

Mission: Disciples of Christ, nurturing mind, body, and soul to the fullness of life. Vision: Changing the world through Catholic education

## MEETING MINUTES

St. Francis of Assisi CES Catholic School Council Meeting

Date: Wednesday March 26th, 2025

Time: 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Location: St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School Library, 2849 Thorn Lodge Dr., Mississauga, ON L5K 1LK5

Committee Members in Attendance:

Ms. Comisso - Principal

Mrs. Cameron - Vice Principal

Ms. Savoia- SERT/ELL – Teacher Rep

Niamh Ryan – co-chair

Jenna Shugg – co-chair

Catherine Keogh – parent member

Melissa DiMauro - treasurer

Michelle Baker – OAPCE rep

Katherine Irvine – parent member

Marianne Krzal – fundraising co-coordinator

Amy Duke- fundraising co-coordinator

Lydia Gustin- parent member

Vita Emmanuel—parent member

Oswald Emmanuel- parent member

Viviane Bonfim – parent member

Rhea Scerri- parent member

Regrets: *David Irvine- parent member*

*Amanda Higgins- parent member*

Other Attendees:

Ashley Hicks – other (parent), online

Tanekia Tsolely – other (parent)

*Ms. Agathos*

*Mrs. Morgielewicz*

*Mrs. Siemons*

### **A. Routine Matters**

1. Call to Order and Attendance

2. Opening Prayer – Catherine Keogh

3. Land Acknowledgement – Mrs. Cameron

4. Approval of Agenda

Motion brought forward by Niamh, seconded by Melissa. Motion carried.

5. Approval of Catholic School Council Minutes (October 16th, 2024) as amended, motion brought forward by Niamh, seconded by Catherine K. Motion carried.

B. Trustee Update – No updated provided

### **C. Standing Items**

1. Chair/ Treasurer/ Fundraising Report

- A request for \$200 (maximum) for spring dance brought forward, seconded by Amy Duke. Motion carried.

- An arts and craft club for primary grades has been started by the school. A request was made for CSC to support this for \$300. Motion brought forward by Niamh, seconded by Michelle Baker. Motion carried.

- A request for a speaker rental for the talent show made. Needed for dress rehearsal and performance day. A request of \$500 made. Motion brought forward by Niamh, seconded by Vita Emmanuel. Motion carried.

- Sacrament ice cream for grade 2 and 7 proposed for June 20<sup>th</sup> after first recess. Budget approved previously. Rhea and Jennifer to help organize. Receipts to be sent to Melissa. \$200 maximum.

- \$1000 allocated for volleyball court maintenance. Volunteers to be recruited online by Catherine. Date TBD.

### **TREASURES REPORT**

Fundraising initiatives have included: Halloween Dance, Photoshoot at Christmas, Chocolate Fundraiser, Poinsettia sale, Mabel's Label's and Woodward Meats.

Total Raised to date \$23 300.36 after expenses.

Expenses have included: YFA T-shirts, two pizza invoices that were left over from last year, two teacher cheques left over from last year, bank service fees, Halloween dance-a-thon, photo shoot, money for staff, fruit baskets, bulletin board, Pancake Tuesday.

CSC has committed approximately \$11 000 for the rest of the year (see below). Any money left over is approximately \$12 000 to be spent this school year.

Approval for \$5000 tech, \$ 1750 athletic fees and jerseys, \$1250 agendas, \$1000 volleyball court, \$4000 for dance classes for the school, \$5500 for teachers' classroom items, \$3000 for the grade 8 grad/trip, \$200 for ice cream, \$700 for Pancake Tuesday, \$200 for bulletin boards, \$480 for fresh fruit

CSC is no longer paying \$2000 for transportation or \$3000 for scientists in the school.  
*Please see budget report for further information.*

### **Fundraising Update:**

Upcoming fundraisers: Krispy Kreme and Big Box Cards

Big Box of Cards is April 7-25. People get a sample card, and they can order a box. The school receives a portion. Boxes can be ordered online through school cash online. It will be sent home with students.

Krispy Kreme drive thru at SFA is set for Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. Cost is \$8 dollars per dozen. We are selling for \$15.00 for the dozen. Some concern about it being an American company brought forward. Donuts are made in Canada. Final numbers are due May 8, 2025. Jenna to let Tracey know when to post it.

### Ongoing passive fundraising initiatives:

Big Yellow Bag: \$40 dollar made in last school year and is ongoing this spring.

Domino's Pizza update pending response from staff

Woodward Meats continues to raise funds through % of sales.

Mabel's Label's is an ongoing fundraiser through % of sales made.

## **2. Principal Report**

Parents requested an opportunity for junior students to have opportunity to use the volleyball courts during recess. Admin to look at possibility of rotating between junior and intermediate divisions to have access. Some primary students are using the volleyball court as a sandbox and would like to bury sticks and rocks. Nets are too high for primary students.

Mass for Ash Wednesday was a beautiful celebration. The Choir did a beautiful job and a big thanks to teachers and staff who helped organize the liturgy mass.

Rosary Apostolate continues to be a success with many students. SFA thanks the volunteers who come in to do this.

Snacks have been very popular and enjoyed by the students.

On April 1<sup>st</sup> intermediate students on the wellness team are attending a conference accompanied by Ms. Lence.

ShareLife and Spirit Week's have been raising funds for Share Life. Totals raised are being shared with students in the hallways.

May 2<sup>nd</sup>'s Spring Fling is to raise money for ShareLife.

During Holy Week April 14-18<sup>th</sup> the school will not have any after school meetings or activities as part of the board wide mandate. April 17<sup>th</sup> SFA will be hosting Stations of the Cross by the grade 8 students in the gym. The school will be receiving a pretzel. Youth Faith Ambassadors will be engaging in some activities to educate about the significance of the pretzel in the Easter Season.

June 6<sup>th</sup> is the Year End Mass at 10:15am.

Work Orders have been put in to help remediate the field and walkways due to flooding, snow and ice buildup. The board has been out to look at this situation and a request has been made to help fix the issue. Parents are thanked for their advocacy, support and patience.

Chess club is going well

Craft club has been well utilized. 66 students have signed up for this club (grade 1-3). This is in response to a request to include primary aged students. Thank you to the parent volunteers and teacher supervisors.

Tournaments for sports teams are upcoming this spring.

May 22<sup>nd</sup> is the Journey into Learning. Incoming students often get a bag of goodies. A request from CSC to provide an amount of financial support. A call to have a CSC table that night was also made so that they can meet. Request made for \$300 (split with school)  
*Motion brought forward by Niamh, seconded by Vita Emmanuel, motion carried.*

The Dance company are coming to teach students. May 23<sup>rd</sup> will be the performance for parents during the day.

May 26 Intermediate Softball tournament

May 26-30<sup>th</sup> Rock wall climbing being offered for students by a board vetted vendor. This has been funded through a donation the school received earmarked for athletics. More information for parents is to come.

June 2-6 Jr. Soccer tournament

Grade 8 trip is in the process of being planned. Grade 8's are considering a fundraising event to help curtail the cost of the trip. Lots of conversation at the board level about how to keep costs of graduation as low as possible.

Easter Photos are being offered by the same photography company that did classroom pictures. It costs \$10.00.

***Please see the weekly Sizzler for more up to date and ongoing information.***

The Ministry of Education has mandated a Reading Screening in FDK - Grade 2. This is to inform programming but does not impact assessment/grades. This was used to help identify what students are not meeting benchmarks for supports can be put in place. The first screener took place in November. Those that were below or well below benchmark were rescreened on March 25, 2025. Results are pending.

Science of Reading is being used with students.

SFA is experiencing enrolment decline. It is projected that it will reduce by about 30 students.

Math: SFA's EQAO scores in grades 3 and 6 were below the board average. This provides the school with access of a Math Coach to support grade 3 and 6 classes. This coach works directly with teachers and students in the classrooms. She comes approximately 4 days per month. She also did a lunch and learn for staff to go over resources, strategies and tools to support learners.

EQAO is happening in the spring. This important assessment occurs for students across Ontario in grade 3 and 6. It is happening May 7- June 11<sup>th</sup>. Attendance and participation are important and strongly recommended. More information will go home to families through School Messenger. This is for reading, writing and math. Accommodations are offered for students that requires them.

Placement Requests from parents regarding a certain teaching style must be in writing to the Assisi Info email box and not directly to teachers. Please refrain from requesting specific teachers as placements can change up until September.

Immunizations: Ontario Schools is partnered with Public Health. The enforcement of Immunizations of school pupils Act. This is not a school-based decision. This is mandated by the Ministry of Education. The date of suspension is April 15<sup>th</sup>. An email was sent out to families to communicate with Public Health about immunizations.

There is a \$1000 grant for a Parent Engagement Event. Administration to look at the list of external approved presenters and see if anyone is available during Catholic Education Week.

School By-laws have been updated. The number of council members has been updated to 16 which means there will be 16 parent spots available for the next council to fill to be voted in. Vote required to be approved. All in favour, no opposed. Motion carried.

Teacher Update: Some of the items teachers have purchased with their wish list money is chubby markers, drums, floating shelves and trolley for books to go from class to class, ELL games, clip boards, jumbo playing cards, timers, dice, rocks and minerals test kit.

The talent show is a Spring Sugar theme. A request is made for organic lollipops for all the students. A request made for \$150. *Motion brought forward Niamh, seconded by Marianne. Motion carried.*

A choir celebration is being planned to recognize students who were leaders, had good attendance, took initiative, gave suggestions. A request made for \$150 *Motion brought forward Niamh, seconded by Michelle. Motion carried.*

### **3. Parish Report D. Information/ Updates**

- Thursday April 3, 7-9 all families are invited to attend a free Lenten Retreat at the Parish.
- Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup> we will be celebrating Fr. Damian's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Priesthood. More details to come.
- The Holy Week schedule will be posted by Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025
- We are looking for students from grade 7 and up to read the stations of the cross on Good Friday at 7pm

1. Central Committee for Catholic School Councils (CCCSC) Report – No updated provided

2. Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE) Report

February OAPCE meeting was for all to attend. Dr. Josephine Lombardy provided an excellent presentation. She spoke about pilgrims of hope, the jubilee year, virtue of hope, St. Paul's teachings of faith, hope and charity, the meaning of sin and other topics.

OAPCE conference is taking place on the week of May 24<sup>th</sup>. The spring is over \$600 with cost of hotel. Discussion took place about concerns with equity due to cost of hotel being prohibitive for some that may wish to participate.

#### E. Action Items

1. Review and approval of bylaws- All in favour. Motion carried. Document to be uploaded.

#### F. Future Meetings

Thursday April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 \*\*This meeting will be done Virtually which includes the budget consultation meeting. Administration to send out link for this meeting via email. \*\*

Thursday May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 6pm in the SFA Library

G. Adjournment: Motion brought forward by Niamh and seconded by Jennifer Nunes.  
Motion carried.