

**Regiopolis-Notre Dame Catholic High School**  
**School Council Meeting**  
**MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, Sept 26, 2017**  
**6:30 p.m. – RND Library**

**Attendees:** Terri Daniel (Principal), Nic Woolley (Vice Principal), Tawnya Stringer, Danielle Hogan, Lesley Kendall, Jennifer Barrie, Karen Hunt, Chantel Lavoie, Karen Arnold, Denise Sammon, Alain Carrier, Lillie Shillington, Bryndis Swan, Colleen Krasna, Judy Forte (CUPE Rep), Lorraine Kennedy (Teacher Rep), Nicole Szumlanski, Betsy Donald, Calista Dixon (Head Girl) and Ethan Finnegan (Head Boy)

**Regrets:** Sherry Lachine, Dan Deptuck, Joanne Bilodeau

1. **Prayer:** Intentions were offered for all our students, victims of the recent hurricane in the US, a student recently diagnosed with leukemia, and a family member  
Prayer for the New School Year  
Beginning today Lord, let us resolve: To experience life at its fullest even when it brings agony rather than ecstasy, the cross, rather than the resurrection. To say yes to each moment by being fully present to what we are about. To cast aside those concerns for tomorrow which rob us of today's joys. To acknowledge our gifts and use them for your greater glory. To be gentle with ourselves as we discover our imperfections. To be equally gentle with our colleagues, neighbours, friends and families as we become aware of their weaknesses. To consider our relationship with you important enough to spend some time each day resting in the awareness of your presence. May we know your peace in our lives. We pray in Jesus` name. Amen  
  
(Author unknown)  
<http://www.ottawacspa.ca/cspa/images/prayers/Prayer%20for%20the%20New%20School%20Year.pdf>
2. **Welcome & Introductions:** there were many new faces at our meeting and we all introduced ourselves
3. **Business Arising:**
  - a. Election of Executive for 2017-18  
Bryndis nominated Alain, who agreed to allow his name to stand, all were in favour of electing him to the position of chair.  
Tawnya offered to let her name stand for vice Chair, all were in favour.  
Nicole offered to let her name stand for Secretary and all were in favour.  
Following nominations from the floor and voting, the following are the RND School Council Executive:

Chair- Alain Carrier  
Vice Chair- Tawnya Stringer  
Secretary- Nicole Szumlanski

4. **Minutes from the last meeting:** It was moved by Bryndis and seconded by Lillie that the minutes from the May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017 meeting be adopted as presented. All were in favour
5. **New Business:**
  - Student Generated Funds Report: Ms. Daniel distributed the report with the group
  - Student Council Report: Head Boy, Ethan Finnegan and Head Girl, Calista Dixon reported:
    - The Head Start program was a great success, welcoming grade nine students
    - Grade nine day was recently held with stations and games, a fun, not too messy time, was had by all
    - Thursday 28 September, in football, RND will face KCVI at Richardson Field
    - Friday Night Lights will take place on October 6<sup>th</sup>, with Regi facing off against Holy Cross. The cost will be \$5.00 for each game at Richardson Field. The use of the Queens Facility allows for more security as we will have the Queen's University Security on site.
    - Spirit Wear will once again be sold during the lunch hour on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the commons. New stock is expected by Christmas. Spirit wear will also be sold on the evenings of the parent teacher interviews.
    - October 20<sup>th</sup> there will be a pep rally here at the school
    - October 23<sup>rd</sup>, teams of students will participate in The Inside Ride, a relay event which raises money for local children's cancer charities. Each participant is required to raise a minimum of \$50.
  - Setting dates for council meetings for 2017/18
    - Dates for the 2017/18 School council meetings are as follows:  
October 24, November 28<sup>th</sup>, February 13<sup>th</sup>, April 10<sup>th</sup>, and May 15<sup>th</sup>

Meetings will take place in the Library at 6:30 pm

  - Pastoral Care Team Report: nothing to report currently
  - Teacher's Report: Mrs. Kennedy reported on behalf of student services that:
    - There are now two guidance counsellors, herself and Ms. Glancey Cox
    - There is a new guidance page than can be found on the school's website by accessing D2L and entering the Virtual Commons, students have been instructed to use this platform for booking guidance appointments. Each grade has been provided with instructions and support as the new system has been implemented.

- Student services have devices available for students to use at school, in the event they do not have their own device.
  - Mrs. Kennedy also asked us to consider ways we might be able to support families of students who are new to Canada and who may benefit from having support from our council to help them navigate some of the ways we do things in our schools in Canada. Some discussion ensued, and we are going to reach out to some local agencies and see if they have some suggestions.
- Principal's Report: See Attached #1  
In addition to her report, Ms. Daniel also shared information on the upcoming parent teacher interviews and progress report. The October newsletter will have information for how to book your interview appointments.

**Business from the Floor:**

- a) As requested by Dan Deptuck, whose son has had his bike first vandalized, then, months later, stolen, while secured to the bike rack at school, we discussed security and vandalism on school premises. Ms. Daniel and Mr. Woolley, both shared stories of recent thefts and property damage to vehicles and made it known to council that security is an ongoing concern at the school, but one which they are responding to as an administration. Some discussion regarding upgrading security cameras and possibly petitioning the school board for more support.
- b) We are still waiting for confirmation on the status of our Parents Reaching Out grant. We are hoping to receive the grant and host a viewing of "Screenagers" mid-November. More to follow. **ACTION: Lillie Shillington, Tawnya Stringer, Nicole Szumlanski and Sherry Lachine to meet to discuss planning the evening once funding has been secured.**
- c) Discussion regarding school policy on electronics took place with Ms. Daniel explaining that individual teachers set the expectations for their classes and that students generally have been adhering to the rules. Just as in life, different situations, have different expectations, as do their teachers.
- d) A request for money to produce a school council floor banner and business cards was asked by Nicole Szumlanski. Nicole is willing to work with the company that Lorraine has designed banners with before in the past. A discussion occurred, and the council decided that \$400.00 could be spent on the design of a banner and business cards.  
**ACTION: Nicole to connect with Lorraine and design a banner and business cards and have them ready to use at the parent teacher interview nights in October.**

6. **Correspondence:**

Two memos were received from Superintendent of School Effectiveness, Karen Shannon. One details the budget transfer of \$500 we receive each year and asks that, while no tracking of related expenditures is required, we share our ideas on how we support parental involvement with other Catholic School councils.

The second memo is a request for an updated list of Catholic School Council Executive once our elections take place. In the memo, also, is information regarding the upcoming Ontario Association of Parents for Catholic Education conference to be held October 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> in Vaughn, ON.

6. **Adjournment:** It was moved by Lillie and seconded by Nicole that the meeting be adjourned at 8:45

**Next meeting date: October 24<sup>th</sup> 6:30 in the school library**

ATTACHMENT #1

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT SEPTEMBER 2017**

Our school year has begun with a current enrolment of 1,020 students, a slight decrease from last year.

220 Grade Nine students  
260 Grade Ten students  
250 Grade Eleven students  
290 Grade Twelve and Beyond students

Our decrease is largely due to smaller intermediate class composites in our partner schools (Grade Nine) with an increase of students new to Kingston as well as a small growth in students selecting French Immersion/Extended programming.

Students' Council – with moderator Rob McDonald-- is already during many activities. Grade Nine Orientation was a beautiful afternoon, filled with colour and games. We returned to the Cathedral for school Mass last Wednesday. 1000 teenagers in Church is a beautiful thing. Again, for the third year in a row, the weather was beautiful. Fr. Hughes was welcoming, homilist Deacon Barclay is a retired teacher from RND, and our choir accompanied the organist with aplomb.

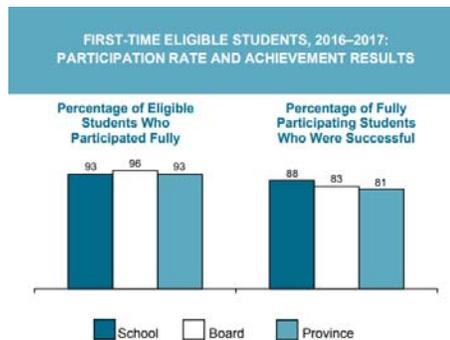
Our Pastoral Theme this year – Do Not Be Afraid – is a reminder that God stands with us in our most trying times. As a school community, we commit to hope and faith amidst the turmoil of this world. On October 4<sup>h</sup>, Andy Thibodaux will speak with our students and staff about “Share Your Care”, a tangible translation of our pastoral theme. See his work at <http://www.andypresentations.com/>.

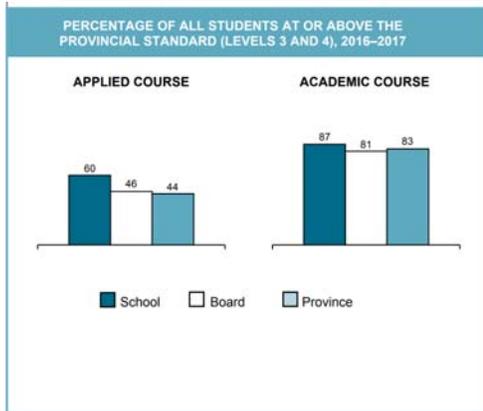
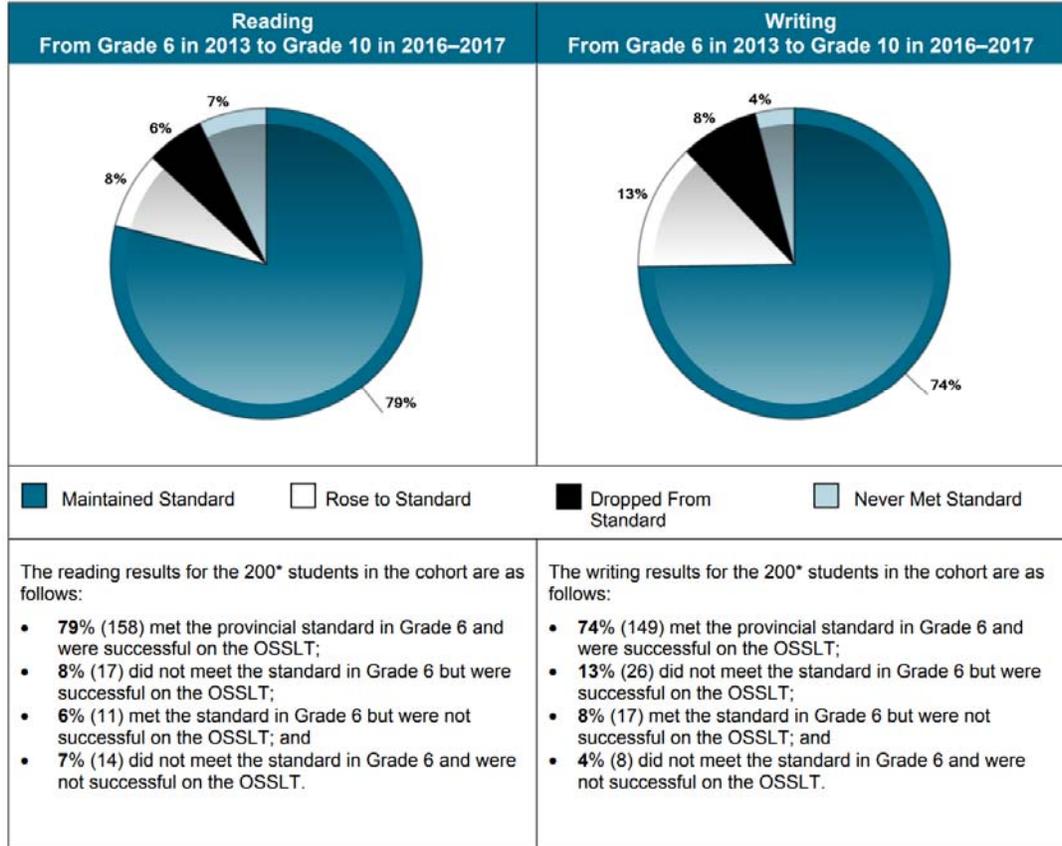
Both staff and students have a new landing page and the RND website has a new look, consistent with the rest of ALCDSB. Students log in to a Virtual Learning Commons, where they can see school announcements and have links to their classes and various educational apps. All students now have an Office 365 account and can download the full version of Office programs on their personal devices as well.

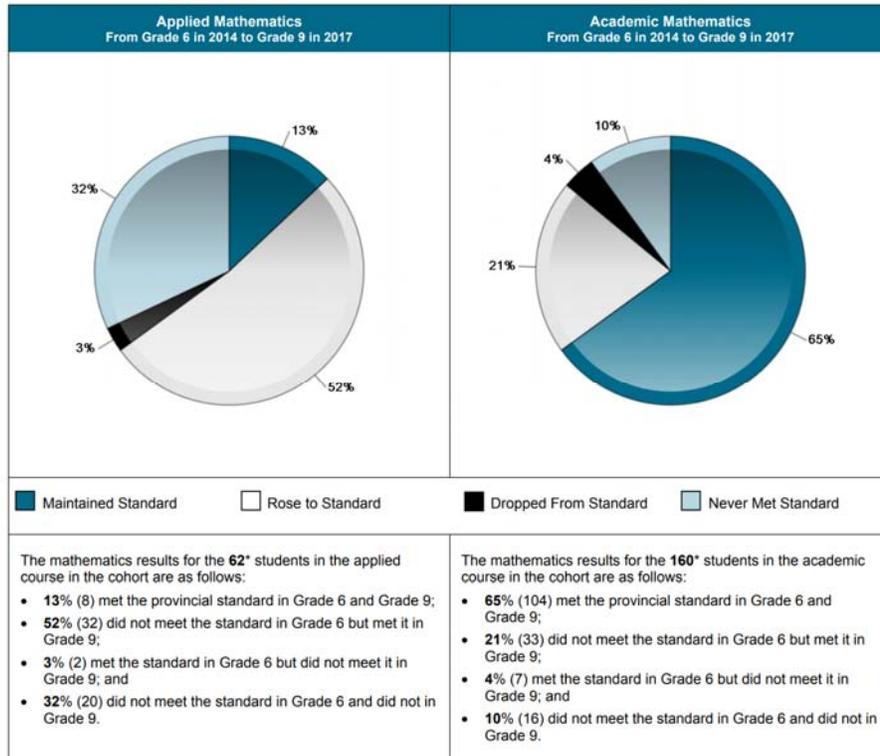
School Cash Online was offered to parents (along with traditional payment methods) for school activity fees, sports teams and extracurriculars. Although there were some glitches at start-up, it seems to be running smoothly now, thanks to Judy Forte and Debbie Ell in the Main Office. We are interested in parent feedback; so please let us know if you have suggestions or concerns.

Sports are underway – volleyball, basketball, football, field hockey and cross country come to mind, along with an Ultimate Tournament. We have two significant football games at Richardson Stadium: this Thursday we help KCVI to mark its 225th anniversary and then on Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup> we are back at Richardson to contest the Catholic Cup Games against Holy Cross. Come join us for these significant events.

We were pleased with our school's Literacy Test and EQAO math results. See below. Notwithstanding these positive results, our teachers have already begun seeking means of improving student learning.







Our Parent Information Night for college and university applications was well-attended. We have many other initiatives coming up – including early progress reports on October 13<sup>th</sup>, followed by parent-teacher interviews on October 19<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. I encourage you to visit our website frequently and to refer to the newsletter. Both have good information for you as parents to stay in the loop about your sons and daughters’ life at high school.

Terri Daniel