



**West Catholic School Council Association**  
**Tuesday, January 9, 2018**  
**St. Michael Catholic School**

Prayer – for Catholic Education, Hail Mary was recited.

**Catholic Character and Culture Committee**

Invitation to CCC Committee was extended. Scope of the committee was explained by Karen Shannon and Lisa Gorrell added comments from her experience on the committee. Chris Wright promoted and spoke to his experience on the committee encouraging participation.

**2018 – 2019 School Year Calendar**

Consultation process was explained and input of parents was solicited. Parent feedback on P.A. day placement is keep Friday as the designated P.A. day. Monday P.A. days throw students off. Easier to find child care on a Friday instead of Mondays.

**OAPCE**

Chris attends first OAPCE Meeting on January 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> in Toronto and will be prepared to share at future meetings.

**School Council Updates**

**NCC**

Lori discussed first two meetings. Lots of good discussions. They want to tackle tweaking of the uniform policy particularly related to shoes, make the policy clear and inclusive. Preliminary talks about grants to improve parent engagement, Speak Up Grants and PRO grants – ideas being shared. Very impressed with all of the wellness culture apparent in the school from yoga to concern for each other as a priority. Lisa, reviewed the School Improvement Plan for NCC and sharing all of the workshops and PD that is happening in the school. Student representatives are at the table and add their understanding to the conversations. There are 4 parents on the council at present.

**St. Michael**

In the beginning of the year focuses on fundraising. They hosted two events, Chapters and a Christmas draw. They were able to raise a significant amount of money. There will be a commitment to outfitting the learning commons. They had a float in the Santa Claus Parade. The School Improvement Plan has really matured and very good input was received by parents. There have been 15 to 17 parents attending Council meetings. They had ideas to share about building Catholic Culture in the school and how to link parents with the parish. There is always a lot going on and events now will be for fun and participation without fundraising, e.g. movie nights, etc. there is a PRO grant which will take place in the spring.

### **St. Theresa**

Last meeting was in December and a dinner meeting was hosted at the school. There were 10 parents in attendance. The Council will be working on supporting the school production which will take place next year. A silent auction dinner will likely be organized again, etc. There will be funds dedicated to the Learning Commons. Groups in the schools have been putting forward requests for financial assistance. The bank account is healthy from uniform sales in the past. Uniform issues are being investigated like options for pants which students will wear.

### **St. Paul**

Council of six members now at the school. A speaker attended the school on 'the air that you breath' on vaping. It was a good education for all who attended. A clothing sale was hosted and is their only fundraiser. Students requested a \$ 1000 start up for a speaker for Catholic Education Week. The PRO grant has been dedicated to an information evening on Human Trafficking. Further support will be dedicated to OFSSA teams and their expenses.

### **Our Lady of Fatima**

Chapters fundraiser was held and many people showed up to support. The school choir came and sang at the front of the store for 45 minutes. A second fundraiser is being planned which will likely be popcorn sales. A parent engagement evening will be held later this year. An outdoor learning classroom is also on the wish list from staff. This will likely be accomplished in three phases. Spirit wear is an area of interest and is currently being investigated for student purchases. Part of STAR program, Student researchers program, happened in the fall. The same group of students have applied for a Speak Up grant. Today each class was given a Catholic Graduate Expectation to put into student language for the school. Strong student voice initiatives are underway at the school. The choir will be singing at the Belleville Senator's game in February. A Christmas crafts night was held instead of a concert. They ran an 'elf shop' at the school for Christmas shopping for a family member.

### **St. Mary, Trenton**

Current council has ten members. They have a good understand with what the school is working on regarding priorities of SIPSAW. The focus of Wellness is front and centre in the work of the school. They are planning for an outdoor 'parts' yard and have been developing and Arts room in the school. School Council hosted a Hallowe'en Dance and raised a lot of money. Funds have been dedicated to equipment and supplies for the Arts room. A sewing club is also underway in the school. There also groups started to target things boys might be interested in e.g. building blocks group and robotics. These activities are held at lunch hour so that if students don't want to be out on the yard, they have options. Parents hosted a painting night for parents only at the school. They continue to plan one event per month to take place at the school. A live nativity took place outside the school with narration and song and all students were involved in some aspect of performance. A school wellness centre for parents is now a priority for the school to be open to parents during the day.

April 16<sup>th</sup> CSCA Meeting reminder.