

Catholic School Council

Meeting Minutes- Tuesday October 2nd, 2018

Attended: Andree Craig, Sandy McGee, Ro Stagg, Cynthia Obrovac, Melissa Tambasco, Nicole Pietroiusti. & Anthony Cordeiro

Student Attendees: STEAM Executive Members & Student Council Parent Liaison

Regrets: Susan Korol

Approval of Agenda: Andree Craig motion for approval, Anthony Cordeiro 2nd the motion for approval

Principle's Report:

Enrollment 2018/2019:

- Approximately 1112 students – Growth of approx. 115 students
 - Gr. 9 cohort has 260 students= 135 Catholic feeder schools, 125 Public feeder schools & cross boundary
- ND re-growth has led to the addition of four (4) portables

Staffing 2018/2019:

- 16 new staff members
 - combination of transfers (8) & new hires (2)
- Three new Department Heads:
 - Mr. Agro- Science
 - Mrs. Raposo- English & Moderns
 - Mrs. Armstrong- Mathematics

Building /Facilities Update:

- The YMCA Daycare will move to St. Marks in the 2019/2020 school year
- Board Resource will move to the empty daycare space
- School will re-claim three (3) classrooms and a workroom
- Summer upgrades- new lights & HVAC system
- Upgrades for 2018-2019
 - new paint & carpet for the library
 - Auto shop- re-painted
 - Gymnasium- top portion of walls will be re-painted
 - New lockers (summer 2019)
 - Upgraded tech
 - Laptops
 - I-pads
 - Smart Boards/projectors

- Computer labs

Bishops Gala

- November 7th, 2018
- Six students will be invited to join Chaplain Wayne, Anthony Cordeiro, Mrs. DeSantis & Mr. Shaw

Feeder School Transition Days

- Four feeder schools & ND was granted \$12, 068 to cover the cost of transition activities:
 - Gr. 8 Visits (Take your kids to Work Day)
 - Feeder School tournaments (Cost for our four feeder schools will be covered)
 - Tech Rocks Day
 - STEAM Day
 - Feeder school Mass

Catholic School Council Account Summary & Budget

- Anthony & Andree reviewed the accounting update for Catholic School Council
- Anthony has requested that Catholic School Council cover the cost of a Math computer lab- 26 student computers at a cost of \$8695.35.
 - Motion to cover the bill- Ro Stagg & Andree seconded the motion

Chaplain's Report:

- First school mass today [Tuesday October 2nd, 2018]
- Liturgy will take place for Advent
- Next mass will be the vocational mass- Priests & Nuns will join the mass and then visit classes throughout the afternoon
- MIH [Make it Happen] has over 60 members, but this will likely grow
- First initiative is the "International Foods Day"
- Other Initiatives: Angel Campaign, Pancake Tuesday
- Outreach Goal- Focus on the quiet students with the intent of including them in the life of the school
- Sem. 1 Retreats- Grade 9 students through their homeroom
- Staff Faith Day- Friday October 5th, 2018.

STEAM Update: Rachel & Michael-Paul CEOs of STEAM & Camilla

- 24 staff members on STEAM
- Over 100 student members on STEAM [Grades 9-12]
- Executive & Junior Executive
- Oct. 19 – to host Canadian Martyrs students from the Gifted Program
- November 10th (tentative) host feeder schools to familiarize students with STEAM
- 2018/2019 Project- Community Portable Greenhouse project is being discussed
- Electric Car project on the go- paired with The University of Waterloo
- “Farmbots”- Horticulture project
- Proposal for an “Edu-Design” lab= \$50,000 grant was awarded to ND for STEAM and Project based
- The Honorable Pam Damoff will be meeting with Mr. Cordeiro about the STEAM program
- Social Justice [under the umbrella of STEAM]
 - o Habitat for Humanity fundraiser on November 7th, 2018
 - Students will sign/graffiti construction studs with a donation to Habitat for Humanity
 - o Food Drive- November 2018

Student Council: Travis F. is the parent Liaison

- Goal of SC is to improve spirit, community and inclusion at ND
- Travis’ role on Catholic School Council is to ensure that ND Parent Voice is included in decisions/initiatives
- Melissa Tambasco- Staff Advisor for SC spoke about the interview & election process
 - o Interviews
 - o Campaigns
 - o Elections
- SC members attended an outdoor leadership program with McMaster Altitude
 - o Opportunity for the Council to get to know each other in a series of team building activities

Prefect Program

- o Staff Advisors- Mrs. Barros & Mrs. Sneyd
- o Travis spoke about the program
 - House meetings
 - Embedded within the grade 9 cohort
 - Senior Student led group who work as student leaders who foster/mentor improved relationships between all students- but specifically grade 9 students at ND

Mental Health & Wellness/Friendship bench:

- ND's new Child & Youth Counselor outlined her role at the school
 - Supports classroom teachers around stress management, anxiety, optimism
 - Works with
 - Supports Whole School Initiatives
 - "Yellow is for Hello" Friendship Bench Campaign October 16th @ 8:30 am
 - Two yellow benches will be installed at ND as reminders to engage with peers- One in the Spectrum & One outside
 - Sam Fellow will speak about the background of the campaign and his son's struggles with depression and eventual suicide
 - Parent info. night with Sam Fellow and the school CYC, will take place on October 15th @ 6:30-7:30 pm to discuss the campaign and mental health awareness for teens
 - Culinary classes will help kick-off the campaign by giving out yellow smile cookies to entice students to sit on the bench
 - Anthony spoke about the focus on Mental Health through a number of initiatives

Catholic School Council Positions:

Chair: Andree Craig

Parish Rep: Susan Korol

OAPCE Rep: Sandy McGee- to attend the Council of Chair Meeting & Commissioning @ St. Christopher's on October 17th, 2018.

- Council of Chair dates: October 17th, 2018 @ St. Christopher; February 27th, 2019 @ St. Joan of Arc & May 22nd, 2019 @ St. Scholastic

New to You:

- Andree suggested that the Curriculum Night uniform sale be abandoned for 2019/2020 school year because of poor sales

New Business

- Andree expressed concern over the number of students vaping in the school washrooms. The concern surrounds students' hesitation to use school washrooms because of the persistent number of students who are vaping in the washrooms.
 - Anthony addressed the steps the school is taking to combat the issue and the challenges that the administration faces with monitoring student washrooms.
 - Suspensions have been issued for those caught vaping

Meeting Dates:

- December 11, 2018 meeting has been removed from the proposed 2018/2019 schedule

Trivia Date:

- Friday February 22, 2019 6pm-10pm

Motion to Adjourn:

- Motion to adjourn put forward by Cynthia Obrovac and seconded by Melissa Tambasco