

St. Cecilia School Catholic School Parent Council (CSPC)

Minutes

Date: December 8, 2020

Co-Chairs: Ben Hughes and Candace McArthur

Secretary: Sharon Da Silva

Treasurer: Vida Mascarenhas

School Administration: Stephen Dempsey (Principal), Antonella Ruscitto-D'Addario (VP)

Attendance: See appendix

Agenda Item	Comments
Agenda & Minutes Approval Prayer	<p>Ben/Candace called the meeting to order.</p> <p>Motion to approve November 10, 2020 minutes: Moved by Andrea / Seconded by Alex.</p> <p>Prayer lead by Mr. Dempsey</p> <p>Icebreaker – to encourage community spirit.</p>
Financials (Treasurer's Report)	<p>Vida presented the financial draft reports for September and October. An opportunity for questions was provided.</p> <p>In October, some fundraising activity is noted. Along with the release by the Board of \$3900 from previous Fun Fair proceeds.</p> <p>Also noted, \$500 was spend, allocated to families in need.</p> <p>The November and December financials will be presented at the next meet.</p> <p>Motion to approve Financials and Budget Proposal: Moved by Jen/Seconded by Chantelle.</p> <p><i>See attached Financials for more details</i></p>
Principal's Report	<p>Mr. Dempsey:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thanks to the efforts by all to curb the spread of Covid19. - <u>Update</u>: Two (2) positive cases in last two days. Involved are five (5) teachers, now teaching through Google classroom. 1st case: Last day attended on Monday morning, Dec 1st, to return on the 16th. 2nd case: last attended on Dec 3rd. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *both cases were asymptomatic, which is very worrisome... *Please continue to wear masks and sanitize! - There are new screening protocols in place: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *any child showing symptoms are sent home (along with any siblings) <p>1 symptom = get isolated, get tested!</p> <p>*Plasp has currently a positive case... being dealt with</p>

- Much excitement with working on a Christmas show... Teachers and students are submitting videos to combine with our St. Anne students. Once the compilation is completed, it will be released at end of next week before Christmas break.
- Events to occur all week long to raise up student spirits: Ghosts of Christmas past, Christmas sweater day, Red/Green day, PJ and movie day, along with the Door decoration contest!
- There was a recent Board meeting: much heated discussions pertaining to the restructuring, concerns on stability... however, parents were promised the flexibility to move in/out BUT, with that, there was a need for classes to be reorganized!
- Mr. Dempsey shared a letter from the trustee, who asks all CSPC in her ward to consider backing her motion... need answer for the next day!
- The school's trustee, Teresa Lubinski, put forward a motion to Stop Further Reorganization, to be voted on in 2 days on December 10th.

Request from Trustee Lubinski to all Ward 4 CSPC:

Nearly all 15 elementary schools in Ward 4 have experienced class being reorganized. Some teachers had to leave face to face school to join St. Anne's Virtual school because a large number of students switched to virtual school and more teachers were needed there. Consequently, in a face to face school some classes were combined.

There were about 1300 students Board-wide that switched their learning modality in November. This caused a number of interruptions and anxiety for our families and staff. The Board's original plan was to have another opportunity to switch learning modalities in February, 2021. What I learned from a very high number of emails and telephone calls is that parents want stability.

The feedback from the parents led me to craft a motion to ask the Board to refrain from any further re-organizations for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year except for exceptional medical conditions or exceptional family circumstances.

Please share your opinion with me if you would like to avoid a re-organization in February. If you answer yes or no, you would still be able to work with our staff on an individual basis in case there is a need to change a learning model for your child.

- Opened meeting to questions and discussions to parents present at meet:
If we support the motion: Parents will have to do a formal request and any moves will be dependent on space.
Concerns: disruption to academic work, mixing cohorts, mental stress, problem with stability

	<p>Problem: without transparency and lack of consultation with parents to go through this motion</p> <p>Motion to approve trustee Lubinski’s motion: Moved by Richard / Seconded by Teresa.</p> <p>*with addition of request of communication of timely manner from the trustee to better communicate to parents.</p> <p>*CSPC to send out News update email to distribution list.</p> <p>*CSPC to send this motion support to trustee.</p> <p><u>Other:</u></p> <p>Christmas Angel Donations Due: December 11th</p> <p>Christmas Spirit Week: December 14-18</p> <p>Christmas Break: December 21st, 2020 to January 4th, 2021</p>
<p>Committees</p>	<p>Please volunteer and sign up to the several committees at St. Cecilia... please send an email with your selection to Sharon at dasilva.sharon7@gmail.com</p> <p>Your help is greatly appreciated!</p> <p>For those that have signed up, please contact your fellow partners, with updated info on the committee list sent out at meet reminders.</p> <p>Fundraising: Sugar Plum Virtual Fair – defer update to next meet.</p>
<p>Other Business</p>	<p>Role of Parent Council: to advise the principal, place the interests of students first, encourage parent and community involvement, and promote the Catholic faith.</p> <p>*Please refer to complete Info in attachment at meet reminder email.</p> <p>Use of School social media accounts: Recent controversy around a social media post was discussed. Opinions were divided concerning the appropriateness of this post and the taking down of this post. It was agreed some language would need to be changed immediately to avoid further/potential misunderstandings of the post. More importantly, the identification of a school teacher would need to be omitted immediately from the post. From this incident, clarity is needed on the use of social media that reflects our school, teachers, students, and parents.</p> <p>Follow up after the meet: After consulting with OAPCE, it was brought to attention that any social media with an account name that includes the school name is to be monitored by the school's principal. Moving forward, the Communications committee will receive and follow the guidelines on the Board's Online Code of Conduct/Communications policy.</p> <p>Christmas Angels: There was a recent request that donations be in the form of giftcards, but for those that have already purchased items, may still submit to their Christmas angel families.</p>
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>Motion to adjourn meeting. Moved by Tanja / Seconded by Jen.</p>

APPENDIX

30 Voting Members present, quorum reached

Present:

Ben Hughes
Candace McArthur
Sharon da Silva
Vida Mascarenhas
Marisa Cuoco
Tessa Wood
Jennifer Santos
Liesbeth Teerink
Rachel Rasile
Karen Kinch
Erica Kouros
Alexandra Hartnett
Collen Uncao
Rosanna Defry-Mangion
Chantelle Cole
Timothy Noronha
Alan Mascarenhas
Teresa Borgiel
Jennifer Carriere
Tracy Platt
Richard William
Jackie Avelino
Natalia Naranjo Moncada
Olga Geryluk
Francisco Peralta
Tanja Berger
Ana Muro
Tina Di Giovanni
Andrea Hanson
Evelyn Vaccari

Regret:

Keri Horan
Anne Marie Jacoby
Marta Pereira