

# Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School

## Parent Council Meeting Minutes- Tuesday October 4, 2022

Student Council co-presidents reviewed all the activities that have occurred since school started. So much to celebrate:

- Titan TV
- Activities being planned by Student Council
  - Tickets for Junior Dance on sale starting next week.
- Equity and Change
  - drafting a constitution for the committee
  - talk about injustice, menstrual product drive (Indigenous communities)
- Soccer Club - after Thanksgiving
- Baking Club
- Titans for Life
- Food Drive for Thanksgiving Good Shepherd Centre
- Graduates
  - senior google classroom for students houses all necessary information
  - Senior Sunrise
- Boys Baseball, Lacrosse, Football
- SHIELD
  - Numerous initiatives

Overall the vibe from “students has been really good”. The feeling in the hall, assemblies has been positive; even the sharing of lockers has been “taken in stride”

Parent feedback: great summary. Thank you for summarizing these points for Council

Questions about social media tags, which committee is for Food Drive (Chaplain, Lorenzo Campanelli), how do students know when/how to try out for a team?

Teacher Update:

- Lindsay Andrews- been with HT since 2015 as a teacher. Happy to be back in-person. Working to create a safe environment and refreshing to be back in person.
- Departments working closely together to foster growth, strive to create a space where students belong and feel safe.
- Equity, dignity and respect. Try to encourage students to get involved. Amazing sports and clubs to create access to clubs ex. Empower
- To include everyone. Create access to those clubs
- Classrooms- monitor uniform. It has improved. Lindsay has noticed that trend of improvement
- Attendance- unexplained, monitored by teacher, partnership with administration and parents. Importance of being in class.
- Upcoming- progress reports October 14<sup>th</sup>. Take ownership of their learning
- Interviews October 26- teachers value opportunity to connect with parents.
- Teresa thanked Lindsay for her time. Giving up time from her family to be with us. Teachers are willing to do this because teachers enjoy time with students; enjoy fostering their growth and all-round experiences.

- Parent question- is attendance an issue this year? No, but it's a focus to be pro-active.

School Council Duties:

Daniel Ascencio	Co-Chair
Andres Masmela	Co-Chair
Hanadi Dar	OAPCE
Marion Bastiampillai	MMoG Parish
Tony Pavelic	HT Parish
Byron Perry	St. Mike's Parish
Eva Serafin	Treasurer
Emilia De Simone	Secretary
Dali Varma	Fundraising
Liz Polak	Fundraising
Erin Bell	Community Rep

- Teresa reviewed the duties of co-chairs
- A few inconsistencies and clarification around who was running, etc. were clarified.
- After all was straightened out, the following are our 'executive' School Council Reps:

Reviewed handout re: responsibilities of school council

- Goal: to hear, share, and participate
- Come to the table for the betterment of the school community
- Admin's primary responsibility is to provide safe, welcoming, caring, inclusive environment where your children can do the best they are capable of.
- School council members need to consider the entire school community. We make decisions for the entire school community (large school- that continues to grow). Expectation is, as part of school council, you are considering the whole school community.
- We seek input - having a parent voice, represent views of community
- Council needs to let us know of concerns, suggestions, feedback.
- Questions: parent asked if co-chairs can explain why they are interested in the role.
  - Daniel: six kids- eldest is in grade 9. Job gives him flexibility to do research and be informed. Can dedicate time. Wants to be close to his kids, to understand what is going on in school
  - Andres: two twin girls. One at HT at Ap. Involved in school communities at St Mary. Loves giving back. So much we can do to help our kids and give back to our community. Privileges we have in our community to help others.

Teresa thanks everyone for taking on a role. Still volunteer if would like to be secretary.

VP notes:

- Wojtek and Jen introduced themselves and gave insight into their backgrounds/careers
- Goal – to create an environment to be successful
- Expectations re: behaviour, school values
  - Supporting students to achieve these to be successful
  - Re-establishing past practices – good healthy routine
    - Attendance
    - Lates
    - Uniforms
  - Communication to parents/guardians re: Attendance
    - Review of Unexplained Absences
    - Review of Lates
  - Students held accountable and move forward in their learning
  - Review of Uniform
    - Allow them to focus on learning
    - Establishes a tone; re-setting ourselves vs the chaos of the last couple of years
    - Creating structure that allows them to focus on their learning and be successful
  - Supervision
    - After hours (3:30pm) should be a supervised activity or spectator of an activity (sports)
    - Once activity is completed, students need to leave the building
  - Communication
    - Syner-mail (email) – main way we communicate to parents/families
    - Website: <https://secondary.hcdsb.org/holytrinity/>
    - Social Media: Twitter, Instagram
    - My School Day App (replaced handbook)
      - Holds expectations, code of conduct, announcements
  - AP Update
    - Designed to give students advanced placement/standing in university via the AP exams
    - We are seeing growth in the program; Wojtek reviewed some stats regarding the growth.
    - 300% growth in numbers of students writing exams
    - Focusing on growth of courses
- Principal's Comments
  - Looked at proposed meeting dates
  - Offered virtual or in-person? One request is not hybrid.
  - Consensus is in-person
  - Confirmed time is 6:30 to 8pm
  - Reviewed council of chairs meetings
- Administrivia
  - Philosophy of building relationships (primarily with students). Goal as a team
  - Then doing so with parishes and parents/home
  - Still seeing ramifications of mental health, struggles but we also see a renewed energy and sense of enjoyment
  - Treating one another with dignity. Community of support we work to develop
  - Always help them move forward (decisions made to help them achieve this)
  - Questions? None
  - Lunch supervisors still needed.
  - Uniforms- beige pants being phased out

- Shorts- rolling shorts is a challenge. Any concerns or challenges with us ensuring logo is visible? Parent (Daniel) confirming what our definition/expectation is. Parent community still comfortable with this approach.
- Civvies Day- it was fine. It's a privilege, not a right. Question: parent asked if there was a fee? Teresa clarified the fee is a donation to HT Cares. Want it to be reasonable.
- Question: why can't it be a canned goods donation instead? We use school cash online to meet the needs as it is needed
- Andres: a donation of a certain amount for the year. Staff contribute too.
- Remembering we are entering a school building
- Question/comment: is this like fundraising? Clarified student activity fees vs. HT Cares/donations. Teresa spoke about what student activity fees covers
- Grade 8/Parent Engagement/Open House/Curriculum
  - 6-7pm grade 8 parents
  - 7:15- current parents with clubs in Atrium, gym subject areas were have tables.
- Safe Schools Team- every school in the board has one. Equity, SAC, Council, Shield, Senate, Parent Rep come together- are we doing everything we can do to ensure it's a safe school?
- Question: does Coach Miguel come in often? Already been in 3 times this year. Now You Are a Titan event- he'll be there. Student Activity Fees covers his cost.
- Financial Update
  - Shared council balance
  - Submits to board what SGF will go towards
  - Teresa went through general school council costs
  - Will post (2-3 times per year) SGF financials
  - Healthy budget for council
  - Submit a plan of fundraising: continue used uniform sale (Fall and June), Purdy's- should do Christmas and Easter? Dalli explained order online, then pick up chocolate order at the school. Profits approx. 25%. May need a quick reminder to finalize purchase if they are interested.
  - Hands interested in running it twice? Majority said yes.
    - Run for Christmas and Easter
  - Cob's may do Easter. Dalli needs to try to contact them
  - Teresa has until October 31<sup>st</sup> to submit report. They can work on it
  - Indigo- set up account there to get that fundraiser.
  - Other options? Terra Cotta cookies, pizza night, pasta night. We can consider it. Blaze Pizza hosts a HT Night
  - Question about scholarship: yes, school council covers one /some of them
  - Graduation awards, school groups (robotics, baking, food program in the morning), apply to money from school council
  - There is no school defined "need".
  - The atmosphere here is one we continue grow upon each year with additional murals etc
  - Facilities at the board and custodians take pride in our school.
  - Application process for funds with School Council. Parents agreed.
  - Adjourn the meeting at 8:39pm