

Minutes of Catholic School Advisory Council (CSAC)  
MEETING OF THE 2009-2010 CSAC  
St. Louis Catholic School  
\*October 29, 2009\*

<b>ATTENDEES</b>	
Valerie Devine	Maria Brooks
Ida Foisy	Marianna Di Biasio
Bernadette Aman	Enzo LoFaso
Connie Gemma	
Rosanne Morris – Principal	Ewa Kozibroda
Mrs. DiCarlo – Teacher Representative	Ewa Rasowski
Absent: Oriana Bono, Claudette Piscione, Juan Flores, Sandra Calzada, Mrs. LoFaso	

**Prayer – For Catholic Education**

O, Holy Spirit, source of truth and grace for those entrusted with the Christian development of children, enlighten our minds, strengthen our will, fill our hearts with generosity so that our homes, our parishes and our schools may co-operate effectively with You, and with one another in the mission of Catholic education. We make our prayer through Christ, our Lord. Amen

**Welcome and Introductions**

\* Ms. Devine welcomed all in attendance.

**Approval of the Minutes from September 2009**

\* The Minutes from September 24, 2009 were approved and seconded via e-mail following the meeting in September 2009.

**Principal's Comments**

Ms. Morris presented a list of important dates for the remainder of the school year, information for the parent community, which is now posted on the school website.

Ms Morris reported on the following items:

- Plans for Hallowe'en

Summary for parents went home, highlighting the following:

- Bishop Allen Haunted Bus, sponsored by gifted students visits St. Louis
- St. Louis Haunted House, sponsored by Mrs. Varey's class
- School parade: morning and afternoon; parents are welcome, with cameras!
- \* Grade 8 Students support The Daily Bread Food Bank at Hallowe'en with a canned food drive; ticket to the grade 7/8 dance is one food item

- Pizza Day

- Our thanks to Mrs. Brooks and Mrs. DiBiasio for their thorough organization of our very successful first pizza day; a job well-done; the staff and children are very grateful.

- Acorn Cards

Our thanks to Mrs. Devine for her hard work and organization of the Acorn card fundraiser. The response has been very positive and the children have enjoyed the activity.

- Me to We Day Planning

Ms Pacheco and Ms Morris attended the Me to We Day celebrations at the ACC with thirteen student leaders from St. Louis. Plans are underway for this year's Advent local outreach community project; and for this year's Lenten Global outreach project for the student and parent community of St. Louis. Yesterday, Ms Pacheco and two student leaders spent time with Marc and Craig Kilberger, founders of Free the Children, the sponsoring group for empowering youth to lead with passion and enthusiasm.

- Athletic News

Ms DiCarlo, our Athletic Representative, has co-ordinated the Athletic calendar for this School year. We have just completed our boys and girls soccer season, and boys and girls are currently in training for the volleyball season—games are the week of November 9<sup>th</sup>. The Athletic Calendar has been posted to the St. Louis School website as well. We are very grateful to our staff coaches for the commitment of their personal time to the St. Louis athletic program.

- School Learning and Improvement Plan, including Safe Schools Policy:

Ms Morris presented the template for reporting for the School Learning and Improvement Plan, which is currently being prepared for input on the school website. The report will be completed by November 7<sup>th</sup> and will be available for perusal by the school community at that time. (See attached template—Ministry of Education

Priorities and TCDSB System Priorities—focus on student achievement in Literacy and Numeracy while nurturing our Catholic community.

- Public Health Nurse Visit

Anaphalactic Protocol review with staff at October 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. Cali Kim, our Public Health Nurse reviewed the use of the epi pen with members of the St. Louis School staff.

- PD Day on November 13<sup>th</sup>

Focus for staff on Assessment and Evaluation within divisional professional groupings, at the school. There will be no school for children on that day.

**Special Requests for CSAC Consideration:**

**APPROVAL HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT CSAC MEETING**

- We have an amazing opportunity for ARTS WORKSHOPS from kindergarten to grade 8:

-- Dance and Play Studios—a professional company, will offer 5 workshops

- Kindergarten and Grade 1—one hour dance and play
- Kindergarten and Grade 2—one hour dance and play
- Gr. 3/4 and 4/5—two hour Let's Dance
- Gr. 5/6 and 7—two hour Let's Dance
- Gr. 8—two hour Let's Dance

Total Cost= \$625.00 (including tax and a 25% discount)

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- TD Evergreen Fund will sponsor us for the Humber Arboretum Urban Ecology Centre programs
  - Regular cost is 10.25 per child; we can have class workshops for \$3.00 per child
  - Primary and Junior class expenses would be X \$3.00 each plus the cost of buses
  - Total (not including buses) is  $105 \times 3 = \$315$  plus tax
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## **APPROVAL HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT CSAC MEETING**

Consideration for support of the cost of the agenda books for 2009-2010:

- total cost is 1300.00
- families contributed \$5 each = approximately 161 X 5 = \$805.00
- balance owing = \$505.00
- could CSAC cover \$250.00 of the outstanding balance to help defray costs

### **Treasurer's Report**

- \* \$3,000 GIC is available for next year's council.
- \* Discussed selling chocolates as a fundraiser – Grade 8 can help with this fundraiser.
- \* Fundraising will help with the need from buses as the cost is increasingly higher each year.
- \* Due to fact that the number of children are decreasing at the school, in order to have enrichment activities we will need to fundraise and chocolate sales can bring in some fundraising money.
- \* Spreadsheet prepared by Connie Gemma outlining St. Louis' commitments and currently we do need some funds in order to pay for any extra events.
- \* Financial statements approved by Valerie Devine.

### **CSAC Chair's Comments**

\*Update from Ward 2 Trustee/CSAC Meeting

- Ann Andrachuk was at meeting and it was hosted by St. Louis.

Here are a few of the items that were discussed:

- Grade 8 Confirmation Crosses were shown to Mrs. Di Carlo and Ms. Morris, however Ms. Morris believes we still have crosses available at the school. Crosses are available from Bethlehem\_holyland@yahoo.ca and cost \$1/each.
- Uniform Committee Consultation – The uniform for schools is still in discussion mode.
- There will be a Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (CPIC) on November 14, 2009 at the Yonge/Sheppard Board Offices.

- CSAC members from Father Redmond advised that the Congregated Advance Placement at Father Redmond is not being advertised and they would like it to be. They have approached the Board and have not yet received an answer.
- South Lakeshore schools are concerned that they do not have any gifted programs. They do have special learning programs, however, they feel they do need a gifted program in South Lakeshore schools.
- St. Ambrose school will be re-designed. The CSAC representative from St. Ambrose had some great fundraising ideas.

## **Old Business**

### **Acorn Cards**

Valerie Devine will work on the children's art cards and match up their student numbers with their Acorn Cards from previous years. The cards should be ready for distribution by November 18, 2009.

### **Pizza Lunch Update**

Our new Pizza Co-ordinators, Marianne DiBiasio and Maria Brooks have done a wonderful job in co-ordinating the Pizza Lunch in October. We look forward to two more pizza lunches in November 2009.

### **Lunch Lady**

Lunch Lady is continuing in the school. Lunch Lady continues on Wednesdays. A suggestion was made to the CSAC to have testimonials of the students to encourage other students to order Lunch Lady. Valerie Devine will include these testimonials in the CSAC Newsletter.

### **PRO Grant**

The funds for the PRO Grant are used to increase parental involvement in the school. We have submitted our 2009 Pro Grant request. We have not received the grant monies from 2008 and Valerie Devine will follow-up with the Board to find out when they plan on re-imbursing us.

### **RBC Grant**

Valerie Devine has received the cheque for the RBC Grant for \$500.00. Her volunteer hours at the school qualify for our school receiving the grant. Thank you Valerie Devine!

### **Chocolate Fundraiser**

Valerie Devine will contact Aunt Sarah's Chocolate to determine when we can start this fundraiser. Marianne DiBiasio and Maria Brooks will help in the distribution of the chocolate boxes.

## **New Business**

### **Extended French at St. Louis**

- \* If approved, this program would be for Grades 5, 6, 7 and/or Grade 8
- \* The children in this program would be a child that would be more motivated than normal
- \* South Etobicoke does not have an Extended French Program
- \* This program is the school curriculum in French except for Math and English. All other subjects would be in French (ie. Social Studies, Visual Arts, Gym, etc.)
- \* This would be beneficial to St. Louis if we were to have this program as it could potentially increase our student population and other students would not leave St. Louis to go to another school with this program (Our Lady of Peace, All Saints or John English)
- \* Ms Morris will contact the board office to have Extended French at St Louis placed on the agenda for a board meeting; a parent delegation will make a presentation requesting that the board give consideration to the start of a French immersion program at St. Louis effective September, 2010.
- \* There will be a meeting for this program if you would like to have your opinion expressed on this issue
- \* Please contact Ms. Morris if you have any questions regarding this program or if you would like to be a member of the parent delegation.

### **Fundraising Donation**

- \* Mrs. Kozibroda has kindly offered to donate Polish sausages and buns to St. Louis to be used as a future fund-raiser.

### **Dates for CSAC Meetings**

#### **Please schedule into your calendars**

- \* November 26, 2009
- \* January 21, 2010
- \* February 25, 2010
- \* April 22, 2010
- \* May 27, 2010

### **NOTE : Christmas Concert**

- \* December 15, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

### **Adjournment**

- 8:45 pm