

Catholic School Council

Minutes for meeting 27 November 2018

Present: Lisa Gorrell, Pat Rampp, Lori Giacomuzzo, 4 parents

Sign in sheet was circulated

Call to order at 1800 hours

Welcome from Chair Lori Giacomuzzo and Principal Lisa Gorrell

Opening Prayer

Principal's update

1. In support of student spirituality each grade participates in a retreat day. Both grade 3 and 10 retreats have been held already this year. Both were held off site at a parish in Stirling. Great success for students with guest speakers and music ministry, day also included home cooked lunch by the CWL. Grade 11 world religion curriculum includes trips to variety of places of worship including a Synagogue, Cathedral and Mosque. Grade 12 retreat is held in spring each year.
2. Christmas sharing will take place again this year. Homerooms have now been assigned a family to provide for. A basketball "buyout" held earlier in the fall raised \$300 which will be used to purchase the turkeys and other perishable foods for Christmas sharing. Students encouraged to participate with donations in homeroom starting next week.
3. Many NCC sports teams have done exceptionally well and participated in both COSSA and OFSSA.
4. Many winter sports are beginning team try outs now and starting their season soon. Curling was a record 40 students interested!
5. PD day this week for staff will be a focus on math teaching. Mrs. Gorrell introduced the ministry's new publication "Focusing on Fundamentals of Math" both the teacher's guide and the parents' guide. http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/teachers/teacher_guide_math_en.pdf
6. School Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well-Being (SIPSAW) introduced and briefly discussed by all.
7. Renewing the Promise – A pastoral Letter for Catholic Education introduced. <http://acbo.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Renewing-The-Promise-A-Pastoral-Letter-1.pdf>
8. Student council dance for this Thursday evening has been cancelled due to lack of ticket sales

Everyone involved in a discussion related to returning to the fundamentals of math learning for students as well as the current curriculum in both Math and English.

NCC's D2L platform and its use by teachers and students discussed.

Chair introduced the "For the Parents" <https://www.ontario.ca/page/for-the-parents> initiative currently with the Ministry of Education which invites all stakeholders in education within Ontario to participate in discussions, surveys, information sharing and providing feedback and ideas related to education in Ontario. Everyone encouraged to go to the Ministry of Education's on line platform and participate if they want to have a voice in shaping education going forward.

Ministry of Education will be drafting a Parents Bill of Rights.

Chair provided an update on Catholic School Council Association (CSCA) including what this committee does, who attends meetings and recent discussions. CSCA meeting in February to feature focused learning conversation with an expert. Possible topics include diversity and inclusion, additions to technology, and mental wellness. Chair will continue to provide ongoing updates to NCC Catholic council on information discussed at future CSCA meetings.

Recent CSCA meeting discussed Catholic School Committee Constitutions. Many committees (NCC included) do not have constitutions and follow the guidelines set out by the School Board relating to administering committees. School Board does have templates and sample Constitutions available for Committees. Chair express desire to draft a Constitution based on School Board provided template for the Nicholson Catholic School Committee going forward.

Chair agreed to provide agenda prior to next meeting to all via email ensuring undisclosed recipients.

Closing prayer

Adjournment 1950 hours

Next meeting Tuesday 26 February 2019