

# St. Thomas Aquinas CSS Catholic School Council- Agenda

Tuesday, October 4, 2022 6:30-8:00 p.m.



**Location:** Library  
**Chair:** Ciara De Jong  
**Attendees:** Gerry Bergin, Kylie Dillon-Alcasid, Sana Farid, Stephanie Fernandes, Selena McLeod, Maria Mini, Dana Monteleone, Effie Raso, Angela Santos, Jackie Thorn, Kathleen Moro, Marisa Munro, Helen Dennis, Anh Bui  
**Regrets:** Teresa Barbieri, Andrea Carvalho, Amna Haider, Phaedra Renaud, Manju Rose, Natalie Cook  
**Secretary:** Antonia Montanari

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| Welcome                        |   |
| Prayer                         | O HOLY SPIRIT, Source of truth and grace, for those entrusted with the Christian development of children, enlighten our minds, strengthen our wills, and fill our hearts with generosity so that our homes, our parishes, and our schools may cooperate effectively with You, and with one another in the exalted mission of Catholic Education. We make our prayer through Christ, our lord. Amen  |
| Land Acknowledgement           | <a href="#">Honouring the Land and Territory</a>  |
| Action Items                   |   |
| Chair Items                    | <b>Ciara De Jong</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Review of 2021-2022 initiatives</li></ul> <b>Minutes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>No specific initiatives.</li><li>Review of policies as adopted at STA.</li></ul>   |
| Review of Membership and Roles | <b>Chair:</b> Ciara De Jong (Acclaimed)<br><b>Secretary:</b> Antonia Montanari<br><b>Teacher Representative:</b> Natalie Cook (IB French Teacher, IB Guidance Counsellor)<br><b>Non-Teaching Representative:</b> Helen Dennis (Librarian)<br><b>Parish Representative:</b> Dana Monteleone<br><b>Secondary School Student Representative:</b> Anh Bui (Gr. 12 IB DP Student, Student Council President)<br><b>Community Representative:</b> Angela Santos<br><b>CPIC Representative:</b> Gerry Bergin   |
| Principal Report               | <b>Kathleen Moro</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Review of CSC membership and roles</li><li>Review/Creation of Bylaws <a href="#">VI-84-Catholic-School-Councils-and-Catholic-Parent-Involvement-Committee.pdf</a></li><li>The Gift of Giving Back</li><li>iDARE: <a href="#">iDARE</a></li><li>Uniform Policy Student Feedback/Staff Survey/CSC: <a href="#">II-41 School Uniform Dress Code</a></li><li>SGF</li></ul> <b>Minutes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Review of STA Bylaws, which presently do not exist.</li><li>KM suggested sharing of CC bylaws to CSC. Will change CC language to STA language.</li><li>The majority of the committee's membership must be Catholic. The Chair must also be Catholic.</li><li>Gift of Giving Back initiative was discussed. Initiative teaches students the value of giving back.</li><li>STA gyms will be taken over by the organization so that the facility is set up for food collection.</li><li>Great volunteer opportunities for STA students – weighing/sorting/bagging of food, etc.</li><li>Great learning opportunity from a social justice perspective.</li><li>First time event at STA, and possibly at a Catholic school.</li><li>iDare video was viewed.</li><li>Anh Bui shared the similarities between iDARE and the Representation Matters visions.</li><li>Kathleen sees iDARE as a parent engagement group representing the many diverse student groups at STA.</li><li>Kathleen asked if any parents are interested in forming the iDARE committee.</li><li>Kathleen also shared possible events that could stem from iDARE (example, over 100 students going on a field trip to view Woman King).</li><li>Parents would like to see iDARE compliment the student initiative of Representation Matters.</li><li>Sana Farid volunteered to be the CSC rep on the iDARE committee</li><li>Uniform Policy and Dress Code discussion</li><li>Shoe policy – black shoe vs. white shoe vs. any color shoe</li><li>Arguments for all options were presented.</li><li>Staff survey results – 33% all black, 33% black with white, 33% any colour.</li><li>Student council input sought – lively debate and various opinions. Anh Bui stated that majority of students would like to see any colour with no restrictions.</li><li>Parent input – one parent said that it was very difficult to find an all-black shoe that student liked and fit comfortably – shoe had to be shipped from abroad.</li><li>For every pair of black shoes, you can find five black shoes with some white on them.</li><li>Another parent asked for shoes to be kept consistently black.</li><li>Discussion ensued about a “uniform” look and equity issues resulting from specific types of shoe purchases.</li><li>The compromise is to move from all black to any combination of black and white, with a CSC consensus to move forward with an entirely black shoe OR an entirely white shoe, OR a black shoe with white accents.</li></ul> |

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|                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parents also requested a black cotton hoodie as part of the STA uniform, and different pant options for girls. KM to explore these options with uniform provider McCarthys.</li> </ul>  |
| ACHIEVING      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IB Exams &amp; IB SGF – Antonia Montanari</li> <li>OSSLT Update – Marisa Munro</li> <li>After School Literacy</li> </ul> <b>Minutes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New to the IB Exam Session in May 2023, the IB has assigned time zones to each IB school world-wide. Each school in each time zone will be writing exams at the same time. Students will not be allowed to leave the exam room until the conclusion of the exam.</li> <li>IB SGF as at October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 was reviewed with parents. See table below with a reconciled IB SGF.</li> </ul>   |
| BELIEVING      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thanksgiving Day Liturgy – Fr. Con</li> <li>Staff Faith Day</li> <li>Morning Show – Anh Bui</li> </ul>  |
| BELONGING      | <b>Anh Bui – Student Council President</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clubs/Mentorship</li> <li>Orange Shirt Day/Karaoke</li> <li>iDARE/Representation Matters</li> <li>Yearbook distribution, SPC cards, Gr 9 Rep Election</li> <li>Islam Guest Speaker (Islamic Heritage Month)</li> <li>Fall Fair BBQ – tentative date Oct. 27</li> <li>Proposed Upcoming Events: school dance, haunted house, movie night, school survey</li> </ul> <b>Minutes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anh reviewed the diversity included in the Morning Show.</li> <li>Clubs/Mentorship events for student engagement.</li> <li>Grade 9 All-Colour Shirt Day Event with mentors on Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>Orange Shirt Day took place on September 30<sup>th</sup></li> <li>Karaoke Fridays (Every other Fridays) in the cafeteria. Each Friday has a theme.</li> <li>Yearbook distribution has already taken place during lunch hours.</li> <li>SPC Cards – students have access to 400+ discounts. Cards expire at the end of the school year.</li> <li>Fall Fair BBQ for all students to take place on October 27<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>School dance to take place on October 27<sup>th</sup> provided enough staff supervisors have been confirmed. Parent supervisors are also welcome.</li> <li>The idea of a movie night was well received by parents.</li> </ul> |
| Other Business |  |
| Next Meetings  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Tuesday, November 1, 2022</li> <li>✓ Tuesday, January 31, 2023</li> <li>✓ Tuesday, April 4, 2023</li> <li>✓ Tuesday, June 6, 2023</li> </ul>  |

IB SGF

| Expenses Requiring Disbursement                    | Date to be Disbursed | SGF Balance        |
|--|----------------------|--------------------|
| SGF October 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2022 Opening Balance |                      | \$129,241.48       |
| Turnitin   | October 2022         | (9,450.00)         |
| IBSO Fee   | October 2022         | (500.00)           |
| Exam Registrations – Grade 12’s                    | November 2022        | (33,500.00)        |
| Exam Registrations – Grade 11’s                    | November 2022        | (10,300.00)        |
| Common Compass Workshops                           | November 2022        | (2,800.00)         |
| TOK IB Staff Workshops                             | November 2022        | (2,800.00)         |
| IB Staff Training                                  | January 2023         | (11,400.00)        |
| SGF Closing Balance                                |                      | <u>\$58,491.48</u> |