

**Parent Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday November 27, 2024**

Present:

- Rob Weatherbee (Principal)
- Matthias Ramirez (Vice Principal)
- Andrew Selvam (Chaplain/ Teaching Rep)
- Terri Caroleo (Non-Teaching Rep)
- Sunny Kannabe (Parent/Chair)
- Arleen Johal (Prime Minister, School Council)
- Portia Branford (Parent/Secretary)
- Beverly Kerat (Parent/Treasurer)
- Samantha Francis (Parent) - Online
- Jayms Kazo (Parent) – Online
- Glacia Stewart (Parent) – Online

A) Routine Matters:

1. Meeting called to order – Rob Weatherbee: Meeting held both in person and on Zoom.
2. Opening prayer / Land Acknowledgment – Andrew Selvam/Matthias Ramirez
3. Approval off Agenda
 - Student Representative – change to Prime Minister Arleen Johal
 - Parish Report – Andrew Selvam
4. Approval of Catholic School Parent Council Meeting, Wednesday Oct 9, 2024

Motion to Approve – Andrew Selvam

Second – Terri Caroleo

Motion Carried

- a. Business Arising from the minutes
 - Domino Pizza Fundraiser – Nov 1, 2024: Amount raised is pending

B) Trustee Update: (Shawn Xavier)

- Unfortunately, trustee was not able to attend meeting

C) Student Representation: (Arleen Johal, Prime Minister SC)

- Halloween Contest held on October 31 was successful
- Both students and teachers participated in the events and activities taking place on the day
- Spirit Week continues into December with several activities being planned
- Athletic Council – will be supporting the team through the sale of jerseys

D) Standing Items:

1. Non-Teaching Rep Report – Terri Caroleo

- D'Youville Drama is producing its annual Drama Showcase the week of Dec 2 during Drama Showcase week
- Hosting feeder schools for matinee performances on Dec 2-3

- School matinees will take place on Dec 4-5 and evening performances for family and friends will take place on Thursday night Dec 5 (doors open at 6:30 and the show starts at 7:00pm)
- RAISE/PIP will have PAMA (Peel Art Museum and Archives) has been hosting weekly workshops for 6 weeks teaching students various forms of fine art
- Junior Boys won Tier 2 Championships of Father Michael Goetz – this is the third volleyball championship for the school
- The RAISE/ASPIRE classes attended the ROPSSAA Basketball Tournament at St. Augustine
- The Knits and Crafts Club have with the goal of knitting 20-30 scarves for the homeless
- On completion Andrew Selvam and other staff volunteers will be delivering these scarves
- The Grade 12 Visual Arts students will be showcasing their artwork in the Matrix on December 12, they will be displaying selected artworks they have completed over the course of four years to celebrate their artistic achievements
- Mr. Pagett's Winter concert will take place on December 12

2. Chaplaincy and Teaching Rep Report: - Andrew Selvam

- The **Black Student Association (BSA)** is thriving with 155 students – Upcoming events include:
 - Trip to U of T on November 29 to attend the Black Access to Education Excellence event
 - December 3, BSA will be hosting their annual Christmas movie night in the theatre – Cost is \$5 (includes ticket and snacks)
 - December 18, annual Christmas potluck - \$5 donation will go towards supporting DY Christmas Drive and Collection
 - Planning has already started for BHM 2024
- **Chaplaincy Updates:**
 - October Food Drive – raised 5100 items which exceeded the goal, as promised Mr. Selvam dyed his hair blue
 - Food pantry is now fully stocked to help support families with both food and clothing
 - Retreat season is now over with the last remaining retreats happening in November
 - Bible study is in full force, offering all weeks during 3A lunch and after school
 - November 20 – Prayer Night, students engaged in both personal and communal prayer for about 2.5 hours
 - Faith and Food event – an opportunity to get students back to church, 12:30pm mass together and then Brunch at a local place for those who can attend
- **Upcoming:**
 - Thursday November 28 – Advent and Christmas decorating to transform the matrix, cafeteria, main office and chapel
 - Friday November 29 – Mass for the Deceased at 7:40am, December 6
 - Wednesday December 4 – Advent Confessions
 - Thursday December 10 – Advent Liturgy, Period 1 (Grade 9-10) and Period 2 (Grade 11-12)
 - Tuesday December 17 – Potluck for Chaplaincy and SEA-SA
 - Christmas Drive & Collection
 - To support families in our local community
 - 2-4 homerooms assigned to each family
 - Donations of gift cards, food

- Link/Letter sent in school messenger, deadline is Thursday December 12
- Gift exchange for Teachers Plan
- New Clubs: Punjabi Student Association (PSA) and Developer's Club

3. Principal's Report: – Rob Weatherbee

- Recent PA Day – staff attended CPI, 3 online de-escalation model, info on AI and landscape of Secondary Schools and Cybersecurity
- Grade 8 day – opportunity for feeder schools to visit and learn about programs (these were the same students who visited when they were in Grade 7)
- Continuing to develop the STEM lab – club meets every Wednesday
- Terri's retirement – Acknowledgement made to Terri who is retiring on December 20, 2024
- Number of events occurring throughout the school including extra-curricular activities and sports.
- Discussed possible guest speaker on A.I. and teaming up with neighbouring school.
- Exam period will start on January 22nd and semester 2 starts January 31st.
- Semester 2 we will be adding 6 more classes to reduce class size and the grade 12 Black Voices course will run as regular English for grade 12 due to teacher going on leave.
- Projections have increased for next year so we should be able to hire new teachers.

4. Vice Principal's Report: – Matthias Ramirez

- November 21 was Parent/Teacher Interview Night
- Great turnout, close to 400 parents booked interviews for that interview
- Report cards were distributed 2 days before the interview
- November 26 – Academic Awards night recognized academic achievements of students in Grades 10-12
- Student received certificates / medals
- Season of advent liturgies scheduled for December 10
- Christmas music concert on December 12 @ 7pm, families are invited to attend

5. Chair Report: - Sunny Kanabe

- October 24, was appointed as representative of family of schools at the School Council of Chairs Meeting
- First meeting was in November
- Next meeting December 5
- Training for new officers – Thursday November 28 @6:30pm (Online)
- Positive feedback was received on Grade 8 night as well as the Academic Award Night
- Special Acknowledgement to Terri on her retirement and for being so supportive of the Parent Council over the years

6. Treasurer's report:

- Mr. Weatherbee provided a summary
- \$1,000 for parent engagement activity - \$500 from last year plus \$500 current for this school year
- Up to date summary will be presented at next meeting

7. Parish report: – Andrew Selvam

- Stitches from the Heart meet every Monday after 9:15am mass
- Celebrating first anniversary of the Parish's bookstore
- First Reconciliation/Communion Advent Promise weekend November 30 / December 1
- Echoes of Emmanuel Concert – proceeds will go towards purchasing a new sound system for the Parish
- To date, have sold 275 tickets
- Very active Youth Ministries - Edge and Life Teen which run on alternate Fridays

E) Information/Updates (if applicable):

1. Central Committee for Catholic School Councils (CCCCS) Report: - Sunny Kanabe (see Chair Report)
2. **Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE) Report – Samantha Francis**
 - OAPCE 85th Conference November 6 (highlights on the website)
 - Presentation on Super parents: Unlocking the powers of Advocacy led by Joe Perri
 - Social Media Info: OAPCE's new IG is now live @OAPCE85 and a reminder to follow on X @OAPCEONTARIO, Facebook page OAPCE85!
 - October edition of Parent2Parent press available at <https://oapce.org/orgparents-4-parents/>
 - The Year of the Jubilee: Oct 31, 2025 to Nov 2, 2025 (Jubilee of the World of Education, for more inf visit: <https://www.ilaeum2925.va/en/html>)
 - Director gave updates on where to find CSC procedures and by-laws, and understanding the role of trustees' impact on your child's education
 - Next OAPCE meeting in December

F) Action Items:

1. Possible Guest Speaker – Board approved List
 - DY to collaborate with Notre Dame to explore different themes or issues for presentations to the students
 - Rob to send list of themes/topics to the Parent Council for review
2. Used Uniform sales (Inventory)
 - Uniforms available for families in need or for students who may not have their proper uniform
 - Rob asked if the handling of the school uniforms could be an initiative for the council to develop a strategy to sell the uniforms to the in-coming Grade 8's
 - Inventory includes over 100 pieces in various sizes

Other:

Sunny took the opportunity to thank Terri on behalf of the Parent Council for her service/support to the Council over the past years.

Next Meeting: January 15, 2025

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn Meeting: Rob Weatherbee

Second: Terri Caroleo

Motion Carried

Adjourned at 7:46pm