



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**MINUTES OF THE
SAINT MICHAEL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING**

SEPTEMBER 28, 2023

SAINT MICHAEL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Saint Michael Catholic School Council, held on Sept 28th at 6:00p.m. The

meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Lou Stranges

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was led by Dahlia Brannigan

2. Roll Call

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP		Present	Excused	Absent
Principal/Vice-Principal	Lou Stranges (P) Monique Mastroianni (VP)	*		
Secretary/Treasurer	Gabby Griffiths (Secretary)			
Chair				
Co-Chair(s)	Mary Karagiannis, Nancy Gauthier	*		
Teacher Representative	Mark Casburn	*		
Non-Teaching Representative	Dahlia Brannigan	*		
Student Representative	Francesca Cavezza & Paulina Labarta	*		
Parish Representative	Anna Racine	*		
Community Representative				
OAPCE Representative	Stephanie Wybrew	*		
PARENT/GUARDIAN MEMBERS				
Amie Malvaso		*		
Laura Thomas		*		
Joanna Perri		*		
Julia Alarcon		*		
Lidia Romeo		*		
Gabriella Griffiths		*		
Charles Gammerl		*		
Lahara Begum		*		
Abdul Tamil		*		
Isabell Camillo		*		

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Amy Malbasso

Seconded by Mary Karagiannis

THAT the Saint Michael Catholic School Council approve the Agenda of the Saint Michael Catholic School Council Meeting of Sept 28, 2023

CARRIED

4. **Disclosure of Conflict Interest**

No disclosures of conflict of interest were declared with any items on the agenda.

(If Disclosure of Conflict of Interest is declared please record)

5. **Approval of Minutes of the Saint Michael Catholic School Council Meeting of Sept 28, 2023**

N/A

Moved by _

Seconded by _

THAT Saint Michael Catholic School Council approve the Minutes of the Saint Michael Catholic School Council Meeting of Date of Last Meeting as presented.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

Parrish Rep Report: Anna Racine

St Thomas More priests Father Matthew and Father Sojin,

- Church has had a renovation of the hallways and bathrooms
- VBS is back; over 70 volunteers
- school masses have started for Loretto and Carmel
- Life Chain; Oct 1 2:30 – 3:30
- Food Drive for Thanksgiving
- Food and Shelter Resources for Niagara Falls at the church
- Oct 14 Rosary
- Tuesday after Mass
- Bingo – Oct 4 8pm
- Silver Trillium for the Gardens
- CWL looking for members
- many volunteer opportunities for students

*** L Stranges. Tomorrow is our First Mass

Parent Engagement: M. Mastroianni

- Money available
- Amie to join in sub-committee with M, Mastroianni to plan an event
- Transition night for high school to university

OAPCE:

- Representative needed for Saint Michael Catholic High School

Ontario Association for Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE) Representative

Each CSC will have one parent/guardian to represent the Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education. *In accordance with the OAPCE By-Laws, this parent/guardian must be Roman Catholic.*

- Meets once per month
- Education Act states that the Co-chair are defacto OAPCE reps
- Stephanie Wybrew has volunteered to be OAPCE rep

C. POLICIES FOR VETTING-FEEDBACK

- None at this time. Policies that have been recently updated are on the school board website. Throughout the year, should there be policies L.Stranges will share with the Co-chairs who will share with the rest of the council.
- Request for differentiation between Catholic School Council and Saint Michael Family. Principal will give reports and seek guidance from the council.
- Saint Michael Family is a parent group with its own constitution separate from Saint Michael Catholic Family. Adds to the culture of the community and bringing the Saint Michael Community together.
- Q – does the CSC do fundraising? A – No – unless there is no Saint Michael Family.
- We will require a secretary for the next minutes.
- Gabby Griffiths was nominated as the new secretary.

D. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

1. Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) Report

At the end of June, I was very happy to know that I would be joining this vibrant, diverse school community in the south end of Niagara Falls. I along with my colleagues Monique Mastroianni and Dino Germano make up the admin team at STM. I am blessed to work with this admin team and their many years of experience in catholic education. Along with the new administration, we have 22 new staff members at Saint Michael

including support and teaching staff.

The school's current enrolment is just under 1100 students. Just about every classroom, during every period is in use. Teachers are in a good groove in delivering curriculum during the school day. Our SAA (Student Academic Assistance) program is well under way running 4 days per week – Mondays- Thursdays from 2:30pm – 4pm. Along with peer tutoring support, subject specific teachers are available each night.

We thank Casablanca Inn for providing food service to our students for the first couple weeks of the school year. Chartwell's started service at Saint Michael on September 18th and will offering food at Saint Michael daily from 7:30am – 1pm. Students can access the cafeteria before school and during lunches. From the feedback that I have been hearing so far, the reviews on quality of food, pricing and portions have been positive.

Today, we had our Gr. 8 classes from our 4 feeder schools come to the school for a transition activity. Chef Scozzafava and his students prepared a hotdog lunch followed by a Mustang football game vs. Blessed Trinity. As a added bonus, Cool licks Food Truck was onsite to offer ice cream treats for all students. Very proud of our Athletic Council and their leadership in organizing and leading this event.

This week has been Truth and Reconciliation Week in appreciation of the hardships faced by the Indigenous peoples of Canada with residential schools. On Friday, Sept. 29th students and staff are encouraged to wear Orange Shirts to symbolize the collective commitment that Every Child Matters. We are super lucky to have Father Sojan from Our Lady of Mount Carmel at STM on Sept. 29th for our opening school masses. It is an excellent opportunity for us to celebrate our faith, connecting our faith with Truth and Reconciliation.

We will kick off our annual Pilgrimage campaign in support of our brothers and sisters in Rwanda with our kickoff assemblies during the week of Oct. 2nd. Under the leadership of our Pilgrimage committee made up of students and staff, our Pilgrimage will be held on October 25th . We will walk to Our Lady of Mount Carmel after school, celebrate Mass with Father Sojan then walk back to the school. Students will receive 5 hours of community service for raising a minimum of \$25 of donation and completing walk. This year's theme is "Rebuilding Together". With a donation amount of \$50, students will receive a Pilgrimage Tshirt. Parents/Guardians are continued to be reminded that student achievement can be accessed throughout the school year on the Parent Portal. It's important to stay connected to your child's high school experience. Please reach out to classroom teachers with any questions. Parent-Teacher interviews will be held on November 22nd. Stay tuned for more details.

2. Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Report

N/A

3. Catholic School Council Financial Statement

N/A

E. OAPCE REPORTS

N/A

F. STAFF REPORTS

-Fall sports are well underway. These include boys Volleyball, Tennis, Golf, Football, Cross Country. Rowing, and girls Basketball.

- Many clubs have also started. Students are always encouraged to listen to announcements about dates and times. There is an SQR code in the hallway by the attendance office where students can click on it to see the overall picture of clubs and times. All announcements are dropped in the student NCVLE classroom so students can always look back.

· The Drama program has started working on an "Alice" play which will be performed in the Spring.

· Key club, Art club, Book club, Chaplain's crew, Eco Club, Indigenous Education club, SHSM activities, Film club, Music House band, Music Choir, Terry Fox Run, Pilgrimage

team, Tech club are well underway.

- Students should always check the official Saint Michael Instagram as all opportunities and updates are advertised there as well.

- After school help is available in the library four days a week. Tutors and teachers are available in key subject areas.

- Colleges and Universities presentations have started. There is a grade 12 NCVLE classroom where all things Post-secondary are posted.

- Our Special Education Class students will be travelling to Brock for their SNAP program this semester.

- Transition visits have started. Student Services and Admin have visited the FOS grade 8 classrooms. Today, our grade 8 students visited STM for a Senior Football game.

G. AGENDA ITEMS-DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

- Parent Engagement Event(s)

H. NEXT MEETING Wed. November 29, 2023, Wed. Feb. 28, 2024, Wed. May 29, 2024

- all meetings @ 6pm at STM

I. CLOSING PRAYER was led by Dahlia Brannigan_____

J. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by

Seconded by

THAT the Sept 28th meeting of the Saint Michael Catholic School Council be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m._____