



## ST. MARY C.S.S. PARENT COUNCIL

TUESDAY November 7th, 2023

Executive Members	Name	Sign In
Principal	John Di Vizio	Present
Chair	Adele Sartor	Present
Co-Chair	Sabrina Pallotta	Present
Secretary	Tonia Edwards Kelegan	Present
Financial Secretary	Emily Povolo	Present
Teacher Representative	Melissa Wilson-Clark	Present
Chaplain	Mariana Bosetti	Present
Parish Representative (St. Isaac Jogues)	Danilo Simonelli	Present
Parent Representatives		
Parent Representative	Cordelia Clarke Julien	Absent
Parent Representative	Danielle Boyle	Present
Parent Representative	Jennifer Millar	Regrets
Parent Representative	Jason Boyle	Present
Parent Representative	June Lee	Present
Parent Representative	Zhora Adatia-McGlashen	Regrets
Parent Representative	Lilani Kulathungam	Absent
Parent Representative	Claudia Nichols	Present
Parent Representative	Melodie McLymont	Present
Parent Representative	Roslyn D'Souza	Present
Parent Representative	Barb Perrott	Present
Parent Representative	Denise Rainford	Absent
Parent Representative	Erica Edwards	Absent
Parent Representative	Reg Sadler	Present
Parent Representative	Nicola Sutton-Leslie	Present
Parent Representative	Paul Dalton	Regrets
Parent Representative	Nancy Barry	Regrets
Parent Representative	Shivaun McLymont	Absent
Other Attendees		
Parish Representative (Holy Redeemer)	Rachel Vigliatore	Regrets
	Nindu Kumar	Regrets
	Tara King	Regrets

	Jayson Julien	Present
	Arianna D'urso	Present
	Leah Changoo	Present

## A. CALL TO ORDER

**Meeting Called to Order:** 7:00 p.m.

**Welcome:** Adele Sartor

**Opening Prayer:** Mariana Bosetti

## B. ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN

**Approval of Minutes:** October 7, 2023 – no changes

Motion to Approve by: Emily Povolo      Seconded by: Adele Sartor

## C. REPORTS / INFORMATION ITEMS

**Principal's Report:** John Di Vizio

- Report cards will be sent out digitally this Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup>
- Remembrance Day ceremony will be held this Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup> during periods 1 and 2. MPP Peter Bethlenfalvy, Mayor Kevin Ashe and school trustee will attend. Parents are welcome to join.
- On Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, Guidance Department will be holding college and university application workshops for grade 12 students during periods 1 and 2. Students will have lots of support throughout the process. Students can start to apply soon. This year only the OEN (Ontario Education Number) is needed to apply, so no need to wait for PINs.
- Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) outreach days running in November and December for grade 8 students from our feeder schools. This program offers a look at skilled trades pathways.
- Initiative Groups Fair took place on November 1<sup>st</sup>. Unfortunately grade 9 students missed it since they were at "Take our Kids to Work Day". There will be a second fair just for the grade 9 students on November 16<sup>th</sup>. All 10 social justice initiative groups (Alliance for Compassion, Asian Canadian Alliance, Best Buddies, Domestic Outreach, Eco Team, Empower, International Outreach, Safe and Caring Schools, Students 4 Action and Unity/Black Excellence Committee) will be on display, as well as Enable, Student Council, and Athletic Council. It's not too late to join. Details will be posted on Instagram.

- 10 picnic tables, built by Mr. DiFonzo's shop class, have been placed in rear of school, in safe supervised area. They are already being used by students during breaks. Each table can fit 6 people.
- OSSLT (Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test) preparation is taking place with Mr McLaughlin for previously eligible students. Test will take place on November 28<sup>th</sup>. Grade 10 students will be taking OSSLT in the Spring.
- Motivational speaker, Sam Demma, will be coming on December 6<sup>th</sup>. Sam is a former St. Mary student and will be speaking to students about mental health, unpacking stressors, and how to move forward in healthy ways. Sam Demma has written a book, "Empty your Backpack", and has a podcast.
- Christmas Outreach will begin end of November.
- Congratulations to our Parent Representative, Zhora Adatia-McGlashen, who was nominated as Pickering Parent Area Representative for the Anti-Black Racism and Black Excellence Advisory Committee.

#### **Parish Updates (St. Isaac Jogues): Danilo Simonelli**

- New parish hall will be built at St. Isaac Jogues. Will be raising money from parish community. A drawing of the finished plan is available in the church. Presentation video available on SIJ Facebook page.
- Question: During renovations, will the church still be able to hold parishioners?  
Answer: Yes, it will
- There is a running program for adults "ALPHA"
  - Here is the link for the ALPHA program:  
<https://stisaacjogues.ca/ministries/alpha#information>
- Life Teen program for grades 9 to 12 just started. Volunteers would be appreciated to cook dinner for the teens twice a month. Their winter retreat is December 1-3

#### **Parish Updates (Holy Redeemer): Sabrina Pallotta for Rachel Vigliatore**

- No updates at this time

#### **Financial Update: Emily Povolo**

- No change in the budget since our last meeting.
- Last year we gave \$1000 to the Christmas Outreach program. Background of Christmas Outreach program: during the Christmas season, St. Mary school supports families within our school community who are in need (typically 10-15 families). Money is raised in a variety of ways (Bingo, extra non-uniform days, School Cash Online donations, etc.) and gift cards from

Walmart, Sobies, etc. are purchased to give to our families. John Di Vizio will let us know how many families will be needing support this year.

- MOTION: for Parent Council to donate \$2000 to Christmas Outreach this year

Moved by: Tonia Edwards Kelegan    Seconded by: Sabrina Pallotta

#### **D. OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **Used Uniform Sale: Adele Sartor**

- Last year we held a used uniform sale in January, during the Grade 8 information night. It was quite successful. We are hoping to do the same this year. The Parent Council will be using the Learning Commons for the grade 8 night this year. It is to be held on January 16<sup>th</sup>. The staff may require the Learning Commons for an Initiative Fair that is to be held for the grade 8 families. The Initiative Fair sections will be dispersed within the classrooms and throughout the school.
- It was agreed that Council should hold sale during Grade 8 night again this year (typically mid-January). Sale will be in library. John will look into availability.
- John will put out call for used uniform donations next week, and will follow up every couple of weeks.
- Parent Council volunteers needed to organize and run sale. Will also seek help from student ambassadors.
- Donated uniforms can be dropped off at office.
- Some Parent Council members were given a tour of the Mission Room, where there are currently some used uniforms available. Adele will send out an email with the current balance of used uniforms in the mission room closer to sale.

#### **OPEN QUESTION PERIOD**

- Question regarding list to support students proactively.

Response: Unfortunately, the question is too vague due to there being various types of lists, including keeping track of: struggling students to help implement support, student academic success, student assistance for mental health support, support for students at risk of not graduating in time with their peers or who may be 2 or more credits behind their peers.

- Question: Are there any special events happening in the school?

Response: There was a Halloween student movie night for Halloween on October 30<sup>th</sup>. Upcoming events: Arts & Music night; Student Council will be holding a semi-formal dance in the spring around Valentines Day. They are looking at the Audley Recreation Centre in North Ajax for the venue. The dance is for grades 9 through 12. The student council is currently in planning stages (most likely finger foods, would like to keep the cost within \$30 per attendee, no jeans etc.).

- Question: Can used uniforms be dropped off at any time?

Response: Uniforms can be dropped off any day, during school hours

**E. CLOSING PRAYER:** Mariana Bosetti

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Meeting adjourned:** 7:52 p.m.

**Next St. Mary CSS Council Meeting**

**Tuesday December 5th @ 7:00 pm – St. Mary's Learning Commons**

**St. Mary CSS Parent Council meetings usually take place on the first Tuesday of the month, from 7:00pm – 8:00pm in the school library. All parents are welcome to attend the monthly Parent Council meetings and bring agenda items forward for discussion.**