**ST. MARY C.S.S. PARENT COUNCIL**

**Tuesday November 5th, 2024**

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| **Executive Members** | **Name** | **Sign In** |
| Principal | John Di Vizio | P |
| Chair | Adele Sartor | P |
| Co-Chair | Sabrina Pallotta | P |
| Secretary | Paul Dalton | P |
| Financial Secretary | Emily Povolo | P |
| Teacher Representative | Melissa Wilson-Clark | P |
| Chaplain | Mariana Bosetti | P |
| Parish/Non-Teaching Representative | Danilo Simonelli (SIJ) | P |
| **Parent Representatives** | | |
| Parent Representative | Amanda Dass | R |
| Parent Representative | Arianna D’Urso | P |
| Parent Representative | Ayesha Sardar | P |
| Parent Representative | Babz Boehm | Ab |
| Parent Representative | Barbara Perrott | P |
| Parent Representative | Bessy Stergiou | Ab |
| Parent Representative | Carla Hipolito | Ab |
| Parent Representative | Claudia Nicholas | R |
| Parent Representative | Cordelia Clark Julien | Ab |
| Parent Representative | Danielle Boyle | P |
| Parent Representative | Jason Boyle | P |
| Parent Representative | Jennifer Millar | P |
| Parent Representative | Kim Layman | P |
| Parent Representative | Leah Changoo | P |
| Parent Representative | Lilani Kulathungam | P |
| Parent Representative | Mark V. Campbell | Ab |
| Parent Representative | Melissa Edwards | P |
| Parent Representative | Melodie McLymont | Ab |
| Parent Representative | Nancy Barry | R |
| Parent Representative | Nicola Sutton-Leslie | Ab |
| Parent Representative | Nindu Kumar | Ab |
| Parent Representative | Oluwoyomi Dime | Ab |
| Parent Representative | Paula Thomas | P |
| Parent Representative | Rachel Vigliatore | P |
| Parent Representative | Reg Sadler | R |
| Parent Representative | Shivaun McLymont | Ab |
| Parent Representative | Tara King | R |
| Parent Representative | Tonia Edwards Kelegan | P |
| Parent Representative | Zhora Adatia-McGlashen | P |

**Attendance:** P= PresentAb = Absent R = Regrets

**Other Attendees:** C. Chalmers

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| **CALL TO ORDER** | | |

**Meeting Called to Order**: 7 pm

**Welcome**: A. Sartor / S. Pallotta

**Opening Prayer**: M. Bosetti

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| **ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN** |

**Approval of Minutes**: October 1st, 2024.- A. Sartor

**Motion to Approve by:** R. Vigliatore **Seconded by:** J. Boyle

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| **REPORTS / INFORMATION ITEMS** |

**Opening Notes:** A Sartor

Due to scheduling conflicts, our December 3rd council meeting will be cancelled.

**Principal’s Report:** John Di Vizio

**Items from last meeting review**

* Uniforms:
  + The school bylaw is to go over the Dress Code every three years
  + The last review was 2 years ago, had McCarthy join, and there was a consensus to not make any changes at that time
  + Next uniform review is next school year
  + Any questions, contact Mr. Di Vizio.
* Sports Fees:
  + Any sports fees are charged by the coaches.
  + Coaches must be transparent with parents on what the fees cover.
  + The majority of the costs of LOSSA play are covered in full by the school (transportation, fees).
  + Tournaments outside of the LOSSA play are voluntary for individual teams. If a team wants to go to a tournament, there are additional costs. The school will not subsidize sports teams for tournaments outside LOSSA/OFSAA.
  + If participation in a tournament is desired, it is on the team to fund the full cost, including cost of supply teacher(s) to cover off the teacher absent.
  + Funds are spent with the greatest benefit to the greatest number of students in mind.
  + Focus on spending for the school is for class supports and technology. Sports is considered an extracurricular activity and is above and beyond classroom learning
  + The stage curtains have needed to be replaced for a few years, and we have been saving some of our budget over that time to cover the cost.
  + The $75 student fee at the beginning of the year is to subsidize the cost of the yearbook, student retreats, speakers, and so on.
* Question: If we have a ‘surplus’ for Parent Council funds, can we not just give funds to the various groups.
  + There is a process for funding student activities that is initiated by the students and the teacher sponsor.

**Robotics club**

* We have 4 3D printers.
* Examples of things that the students have created was shared with council
* The prosthetic hand that was shared was created by the *Enable Club*, they create prosthetics and last year, we sent prosthetics to youngsters in Afghanistan. Global News picked up the story.
* Also tied to interior design course
* Very much increased the number of women in STEM research

**Once a month, we have a non-uniform day fundraiser**

* To raise funds for charities that the school supports.
* These are legacy charities, that staff & student body have supported over the years and continue to support.
* Some examples:
* Catholic Family Services
* Durham Down Syndrome Association
* ShareLife
* MADD Canada
* Heart & Stroke foundation

**Key Dates**

* + Oct 28th – Choir performing at Catholic Education Centre
  + Oct 28th – Lockdown drill and bomb drill
  + Oct 29th – City of Pickering consultation with students for a new library North of Taunton
  + Nov 6th – Take Your Kid to Work Day (Grade 9s)
  + Nov 6th – Start of Trades   
    Day for grade 8s; students get hands on project to build with the help of St. Mary student leaders, and students get a tour of the school as well. Will take place over the next few weeks.
  + Nov 7th – University workshops
  + Nov 8th – College workshops & apprenticeships
  + Nov 8th – Report cards issued
  + Nov 11 – Two Remembrance Day assemblies; Mayor will be here
  + Nov 12 – St. Wilfred’s Trade’s Day (Grade 8)
  + Nov 13th – Math Contests
  + Nov 14th – Mr. Mayers, Coach/Advocate for Black Students (CABS), going to Ontario Tech with students.
  + Nov 14th – Curtain Installation
  + Nov 15th – PA Day
  + Nov 18th (w/o) – Student Council Spirit Week
  + Nov 20th – Father Fenlon Trades Day (Grade 8)
  + Nov 21st – Non-Uniform Day
  + Nov 26th – OSSLT: For previously eligible students
  + Nov 27th – St. Monica Trades Day (Grade 8)
  + Dec 2nd – Prep for Christmas Stage Events
  + Dec 4th – Associate Schools Band Concert
  + Dec 23rd – Jan 3rd (Starting Jan 6th) - Christmas Break
  + Jan 7th – Trip Moratorium for Exams
  + Jan 14th – Academic Moratorium
  + Jan 14th – Grade 8 Parent Information Evening
  + Jan 15th & 16th – Math EQAO

**Financial Report:** E. Povolo

End of year (’23-’24) balance: $6,111.64

Uniform Sale: $12,962.50

**Balance to Start the Year: $19,074.14**

Spent:

Terry Fox: $1,100.00

Raised:

Extra Used Uniform Sold in Sept & Oct: $120.00.00

**Current Balance: 18,094.14**

Grad Gift Earmarked (with guidance from graduates & teachers/gift to the school): $2,000

Christmas Outreach Program from Dec 2 onwards:

* 3 non-uniform days.
* All funds raised go towards families in need.
* Each homeroom will receive a profile for the family they are sponsoring.
* For the past 2 years, the Parent Council has donated $2,000 to go towards the purchase of gift cards from Walmart, Metro, etc. Students also donate gift cards.
* St. Mary outreach program assisted approximately 30 families in our school community, and approximately 10 families in the Holy Redeemer parish community; about 40 – 45 families helped every year.

Last year we were able to give $75 per person per family

International Outreach Club did the haunted house this year and $450 raised for Canadian Jesuits international

**Winter Used Uniform Sale:** A. Sartor

* We would like to hold another used uniform fundraiser sale in January (Jan 14th) during the Grade 8 parent information evening.
* We will host a beverages & snacks table again.
* Volunteers will be needed; stay tuned.

**Parish Update (St. Isaac Jogues):** D. Simonelli

St. Isaac Jogues parish is excited to host their first Marriage Retreat Weekend on February 7th - 9th 2025! Retreat will be hosted at Fair Havens Camp & Conference Centre in Beaverton and facilitated by Chris & Linda Padgett. For couples who are newly married or celebrating 50+ years of marriage.

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| **OTHER ITEMS** |

**Closing Prayer**: M. Bosetti

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| **ADJOURNMENT** |

**Meeting Adjourned**: 8:40 PM

Next St. Mary CSS Council Meeting

Tuesday February 4th @ 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.*