

**St. Marguerite D'Youville Secondary School
Catholic School Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday January 15, 2025
Time: 6:30-8:00pm**

Location: St. Marguerite D'Youville 10815 Dixie Road, Brampton, ON L6R 2W5 (Library)
<https://zoom.us/j/92981190126>

Present:

- Rob Weatherbee (Principal)
- Andrew Selvam (Chaplain/ Teacher Rep)
- Nicole Bailey
- Roshan Gahunia (Student Rep.)
- Nancy Tsiobanos (Vice Principal)
- Sunny Kanabe (Chair)
- Arleen Johal (Prime Minister, School Council)
- Portia Branford (Secretary)
- Beverly Kerat (Treasurer)
- Glacia Stewart
- Bridgette Parke
- Satinder Gahunia
- Dessy Rowe (Online)

A) Routine Matters:

1. Meeting called to order and attendance – Rob Weatherbee
2. Opening prayer / Land Acknowledgment – Andrew Selvam
3. Approval of January 15th Agenda
4. Approval of Catholic School Parent Council Meeting of November 27, 2024
 - Approved with amendments of the following:
 - Change Parent Council to School Council
 - Correction to chair's last name Kanabe
 - Add school name to the minutes

Motion to Approve – Andrew Selvam

Second – Nicole Bailey

Motion Carried

- a. Business Arising from the minutes (None)

B) Trustee Update: (Shawn Xavier) If applicable

- Unfortunately, trustee was not able to attend meeting, but he did send out the January newsletter

C) Student Representation: Roshan Gahunia

School Achievements:

- The D'Youville Christmas Drive was held to help individual families in our community with monetary and food donations
- The drama class presented a Christmas themed drama showcase
- The Communications Technology class produced a short Christmas themed "DY TV" episode where recent school events, and Q&As regarding holiday topics were showcased

School Initiatives:

- Students were provided with an after-school math help program for academic support as well as provided volunteer hours for senior students
- A Christmas Liturgy which celebrated the birth of Jesus Christ was held during the advent season
- The "student lounge" was re-opened for students to sign up and play board games during their lunch periods
- SHSM students were given the opportunity to participate in a school trip to Guelph University
- With the advent season beginning, advent themed bible studies were held
- Confession was provided for students to sign up, helping students further their relationship with God
- Student participation in a Sheridan College trip gave students the opportunity to explore the fields of science and physics

Student Concerns:

- Students are beginning to feel academic stress as they prepare for upcoming exams

Suggested/Potential Agenda Items:

- Creating a poster to help guide students as they prepare for exams highlighting topics on studying strategies, time management skills and wellness, or distributing established resources as ways to positively address this concern among students

D) Standing Items:

1. Non-Teaching Rep Report – Nicole Bailey

- Nothing to report

2. Vice Principal Report – Nancy Tsiobanos

- Grade 9's who are taking Math this semester has EQAO – 10% EQAO, 20% CPT
- Handout distribution on Examination procedures
- Senior students begin their exams at 8:30 – 10:30am
- Grade 9&10s start 9am – 10:30am
- 1 exam per day
- Students can leave after their exams, but the library will be opened for studying for students who must wait for the bus
- January 28 is designated as a make up exam day should there be any inclement weather that prevents students from writing on their scheduled day
- New semester begins Friday January 31

3. Chaplaincy and Teaching Rep Report: - Andrew Selvam& Nicole Bailey

School Updates:

The Black Student Association (BSA) is planning for Black History Month, the theme is “I and I, I want to Rule My Destiny” Scripture: “Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and He will establish your plans – Proverbs 16:9

Focus:

- Canadian/American influential Black leaders in different industries
- Morning Reflections
- My Black Hair is Beautiful
- Guest Speaker
- Blackout Tuesday

Mental Health & Wellness:

- Introducing the Wellness Hub (every Wednesday): focusing on well-being, such as physical health, mental health and work life balance
- Students are encouraged to drop in during their lunch break to participate in various wellness activities
- Bell Let's Talk – January 22nd

Sports:

- Follow team @dypanther_athletics
- New athletic council IG @dyathletic_council to see all the great things that are happening
- School will be getting a new mascot (photos shown)
- Spring sports coming up include Sr. Badminton, Boys & Girls Soccer, Boys Baseball, Girls Slo-Pitch, Track & Field, Co-ed Ultimate Frisbee

Semi-Formal:

- Save the date: Thursday March 27, 2025
- Location: Chandni Convention Centre Gateway, Brampton
- School cash online will be set up for students to pay \$65 fee

RAISE And ASPIRE:

- Will be entering the DPCDSB Skills Technology competition on February 27th at St. Augustine
- In addition, will be participating in ROPSSAA bowling on Friday January 24th at Bowlero
- RAISE also recently completed a 6-week art program with PAMA (Peel Art Gallery and Museum Archives)

D'Youville Drama Spring Production:

- Drama spring production is gearing up as we are preparing to hold auditions at the beginning of Semester 2

Knits & Crafts Club:

- Students in the Knits and Crafts Club are making scarves for future street patrols to provide for the homeless

Chaplaincy Updates:

DY Christmas Drive:

- \$7700 collected in cash and gift cards from several sources including clubs, homeroom classes and staff

- Toy Drive with staff – toys provided to families in need in our community and families of St. Vincent de Paul
- 22 families in our school community supported this year
- Food items were shared with families as well as St. Vincent de Paul groups throughout Brampton

Second Prayer night:

- 25 plus students participated
- Will be repeating during lent

Bible study:

- Continues alternate Wednesdays after school and alternate Mondays at 3C Lunch; next semester will offer both 3A and 3C lunches

Chaplaincy Retreat: - February 26

Service Trips: - at the local nursing home

Fast and Servious 2025:

- Secured enough service placements for 90 students, 5 locations
- Program began last year to support ShareLife and other local charities
- Raised \$4k last year that was donated to ShareLife

DY Does Mission:

- Helped to support families throughout the year
- Proceeds have gone to Knight's table and SVDP

Faith & Food Event:

- Brunch after 12:30 mass, next one to take place in February
- Approx 15 individuals participated

4. Principal's Report: – Rob Weatherbee

- **Safety:** Principal reinforced safety in the school community and let everyone know that doors will continue to stay locked throughout the day. They have also increased school monitors

Exciting developments:

- A variety of extra curricular events are currently taking place offering students great opportunities for engagement including Jr. & Sr. Boys Basketball and Jr. & Sr. Girl's Volleyball
- The school has applied to introduce a new ICT Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) which will compliment the existing hospitality and healthcare SHSM programs
- A strong emphasis on academic excellence is evident, with numerous academic contests underway including Waterloo Math Contest and Waterloo Programming Contest
- The regional STEM program has seen an overwhelming response with twice as many applicants as available spots
- Plans for Black History Month include several special events celebrating culture, history, and achievements which include a trip to the Rose Theatre where DY dance team will perform
- A brand-new STEM lab is being introduced along with various upgrades throughout the school to enhance the overall student experience
- Technology enhancements continue with each Grade 9 student receiving a Chromebook to support their learning
- The Athletic Council has advocated a new school mascot which will be ordered using SGF funds

- After consultations SGF funds will be allocated to refresh of entrance and will align with school Motto To Trust, To Risk, To Love, To Serve
- **Upcoming:**
- Jan 13-17: Math EQAO
- Jan 30: PA Day
- Feb 14: PA Day
- Students will have the opportunity to change their schedules, deadline is Jan 27
- New Staff: Religion, Library Technician
- Mrs. Delauriers, Head of mathematics will be retiring January 30, her position will be posted

5. Chair Report: - Sunny Kanabe

- Training for school council officer took place on November 28
- December 5th – CCAC meeting, next meeting is February 3rd
- Dominoes Pizza fundraising promotion to begin February 4th - for every pizza bought during that time \$5 is donated to the school, orders must be done online

6. Treasurer's Report: - Beverly Kerat

- Dominoes Fundraising - \$175
- We received Grant \$500
- Total current balance in school Council funds is \$1,072

7. Parish report: – Andrew Selvam

- Dec 8 – Christmas concert, 3 choirs participated
- Raised about \$7k which will go towards purchasing a new sound system for the Parish
- Dec 24, marks the beginning of the Jubilee year
- The Archdiocese of Toronto has invited a Jubilee church to host a regional celebration on January 29, 2025 @7pm at St. Mary's Parish in Brampton
- Small Group Faith Ministry meetings will be held on Wednesdays and Saturdays, email Olivia Saqui at screening committee.smdy@gmail.com for more information
- The Rosary Apostolate is going back to "in person", for more information leave a message for Paula at the Parish Office
- St. Vincent de Paul – anyone in need of assistance is asked to contact St. Marguerite D'Youville Conference directly at 647-642-4906 or email: vincentdepauls-mdy@gmail.com

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 – **Nothing to report**

F) Action Items:

1. Board approved List
 - If there is anyone that the Council knows that may be interested, feel free to follow the protocol to get them on the list
 - Rob to send list of themes/topics to the Parent Council for review
2. Used Uniform sales

- Can specify an event that we can host the sale of uniforms, for example Open House for feeder Elementary school, Regional STEM parents

Other Business:

- Teacher Appreciation Day: May 1, 2025
- Will discuss at March meeting
- School Webpage – donations are welcome

Next Meeting: March 19, 2025

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn Meeting: Rob Weatherbee

Second: Andrew Selvam

Motion Carried

Meeting Adjourned at 7:50pm