

# Sts. Martha and Mary School Council

Minutes of Meeting – Tuesday September 23, 2008

1. **Candle Lighting:** L. Arnett

2. **Opening Prayer:** Led by S. Steer

3. **Elections: Sue Steer**

-Roles and responsibilities of council members were reviewed. This year we have 16 members. The School Council Executive for 2008/2009 is as follows:

**Chair** – Tara Messersmith

**Vice-Chair** – Cindy Gonsalves

**Treasurer** - Maria Savaro

**Secretary** – Filo Costa

**Co-Secretary** – Laura Arnett

**Parish Liaison** – Teena McKeon

**Non Teaching Representative**– Ms. Klein

**OAPCE Representative** – Cindy Gonsalves (will rotate with volunteers)

**Community Representative** – Jim Christopoulos

**Teaching Representatives** – Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Maxymiw

**Council Members** – Tina Marano, Aida Da Silva, Teresa Holeran, Teena McKeon, Tara Messersmith, Cindy Gonsalves, Maria Savaro, Filo Costa, Laura Arnett, Eva DiPede, Jim Christopoulos, Jennifer Roselli, Lisa Butler, Cathy Cochrane, Sally Jones-Clark, Leslie Wrobel

4. **Approval of Agenda**

**Moved by:** L. Butler **Seconded by:** F. Costa

*All in favour*

5. **Chair's Report:** T. Messersmith and C. Gonsalves

Open House BBQ- organized and run by J. Roselli and C. Gonsalves

- very successful, many families participated
- had some ideas for better organization for next year
- no profit after paying for picnic table rentals and trash cans (\$220.00)
- \$975 in pizza orders
- easy clean up

Council Communications

- questions about emailing minutes to all parents? – not possible at this time without an existing database.
- Minutes will be placed on the school web site by Ms. De Simone
- Will have a "Parent's Corner" on future school newsletters for council update and reminder of next meeting
- Council flyer went out this week – hope to recruit new members and bring awareness to council activities

New Trans Fat Standard/Pizza Update

- Pizza committee is currently looking at alternative suppliers for pizza that comply with the new Trans Fat Standard. There are several options.

## Lunch Moms

- Surveys came back positive.

**Motion to continue with Lunch Moms on Tuesdays and proceeds to be earmarked to liturgy resources.**

**Moved by:** C. Gonsalves

**Seconded by:** J. Roselli

All in Favour

## 2008/2009 Council Meeting Dates

- Tuesday October 21
- Monday November, 24
- Monday January 19
- Tuesday February 17
- Monday April 20
- Tuesday May 19

## 6. Principal's Report: S. Steer

S. Steer welcomed all council members and parents.

### **Class Size/Staffing**

- School population is currently at 416
- Staffing: 16.5 classroom teachers (.5 less from last year)
- Additional reductions: Planning Time 0.2
- Total staff: 21.8
- Staffing ration for JK/3 is 6.7 – actual is 6.5, grades 4-8 is 9.6 – actual is 10.
- Class Size: Primary 20.6, Junior/Intermediate is 24.3; School is 22.8
- Leaves: Ms. Assalone and Mrs. Hammond
- LTO Hires: Adam Patola FSL (grades 6, 7, 8 French), Alicia Feather Grade 5 until March 1 (relieve Ms. Hammond).
- Sandra Prescuitti an Early Literacy Special Assignment teacher will be rotating between 3 schools.

### **Catholicity**

- Opening Mass September 10/07 at school with Father Jim.
- Faith is the virtue of the month.
- Sacramental Preparation Mtgs. On Sept. 9 for Grade 2 and Sept. 30 for Grade 8 students at the church at 7:00 pm.
- Catholic Presence in the foyer – the altar is set up and decorated.
- Student Leadership –students applied for positions in June and supplied references. 17 leaders from grades 7 and 8.
- Pastoral Plan was handed out in the school newsletter.
- Liturgies continue in the school – all parents are welcome.
- Advent Mass – Family Mass not scheduled as attendance was not great last year.

## **Safety**

- Peace Pals – Oct. 6 training for grade 5 students to run activities with grade 1 students at recess.
- Anaphylaxis Policy: Nut Free Environment. Training for all teachers is complete.
- Kiss & Ride is running smoothly, volunteers are still needed.
- School Security policies have been reviewed.
- Playground: 1 teacher for every 250 students. 3 teachers for school, attempting to be proactive for bullying issues. Teachers opt to wear safety vests for visibility for students.
- Recess Bins: Sue will check for supplementation.
- Transportation: Empty Seat Policy: following school board policy

## **Goals for This Year**

- Catholicity: focus on mass responses, sacred spaces, music for masses, social justice.
- Literacy/Numeracy: strategies for improvement
- Anti-Bullying: analyzing survey results a report will be brought back to council.
- Safe Caring and Inclusive Schools
- Board Homework Policy – should have before Christmas

## **EQAO**

- Starts first week of June.
- Grade 3 results are higher than Dufferin Peel and Board in Reading, Writing and Math.
- Grade 6 results are higher than Dufferin Peel and Board in Reading, Writing and Math.
- Grade 6 is very high in writing.
- Grade 6 dropped from grade 3 testing, math went up 11% from last year.
- The EQAO website has more detailed information at [www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com)

## **7. Treasurer's Report: Maria Savaro**

- Currently have \$15,000 in the bank, note that this amount still must pay for pre-paid pizza orders to date.
- 2007/2008 Project Expenditures as at June/08.
- Wish List to be reviewed at a later date.

### **Motion to approve treasurer's report.**

**Moved by:** T. Messersmith **Seconded by:** L. Arnett

All in Favour

## **8. New Business**

### **Council Mail and Photocopying**

- S. Jones-Clark and A. Da Silva have volunteered to go through the council mail and assist with photocopying.

### **Fundraising – C. Cochrane**

- Dance-a-thon – have hired a D.J. this year. Will hand out glow bracelets.
- Have bought \$500 of prizes
- Will require 100% return of pledge forms.
- Will hand out water.

Pizza Committee Update – L. Butler

- Trying Thursday for new pizza day in hopes that the quality of the pizza will be improved.
- Trying to balance the cost/profit of the pizza with quality from the various suppliers.
- Will be trying Pizza Pizza, Papa Luigi's, Pizza King and Dominos to mention a few.

Discuss Revised Date for Michael Reist Presentation – date changed to Wednesday Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>.

- C. Gonsalves to do up a communication.

**9. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn.**

**Moved by:** C. Klein    **Seconded by:** T. Messersmith    All in Favour

**Council Members in Attendance:** – T. Marano, A. Da Silva, T. Holleran, T. McKeon, Tara Messersmith, Cindy Gonsalves, Maria Savaro, Filo Costa, Laura Arnett, Eva DiPede, Jim Christopoulos, Jennifer Roselli, Lisa Butler, Cathy Cochrane, Sally Jones-Clark, Leslie Wrobel

**Regrets:** J. Christopoulos

**Parents in Attendance:** S. Daniel-McKernan, G. Varrecchia, E. Seucik, I Seucik, E. Folk, C. Wyatt, D. McKeon, F. Hyvarinen, M. Malia.

**Administration in Attendance:** Mrs. Steer, Ms. Klein

**Teacher Representative in Attendance:** Ms. Ford, Mrs. Maxymiw

**NEXT MEETING IS TUES. October 21, 2008 - 7:00 P.M.**