



Catholic School Council

Improving student achievement and school performance.

ND Catholic School Council
Notre Dame Catholic Secondary School
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Catholic School Council Meeting
Tuesday December 14, 2021
6:15 pm - Notre Dame Cafeteria

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Attendance- Stephen, Norman Roberts (Principal) Julie, Christine, Cait, Charmaine, Andria, Cheryl, Marc, Jeannie, JoAnn

Welcome & Opening Prayer - Mr. Roberts

Approval of minutes (November meeting) - Moved by Charmaine and Andria

Approval of Agenda - Cheryl

Principal's Report: (Mr. Roberts)

Provided an overview of issues currently being faced by ND students including global issues (pandemic, climate change, racism, economic inequality etc) and challenges within school setting (students less vested in community, vulnerable students, lack of opportunity for role modeling for grade 9's and 10's). Goals moving forward include helping students understand they are part of something bigger, re-establishing relationships between teachers and students and creating a safe and inclusive community. Many of the school sports are up and running (basketball, hockey, volleyball, swimming etc).

Parent advised many students do not try out for school hockey team due to it's high calibre nature. Many students are missing out on the opportunity to play due to skill requirements to make the team. Mr. Roberts will raise this concern to identify solutions so all levels can still have opportunity to play.

Lots of festive activities planned for last week of school with a different event each day.



ND cares was a very successful campaign this year. Winter Woolies: ND's donations of winter apparel were given to St. Vincent de Paul and outfitted 150 families with coats, scarfs and mitts.

Items Raised:

When will cafeteria reopen? Mr. Roberts advised they are hopeful will reopen in the New Year but no specific date available. Although ND cleared to reopen cafeteria, the company that handles this is experiencing a staffing shortage therefore unable to operationalize at this time.

Suggestion raised to utilize hospitality students to provide lunch once per week.

Graduation venue has been booked for June 28, 2022 for 2022 graduates (grade 12's).

Cheryl wanted to acknowledge the football team's coaches, teachers, volunteers and student coaches for their outstanding efforts and time to make this year's football season happen. This goes for many of the other teams that have come together since September as a result of the extra work from teachers.

EQAO testing update - results will be given in January 2022 indicating whether student was successful, it will not be a detailed report with results.

When are school photos retakes? Scheduled for February. Mr. Roberts will follow up with exact date

PRO Grant Update – (Christine). Council for the 3 schools (ND, Assumption, Corpus Christi) have agreed to move forward with their plan. Still seeking councils' suggestions for speakers. Mental health aspect. Also requesting increase in budget for this event as speakers run approximately \$650 and ND's current budget is \$500. Issue raised that the funds for this event should be used by March 2022 however can this date be extended if unable to hold the seminar by March. Response was yes it can be extended. Request made by the 3 councils to have principals join at the next meeting on January 13, 2022 to assist in determining suitable speakers. Tentative date in February for first seminar- in-person being suggested to achieve highest participation and impact. Committee seeking a few more council volunteers to join this initiative. Please let Christine know if able to volunteer.



Reports from Leads:

Events & Fundraising – Christine - Communication on fund raising (Cobbs and Little Caesars) has gone out. Another will go out this week. Little Caesar's fundraiser ends Dec. 18/21, hasn't been as successful as hoped. Mabel Labels and Cobbs will run for the year.

Communications – Julie -some confusion noted on Facebook regarding last school day before Christmas break. Mr. Roberts advised December 17, 2021 is the last day, will be an instructional day however historically high absence rate that day.

Suggestion to create a list of available resources in the community for students and parents. Agreed and this is inline with the topics for the upcoming speaker series and ensuring the available resources are shared with parents for their awareness.

Parish Update - Mr. Roberts - Father Gregory will be attending school once/month to be part of our school community.

OAPCE: Cait - completed the New2Role. Advised council there are a number of recommended speakers which have been used in the past (and vetted) that may assist in speaker selection for the speaker series.

Community Update: Marc - Discussed inequality financial divide and the significant need within our community. However, there is help and resources available. Tapping into those resources can be difficult to navigate and utilize when in need. School social worker and CYC can assist parents. Knights of Columbus offers help to community. Halton 311 etc.

Suggestion to include a list of these community resources for the minutes – Marc/Jeannie to provide an update of these resources for next month's meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Jeannie - no updates to report at this time.

Chaplan's report – absent

New Business: None



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Mr. Roberts reported that we are currently still on track to resume semester structure for next term but we will know more in the coming weeks.

Motion to close the meeting - Charmaine and Andria

Closing Prayer- Mr. Roberts

Next Meeting: January 18, 2022 @ 6:30 pm