

Regional School Council Meeting

January 7, 2016

Location: St. Michael Catholic School

In attendance: Karen Shannon, Lura Turriff, Michele McGrath, Janet Demaiter, Doris Beers, Michael Zaffino, Dustin Garrett, Darcey French, Dianne LaFortune, Annie McGregor, Tami Turcotte, Elaine Russett, Crystal Roach, Colleen Murphy, Christina Ackerman, Ralph Ackerman

Discussion Items	
	Meeting opened with prayer and introductions.
School Year 2016-2017 Calendar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The addition of a P.A. Day to be put in this school year – agreed by the Ministry for this school year and future school years <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Date must be implemented prior to April 15 ▪ Frontrunner is Monday, Feb. 29/16 • 2016-2017 Calendar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ministry recently proposed their school year calendar ▪ Christmas break is recommended Dec. 16/16 last day of classes and return on Jan. 2/17 (Holiday in Ontario) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Proposed change is to remain in school until Dec. 23/16 and return on Jan. 9/17 ▪ Same consultation took place in 2005-2006 and is what was chosen then and now the feeling is most people would prefer this too. ▪ The changes of our proposed calendar will go to the Ministry of Education in March and should be confirmed in May.
PRO Grant Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs to be focused on what is needed and wanted for our parents. • Website is encouraged to be used and please submit all important dates for your schools to be placed on the parent council website <p>Dianne explains the background of the PRO Grants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PRO to cover the majority of the board, not just the East side, but both the East and the West <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “Raising Catholic Children in Today’s Environment” ▪ “How to promote your child’s interests and strengths to develop higher level of engagement” ▪ “How parents can use social media to promote and improve fundraising” ▪ Parent involvement is strongly encouraged <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gradual release of responsibility for parents to take over the organization of the events ▪ 1 month to gather parent volunteers

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 parent willing to help – Laura Turriff <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promoting within school councils, etc. <p>Handouts of the formats and steps to take when preparing the events</p>
Accessibility Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitors, parents, guests, permit users, students, staff, families is applied
Catholic School Council Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moving forward with the next process • If anyone has anything to add, the process is still open at this time
OAPCE	<p><u>Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education – Conference May 6 & 7, 2016 – Toronto</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ALCDSB are likely to be the host board for the 2017 conference • Hoping for parents to go to this year’s conference
Constitution	<p>Darcy: mentions we required to have a constitution and would like to re-visit a standardized template</p> <p>There are several examples that exist and can be shared</p>
School Council Round Table sharing	<p>St. Theresa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used uniform sale every year (\$4500 in sales that went to library, sound systems, etc.) • Guest speaker Allison Tuffs was brought in • Relay for Life (\$25 000 profit for Cancer Society) • School Dance – profits towards Dominican Project • Homelessness projects taking place within the school • Lunch program – how to study better together <p>Sacred Heart (Batawa)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we engage parents on what they need and think • Fundraise 1/3 of what we did (linking directly to the school improvement plan) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ School staff interact with parents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Games nights and conversation stations • Communication – listening to parents and trying to implement what it looks like in our school • 3D printer was purchased for the school • Listening to “voice” and what we can do with it • Valentine’s Dance that is not a fundraiser

Nicholson

- PRO Grant – student mental health
- Funds towards new school's mascot

St. Mary's (Trenton)

- Popcorn fundraiser
- Santa Clause float looked fantastic and was great to see people involved and donating items for the float
- Papa John's fundraising – 1 night fundraising (\$5/pizza donated to the school)
- Baby Jesus Birthday Party – full day for the children to emphasize catholicity for the children, games, dance, cupcakes
- Pancake breakfast
- 16 sharing baskets for families within the school

Holy Rosary

- Halloween Dance – full of activities and huge community support.
- Math manipulatives and Christmas Sharing (our 10 families we look after) supported by school parent council.
- Kingston Symphony trip
- Cooking club with kids – grant application to DuPont
 - Kids would take the food home with them
 - Food program coming to Holy Rosary on Tuesdays for our students \$5 meals
- Family Math night in May for Education Week
- Valentine's Dance to go towards our Learning Commons

Holy Name of Mary

- PRO Grant - Nick Foley (all are welcome to attend)
- Wilton Cheese fundraising took place

St. Michael

- Fundraising – Christmas trees
- Parent evening – anxiety, homework help (date not confirmed yet)
- Yard improvements being examined
- We have stencils that other schools can borrow (i.e. 4-Square) to be painted on pavement areas

	<p>Our Lady of Fatima</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parent Night/Event and put 1 theme together for 1 main fundraiser so we can have more events where community can come for free
Next meeting	February 16, 2016 St. Michael Catholic School