
- Relay for Life in May

Teresa thanked Andrew and Danielle for their multiple involvements in the school and for working hard at keeping school spirit up.

5. Presentation from Social Worker & CYC

Anne Marie Duguay/Tim Henry

- Tim Henry is a former student from HT, his role is the Child and Youth Counsellor and supporting students. One of his focuses is on Equity and Inclusion. Tim is on this committee and the GSA. The voice of students is an incredible tool and helps them to execute their views.
- Equity and Inclusion – gives HT students a voice to discuss areas of needs at the school. Focusing on Black History Month in February, highlighting notable people around the world. There are many different areas that progress can be made in order to build that change with the students.
- Anne Marie – we are blessed to have Tim with us. Anne Marie is our Social Worker and her role at HT is to help students, anxiety, depression, suicide thoughts, grieving, as well she connects people with services in the community. Parental consent is required for her to support the student under the age of 18. She is also the Attendance Counsellor dealing with prolonged absences, 15 consecutive days or more, also habitual absences.
- Anne Marie is also part of the GSA (LGB2QS+) helping to provide a safer and welcoming school environment for everyone regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identification. She is also a member of the Equity and

Inclusion committee, coaches the swim team, runs the EmpowHER after school on Thursdays. She is also a trainer for the Board for applied suicide intervention training.

5 tips for mental health

- Look for opportunities to connect in person with your teen
- Model good sleeping routines
- Make room in your family life for fun
- Allow your kids to figure things out sometimes
- Apply your own oxygen mask – running, coffee with a friend

6. Presentation from Halton Catholic Children's Foundation (HCCF) Marc Clare

- Marc is the Executive Director with the HCCF, thank you for the opportunity to be with you tonight.
- HCCF is an independent charity, self-funded by initiatives and is supported by the HCDSB, trying to help students succeed that have financial barriers with learning. We help approximately 215 students per year and since March of 2020 have helped 811 families. We have allocated \$115,000 to families with financial issues, including for basic needs like food, clothing, parents that have lost their job during COVID, providing them with food vouchers, gift cards etc. In the past few years, we have helped 36 students from Holy Trinity.
- A year ago, we started a 3-year strategic plan which is outlined on our website HCCF Who We Are. We need to increase our fundraising, thru presentations and by 2024 we would like to double the number of students that we help.
 - We rely on donations, sponsorship with events, HT has been very supportive thru initiatives, over \$11,000 since 2014.
 - We hold a golf tournament held every year, 124 golfers last year, Evening with Bishop Crosby has been held virtually the last two years.
 - We have a 24 hour fast, HT Chaplain will be supporting this event, give something up for 24 hours, this is a Lenten initiative, some Principals have a competition raising money.
- If you know of any families in need, please contact Tim Henry, Anne Marie Duguay, Ms. Castellarin.
- If you would like to assist with connecting with these families, please let us know.

Social media – Twitter [Twitter@HaltonCCF](#) Facebook. Feel free to contact Mark if you have any questions.

Thank you, Mark, for supporting our community.

7. School Council Updates:

- **Fundraising – Joe Morgante (on behalf of Dali Varma)**
 - Meeting last week to look at three initiatives. Purdy's Chocolate, Indigo, Cobbs bread
 - March 15th – Easter season 25 % fundraising profit for our school. Additional information will be sent out.
 - Used uniform sale at the end of June, will not be collecting beige pants as the pants are now black.
- **Financials – Marguerite Murad**
 - No change since the last meeting report. Currently in the bank there is \$2,510.00 from the used uniform sales at the beginning of this year. We were given \$500.00 allocated from Ministry of Education. We are looking at having a guest speaker in May, working with St. Thomas Aquinas and Loyola.
- **Parish Updates- Erin Bell/Lorenzo Campanelli (Be sure to visit parish websites for more information)**
 - **St. Michael Parish**
 - The office is currently closed, contact thru e-mail, 3 Sunday masses and some during the week. Eucharistic adoration Fridays during the day.
 - **Holy Trinity Croatian Parish**
 - The office is open Tuesday to Saturday. Monday to Friday 7:00 pm mass, Saturday 5:00 pm, Sunday 9:00 am, 10:15 am & 11:15 am.
 - Check out our parish website for information to register
 - **St. Joseph Ukrainian**– parish office is open
 - **Mary Mother of God**
 - Our Youth Led Family Mass is the 2nd Sunday of the month at 11 am. It will be this Sunday Feb 13. All are welcome.
 - Our Youth Band has grown. We are still looking for musicians who can play Guitar or Violin
 - Volunteer Youth are needed as Ushers, Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors.
 - Our new Adoration Chapel is now booking Eucharistic Guardians for an hour of Prayer per week in our Chapel. We have a sign-up form on the website to book an hour. Our goal is to have Perpetual Adoration, around the clock this fall. Join us for an hour.

8. Vice-Principal's Insights - Lisa Vasile

• EQAO

- Teachers are entering their final marks, and this will be delivered electronically to students on Monday by synermail.
- Semester Grade Assemblies – we will try to do this in person. We will wait 2 weeks for direction from Public Health, if not we will do it over TEAMS.
- We are hoping for in-person Parent Teacher Interviews, April 13th is the tentative date.
- OSSLT – marks are available for those who wrote last semester. OSSLT will be scheduled for grade 10 students from March 22 to May 18 writing in period 1 class. We are looking at running 3 classes per day over a two-day period – schedule will be sent out mid-February which includes failures from last year and 1st time writers (grade 11's who did not write yet).
- AP – exams will begin this May
- Numeracy June 15 and 17 – date will be communicated to parents

9. Teacher Update

Paul Cushing

- Staff is excited to be back in a semester and seeing students in the hallways. We know it is an adjustment for grade 9 and 10 students who have not experienced this yet, 4 classes per day. Mood is lighter in the classroom and hallways.
- If you have any students in the AP program, please encourage them to write the exam.

10. Principal's Talk

Teresa Castellarin

• Covid Protocols

- As we are shifting as a society to normalcy, Teresa is held accountable to Halton Public Health. I respect the difficulty that our families and students have faced. But I am responsible for the safety of 1,500 people every day, your children and staff; I am guided to ensure their safety by Senior Administration (our Director and Superintendents), the Ministry of Health and Halton Public Health.
- I ask that you trust that the decisions that are made are never made without the consideration for the well-being of your children. Currently we still need to have assemblies virtually, distancing as much as possible, masks are mandatory in class, unmasked in the cafeteria only while eating. This is a stipulation by Halton Public Health.
- We have some clubs running (for ex. robotics & baking) and we hope to see the return of sports. We will be running a play, SHIELD & Student Council will be running events at lunch time, planning on events for our Graduates include in-person Prom and Graduation. We are all looking forward for these events coming back.
- I received a few questions about the lunches. This year we have over 1400 students, added 2 or 3 new portables, we have experience growth of over 100 students from last year. We have scheduled 3 lunches for Semester 2. Our cafeteria capacity does not hold over 700 students at one time. Currently our seating is for 500 students, tables are full, we have under 100 students that are virtual and will see an increase of these students returning to school.
- Currently Public Health is not doing the same type of tracing and testing. They are keeping an eye on our overall absences and we have not seen a significant increase in absences.
- With our current growth we will have to keep the 3 lunches. We are the third/fourth largest school in the Board. The larger schools in Milton are also on a 3-cycle lunch and have put other steps in place to accommodate this. This was the basis of this decision.
- We had a team analyzing this situation, looked at all courses for grades in the lunch period. Some classes/courses can't be split. In January, our Guidance Department Head moved the school from a Quadmester into a semester, put in the 3 lunches based on our numbers, the cafeteria capacity and Public Health directive for in person distancing. Our cafeteria is full. We can't base the decision on the fact that students go out for lunch. We looked carefully at what courses are in each grade and balanced it. Teresa does not make decisions single handed; it is in consultation.
- Teresa met with Student Athletic council, Mr. Pillai's leadership class, SHIELD etc. Administration has been in the cafeteria speaking to students. We will continue to run events at lunch time, SHIELD will run mentorship programs, our senior students grade 11 and 12 are in the cafeteria with all of our students now providing mentorship.
- Question: why are we not having 4 lunch periods? We would have to extend the school day by 40 minutes, and it would also affect the bus company who makes the schedules in the spring. This is not a possibility.
- If you are concerned about your student struggling with this, our SW, CYC, Admin Team, Guidance Counsellors, we can work with our student leaders to assist with this transition. We will not be changing the 3-tiered lunch. Please reach out to Teresa if you have any concerns.
- Question: Volunteer hours – Graduates this year need 20 volunteer hours and grade 11 and lower grades the amount of volunteer hours will return to 40. Students submit their hours to our Guidance office.
- Question: Grade 9 locks were provided to them during the beginning of this school year.

11. New Business

We are waiting for an update from the Board office and Public Health Department when Sports can resume.

12. Next Meeting Date & Adjournment

April 5

February & March Important Dates:

FEBRUARY	<i>Black History Month</i>
February 2 & 3	Assessment Days
February 3	Last day of Quad 2
February 4	PA Day, Staff Meeting
February 7	1 st day of Semester2
February 8	Catholic Parent Council Meeting, 6:30 pm (virtual)
February 14	Quad 2 Report Cards delivered electronically
February 21	Family Day
March	
March 1	Academic Council Meeting
March 10	Sem. 2 Progress Report
March 10	Britta B. – Spoken Word Poet Presentation
March 14 to 18	March Break
March 22	Staff Meeting