



# 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  
09-20-2022  
6:00pm, ND Library

## SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**Attendance:** In-Person: Mr. Norm Roberts (Principal), Amanda Morrow (VP), Mark Ilcayszyn (VP), Stephen Clarke, Cait Geddes, Nicole Edwards, Marc Clare, Gail Blakeley, Christine Curtis, Cheryl DeLugt, Charmaine Smith, Viktoia, Nikoletta (Student), Erica, Fabi, Sheila, Chirag, Matthew (Student), Tiana (Student)

**Welcome & Opening Prayer:** Mr. Roberts

**Intro and Description of CSC:** Stephen

- Slideshow available
- Stephen to remove "My School Day" from Forms of Communication slide

**ND CSC 2022-2023 Registered Members:**

- 27 Registered members
- 14 Catholic, 13 Non-Catholic
- Unanimously in favor of all registered to be members

**Principal's Report:** Mr. Roberts

- Good start compared to last year. Students are no longer required to wear masks or social distance. Much lower number of student and admin absences
- **Cafeteria**
  - Opening target date is Oct. 1st, 2022
  - Late opening due to lack of employees. Board has sent out letters looking for new hires
  - Ministry has mandated only healthy foods be allowed in cafeteria (no juice, pop etc..)
- **Security Guard**
  - Actively looking to hire someone
- **Police**
  - We have a Liaison Officer assigned to our school through Halton Police to come in when needed
  - As decided by the Board, they are to be called to the school for just 3 matters
    - Emergency response



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- Potential criminal issue
    - VTRA (Violent Threat Risk Assessment)
  - Admin is to call Halton Police Dispatch who then tries to locate our Liaison Officer. If our Officer is not available, another one will be assigned for that one issue
  - Having a police presence at the school may be a trigger for the community
    - Why are there police cars at the school?
    - Is there any emergency?
    - Is the school safe etc..
  - Liaison Officers used to coach sports teams, but this is no longer allowed
- **Uniform**
  - There will be NO mandate that the students are to wear pants for a certain time frame throughout the year
  - Based on parent experience, McCarthy's has done a good job informing new parents that pants are an option and students do not always wear shorts
  - Mr. Robert's has been in touch with McCarthy's regarding adding another pant option to the uniform. Once options are available, they will be brought to the student body for opinions and then to CSC
- **Shoe Policy**
  - Current policy is not equitable
    - All black shoes are not readily available and are not offered at McCarthy
    - They are often sold out especially at peak times
    - There are not a lot of affordable choices
    - They are not always available in all sizes
    - They are not always available for special needs (Orthotics, mobility issues etc..)
  - Slides, flip flops and crocs are not allowed due to safety issues
  - **MOTION: Stephen:** We agree as a council to have the administration discuss with students if they would be open to an alternative policy of only black shoes and what that alternative would look like  
**SECOND: Sheila**  
**PASSED**
- **Washrooms**
  - Last year was a struggle with vandalism, vaping and groupings in washrooms
  - Amanda & Marc (VPs) presented slideshow regarding Student Washroom Feedback Meetings
    - 25 students signed up for the meetings. 15 attended.
    - Students issues with washrooms



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- Congregating
    - Lack of soap
    - Vaping
    - Students eating in the washroom
    - Smell
    - Students scared to use washroom
    - Lack of privacy
  - Student suggestions
    - More Gender neutral washroom due to long line up
    - Use of wellness room or additional spaces for lunch
    - Designated areas for vaping outside of school
  - Admin plans
    - Working on hiring 5 lunch supervisors, 9am-1pm
    - Finding quieter lunch spaces such as wellness room
    - Working with teachers to limit the number of students in the washroom at a time
    - Working with custodians to ensure supplies are replenished
    - Looking to find and rectify the source of odor
- **Civics Days**
  - Admin is not to address what students are wearing based on the current local issues in the Burlington/Waterdown areas
  - Less civics days, more themed days (Orange, Halloween, Pink etc..)
  - More communication and longer lead time for parents needed so they can prepare and purchase themed items
- **STEM**
  - STEAM the club will be up and running
  - STEM academic programming is not offered in our school
- **Expectation Document**
  - Still a work in progress
  - A clear line has been outlined to students: Be on time, be in uniform, be in class. Be engaged in your classroom and extracurriculars
- **QUESTIONS:**
  - What is the difference between a security guard and a Liaison Officer?
    - Security Guard is a constant presence in the school. They are to wander the halls and monitor bathrooms and traffic etc...
    - Liaison Officer is called in per incident



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- Liaison Officers used to coach sports teams and were involved with student extracurriculars
  - This is no longer allowed as per board decision
- Does the Security Guard have the authority to issue tickets (Vaping)
  - No
- If students are not allowed to wear slides, flip flops, sandals or crocs due to safety issues, why are admin allowed?
  - The ministry has not mandated it for staff
  - Possible Union issue
- Some teachers are informing students the MUST wear pants
  - Mr.Roberts to speak with teachers
- Magnetic doors were supposed to be installed in the washrooms?
  - We are on the list with “Facilities”. It has not yet happened just based on priority
- Some washroom doors can lock from the inside
  - This is a major health and safety issue that needs to be addressed immediately
- Can we have by-law come into the school to ticket for vaping?
  - No.
  - If a student is caught vaping, they will be suspended and ordered to watch a module on vaping and addiction
  - Adapt and other Mental Health resources will be available on curriculum night
  - Hopefully, lunch supervisors will fix this situation
- Will we be getting more gender neutral washrooms
  - This would be a major project that would have to be managed by Facilities
- The ministry has mention tutoring will be available as part of the “Getting the students back on track” campaign. What are they referring to?
  - Nothing available yet. More than likely there will be funding available
- What tutoring does the school offer?
  - Peer tutoring for grade 9 & 10
  - Contact the teacher
  - Refer to the Grade 9 handbook for Academic Support Online Resources (pg.23)
- What social media handles do we have?
  - Twitter - @NDhcdsb
  - Instagram - @insideND



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- Facebook parent group is NOT run by the admin

## CSC Positions: Stephen

- Treasurer: Charmaine
- Recorder - Cait
- OAPCE Rep - Cait
- Stephen to email a list of positions with brief description
- Positions to be decided next meeting

## Budget:

- Current account balance: \$20,288

## Future Meeting Dates:

- Tues., Oct. 18, 2022 6:30pm
- Tues., Nov. 15, 2022 6:30pm
- Tues. Dec. 13, 2022 6:30pm
- Tues., Jan. 17, 2023 6:30pm
- Tues., Feb. 21, 2023 6:30pm
- Tues., Mar. 21, 2023 6:30pm
- Tues., Apr. 18, 2023 6:30pm
- Tues., May 16, 2023 6:30pm
- Tues., June 13, 2023 6:30pm

## Bishop Dinner Fundraiser: Marc

- Nov.9th, 2022
- Fundraiser on behalf on Halton Catholic Children's Foundation (<https://www.hccf.ca/>)

**MOTION: Stephen:** CSC to purchase a table at the Bishop Dinner Fundraiser for \$1000 as we have in the past. Tickets to be available to CSC and to the administration

**SECOND: Sheila**

**PASSED**

## New Business:

- **Amanda:** Looking for a parent representative to join PATHWAYS
- Curriculum night
  - Looking for volunteers to join CSC table
  - Cait to run New 2 U Sale

## Student Council Update: Matthew & Tiana



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- POS system needed to allow students to use debit and credit
- Square was the most cost effective
- Mr. Roberts to look into this with finance
- CSC in support of this initiative

**Closing Prayer:** Mr. Roberts

End Time: 8:37pm



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