

MINUTES

CSC Meeting St. Theresa's Secondary School

May 7th, 2019 | Meeting called to order by Carey Smith Dewey

In Attendance

Carey Smith-Dewey, Graham Stuart, Tracy Munz-Paisley, Kelly McGuire-Smith, Stephanie Foeller, Allie Barrett

Prayer

C. Smith Dewey - Prayer and special intentions

Presentation Debrief

Group debrief regarding the Human trafficking presentations at St. Theresa's, for parents and students

Admin Update

C. Smith-Dewey – Director Visit

David DeSantis - new Director of Education for the ALCDSB has made three visits to St. Theresa's CSS: 1 for a hockey game, 1 for an extensive discussion regarding curriculum and a last and most recent trip to visit classrooms. All three visits deemed very successful.

Several discussions are taking place regarding September changes to staffing model, class sizes and course availability. Mrs. Dewey assured the committee they are doing everything they can to be proactive in effectively planning for the coming changes and that CSC will be kept informed as changes are made. Changes will result in less flexibility for students to pick/change electives throughout the year. Lastly, Mrs. Dewey indicated that changes are being managed well with thanks to the excellent department heads that are constantly offering ideas, supporting students and sharing resources.

Teacher Updates

Allie Barratt

- Relay for Life is May 24th and there are over 50 teams registered. Each team has displayed a fundraising thermometer in the hallways to monitor progress.
- California trip is next week – wishing all students and chaperones safe travels
- DELF testing (French proficiency), done in small groups, has been taking place and ends soon
- Art Olympics – all feeder elementary schools in attendance – was a great success
- Teachers are using a common shared drive to share what they are doing in their classrooms and it has been met with great enthusiasm – teachers are using and building on, each other's' work to enhance the learning in their own and each other's classrooms

- There was a student helmet design challenge related to brain injury management – students took the initiative to recruit fire and police officers (already present for emergency response drills) to help them with their experiment. Very engaging for both emergency response workers and students.
- Street Retreat happened in Toronto again this year and met with success
- An English class(es) went to the Frink Centre to be inspired and students were challenged to write poetry – very successful with real examples of a couple of previously disengaged students producing great work.

Student Updates

Notes from Mikaela Dewey and Sydney Smith - presented by C. Smith-Dewey

Relay for Life

- Organization and implementation if Relay for Life is well underway
- Team raising the most amount of money wins a set of air pods
- Over 50 teams registered, totaling over 365 students
- Team captains are meeting regularly
- Student council will be providing the entertainment
- Pizza will be provided
- There will be theme laps for each team
- If anyone knows of any cancer survivors that would be willing to speak at Relay for Life, please forward their names

MADD presentation

- Monday, June 3rd, 9-10am
- Designed for students but everyone is welcome to attend

Last Titan Standing

- Going on now

Wellness Committee Update

- Therapy dogs will be in the school environment Friday for faculty, staff and students to learn from and take advantage of
- Some members of the wellness committee are attending a wellness retreat – those that attend will bring the info back to share with others
- Exam stress is going to be counteracted by offering some opportunities to play games and other activities, some still to be determined

Other Business

S. Foeller

Pro-Grant is looking for their final report, but money was never received to run an activity. Mrs. Dewey to look into whether or not letter was valid.

G. Stuart

- Looking to next year, the CSC can be thinking about how to increase our parent involvement/engagement in both the committee and the school environment as a whole
- Alex Russell, author of Drop the Worry Ball, is doing a book tour and will be speaking at NCC on May 16th – those that may be interested could attend and consider having Russell at St. Theresa's.
- Another consideration might be Dr. Julie Galthorpe – conducting workshops on mental health in teens.

Culminating activities

- T. Munz-Paisley - discussion regarding the timing of culminating assignment and exams - some are too close together and can cause undue stress in students – could we consider making all culminating assignments due approx. a week prior to exams?
- Administration indicated it's an ongoing discussion among faculty, with lots to consider – the level the student is at, their learning styles, the weighting of the final mark, etc.
- Seniors (Gr. 11 and 12) will be writing their exams in the gym based on feedback from the students themselves
- How exams are written is a yearly conversation and faculty will provide feedback to administration on the PA day directly following exams.

Used Uniform Sale

- Uniform intake at grad – Maranatha Church – June 27th, 7-9pm, uniform table set up at 6pm
- Mrs. Dewey to ask Tara to send price sheet out
- Table set up during exam week – June 18th-21st, 10-10am
- Looking for volunteers for uniform collection on Thursday and Friday

Next Meeting

Tuesday, June 4th @ 5:30pm

Meeting adjourned – 7pm