

St. Thomas Aquinas CSS Catholic School Council- Agenda

Tuesday, April 18, 2023 6:30-8:00 p.m.



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

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	Honouring the Land and Territory
Agenda	
Motion to accept the minutes from last meeting and agenda for today	Ciara De Jong – Chair <ul style="list-style-type: none">Motion to approve the agenda made. No quorum to pass.Minutes of the last meeting will be approved at the next meeting once committee members have had a chance to review the minutes and there is quorum.
Administrative Report	Kathleen Moro <ul style="list-style-type: none">Staffing Update—the staffing report received is based on number of students enrolled and course requests. HCDSB continues to be in declining enrolment. Formula adjustment due to E-learning courses (30:1 ratio). STA has had to cancel several course sections. As a result, 4.83 teachers will be surplus based on the first staffing report.Principal’s report (see below)
Teacher Rep Report	Natalie Cook <ul style="list-style-type: none">Included in Principal’s report as “Achieving” (see below) Antonia Montanari <ul style="list-style-type: none">Included in Principal’s report as “Believing” (see below)
Student Rep Report	Modupe Agbi <ul style="list-style-type: none">Included in Principal’s report as “Belonging” (see below) Anh Bui Tia Naim <ul style="list-style-type: none">Included in Principal’s report as “Belonging” (see below)
OAPCE Rep Report	Effie Raso <ul style="list-style-type: none">Representative not in attendance at the meeting – no report provided.
Parish Rep Report	Dana Monteleone <ul style="list-style-type: none">St. Andrew’s has nothing to report at this time.St. James has a Youth Group beginning on June 2nd at 6 pm. Looking for a commitment of 1 to 2 hours per month. Parish picnic will take place in August or September 2023.St. Dominic is focusing on First Communion and Confirmation. No volunteer opportunities at this time.
Community Rep Report	Angela Santos <ul style="list-style-type: none">Nothing to report at this time.
CPIC Rep Report	Gerry Bergin <ul style="list-style-type: none">CPIC Update report – Nominations for four positions for the upcoming year. Oakville and at large positions have been acclaimed. Burlington and North Halton will be voting. Parent volunteer of the year award. The recipients will be announced at the next Council of Chairs Meeting in May.
Committee Reports	Bylaw Committee – Gerry Bergin & Selena McLeod <ul style="list-style-type: none">Overview of Bylaw updates—Quorum was not achieved at this meeting. The Chair will follow-up with members regarding attendance to ensure that at our last meeting in June we will have quorum to be able to vote on the bylaws. If we do not have quorum at the June meeting we will wait until September to pass the bylaws. It was suggested that the June meeting be a hybrid meeting so that people that are unable to participate in person will be able to do so via Teams.Vote by Council Required (2/3 majority needed to pass) Prom Pop Up Shop Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none">Donations have been collected. There is a good assortment of items. Student appointments booked for Thursday, April 20th after school.
Discussion and Action Items	
Other Business	IB Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">Internal Assessment and Predicted Grades uploads are due on April 20th, 2023.The May 2023 IB Exam Session begins April 28th and ends May 18th.IB Exam results released July 5th, 2023.
Next Meetings	✓ Tuesday, June 6, 2023

ACHIEVING Natalie Cook	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ESL “Graduation” occurs at the end of each semester. Followed by a field trip to a Marlies game.• Waterloo Computing Competition• IB TOK Training• Ontario Ethics Bowl Debate at UTM—STA team made it to the semi-finals.• OSSLT—written at the end of March. Results to be released in June 2023.• French classes to “Tradition de France” experiential trip• Italian IB students had an experiential trip to Chin Radio in Toronto, followed by an authentic lunch at the Oakville Italian Club.• Thirty-fifth Annual Student Awards of Excellence: IB Student Johann Redondo• Waterloo Math Contest• Senior Halton Catholic Mock Trial Competition Champions—STA placed 1st and is off to regionals.• Robotics Club Tournament Winners
BELIEVING Antonia Montanari	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ash Wednesday Prayer Service—Wednesday, February 22nd, 2023 celebrated by Monsignor O’Mahony of St. Andrew’s Parish.• ThinkFast D&P – Thursday, March 9th from 3 to 6 pm and during lunch periods on Friday, March 10th.• St. Vincent de Paul Toiletry Drive—for the St. Dominic and St. James parishes. Collections took place from March 20th to March 31st.• Sacrament of Reconciliation—took place on March 21st where local clergy were in the school Chapel from 11 am to 1 pm to listen to confessions for any interested students and staff.• Stations of the Cross—led by our Chaplaincy leader for grade 9 classes throughout Lent for all of the grade 9 classes.• Rosary—every grade 11 class gathered in the Chapel during Lent to pray the Rosary focusing on the Sorrowful mysteries.• Interfaith Prayer Space—Room 102 designated for students of Islamic faith for prayer during the month of Ramadan.• Lenten Masses by grade—celebrated on March 30th by Fr. Ranjan D’Sa, Fr. Joseph, and Fr. Adam Zettle.• Global Aid: Chalice—supports Starhe Girls School in Kenya. Global Aid has raised \$1,000 in the current academic year for the Starhe Girls School.
BELONGING Modupe Agbi	BSU/BHM (Black History Month) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Harmony Movement Presentation—Justine Hicks gave a presentation on allyship and discrimination—a basic understanding on how discrimination.• Kathy Grant gave a presentation for BHM on the history of Canadian black veterans.• Ms. Carnegie & Ms. Whittingham are staff advisors with support from iDARE parent committee.• Kojo Dampthey gave a presentation on African Diaspora• BSU Purpose and Vision with Kojo Dampthey who is helping with the formation of the union’s vision and mission statement.
BELONGING Student Council Rep Tia Naim SC VP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spirit of Inclusion Award recipient: Clara Bergs• Valentine’s Day Kiss Grams – students sent Hersey Kisses to friends and staff.• Equity and Inclusivity PA Day for Staff – educating staff on social location and how staff can have conversations about racism without feeling uncomfortable.• GHAC Swim Meet at McMaster• World Down Syndrome Day – Rock Your Socks• WWF Sweater Day• Elementary Coed Futsol—another opportunity to bring elementary schools to STA.• Chief Imrun visits LifeSkills class• Sports Leadership: 3 part Intramurals—occur during the lunch periods.• Legally Blonde Jr.—will run May 4th to 6th.• Sam Demma “Empty Your Backpack”—presentation on mental health was well received by students and parents that attended.• Board Game Week (and an extension in May to support mental health)—April 17th to April 23rd.• Video Game Week—April 25th to April 28th.• strengthening school communication with Raider Roundtable—one representative from each club will come together at the roundtable to inform one another on all activities that are going on at STA. This is an opportunity for clubs to form synergies.• HCDSB Student Council Report—a representative from each SC at all of our secondary schools met at the HCDSB CEC to share best practices and to compile a document that itemizes the ideal procedures to run a SC.• Rock on Lakeshore – May 25th.