

**Minutes of Catholic School Advisory Council (CSAC)**

**St. Louis Catholic School**

**March 23, 2006**

<b>ATTENDEES</b>	
Patrick Robins – CSAC Co-Chair Connie Gemma – CSAC Treasurer Valerie Devine – CSAC Co-Secretary Rosanne Morris - Principal Giulia Di Carlo - Teaching Staff	
Connie Antonacci Angela Belair Stephanie Dower Blanca Gonzalez	Margaret Kalsi Claudette Piscione Maria Tonon

**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

We also gave thanks for the release of the hostages in Iraq, with the especial mention of James Loney who is well-known to staff at Bishop Allen Academy

**Welcome and Introductions**

Mr. Robins and Ms. Morris:

- welcomed all

**Approval of the Minutes from February 9, 2006**

The Minutes from February 9<sup>th</sup> were approved by Mr. Robbins, with a second approval by Mrs. Kalsi

**Principal's Comments**

Since last meeting in February, exciting new curriculum initiatives and activities have been ongoing at St. Louis:

**Enrichment Activities**

- visits by the Junior Grades, to Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for "Hanna's Suitcase"
- visit to Bruce's Mills for Maple Syrup run for Grades 1- 5 scheduled on March 31<sup>st</sup>
- Valentine's Day dance was planned by Grade 8s, as Community Service for a Confirmation project
- St. Louis placed second for the region, at the Junior W5H Tournament
- Grades 5 and 6 visited the Cadbury Chocolate Factory this week
- Regional Gifted Program at St. Louis is well underway with activities for Destination Imagination and Queen's University trips facilitated by Mr. Finucan; thanks for parent supporters
- Grade 6 "Imagination Works Drama Presentations" have been well-received by students, facilitated by Mrs. Radi and these sessions will continue through the month of March
- Three Pizza Days were held in February and one in March; thanks for CSAC parents: Mrs. Kalsi, Mrs. Piscione and Mrs. Antonacci

**Baby Footsteps Lenten Project**

- This fund-raising activity will support Ernestine's Women's Shelter, a facility located in Etobicoke that provides housing and support services to women and their children

- Ernestine's Women's Shelter is funded by the Ministry of Community and Social Services, United Way, Trillium Grants, and private benefactors. St. Louis community will now be among the benefactors.
- Each class, under the guidance of their teacher, will determine how they will raise the money to buy at least two (per class) of "Baby Footsteps" packages. Each package costs \$30 and will include two sleepers, a receiving blanket, some toys and toiletry products suitable for an infant. These packages will be given by Ernestine's, to new mothers – as a Baby Shower Gift
- Kick-off Assembly on March 24<sup>th</sup> with the Director of Ernestine's Women's Shelter about this Lenten project
- A reporter from the Etobicoke Guardian will be present to interview four students about this project
- A hand-out – which will be given to parents on Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, about this initiative, was provided to meeting attendees
- Mrs. Cousineau is the project co-ordinator, and she is assisted by members of the Liturgical committee: Mrs. DiCarlo, Mrs. Horich and Mme. Smith
- Thanks to Mrs. Kalsi for soliciting donations from the community

#### Liturgies and Sacramental Preparation at St. Louis

- Ash Wednesday Paraliturg
- Lenten Mass was held on March 7<sup>th</sup>
- Whole School Reconciliation held earlier this week and thanks to Father Sultana and three priests from the Archdiocese
- First Reconciliation takes place for Grade 2s on April 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:45 a.m. St. Leo's Church; preparations are underway
- Holy Thursday Paraliturg to be held on April 13<sup>th</sup>
- Grades 7 and 8 will have a re-enactment of the Last Supper; planned by Liturgy Committee and students
- First Holy Communion to be held on May 6<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. at St. Leo's Church
- Confirmation for Grade 8s to be held at 7 p.m. on May 5<sup>th</sup> at St. Leo's Church
- Confirmation Retreat scheduled for April 28<sup>th</sup> at Bishop Allen, facilitated by Ursula Cybylko, Chaplain at Father Gates Secondary School and OISE

#### Parent-Teacher Interviews

- Was very well attended

#### Kindergarten Registration Night

- Was a great success and we currently have twenty new registrations for September
- February was Kindergarten Registration month
- Thank you to Mrs. Devine and Ms. Gemma for their participation (with Ms. Morris) in a door-to-door flyer distribution campaign to enlist students

#### Enrolment Projections for September 2006

- There are currently 285 students at St. Louis
- The projected enrolment is for September is 256
- With students moving out of the area and with Grade 8 students graduating, there will be a loss of 29 students
- There is a potential for change between now and September

#### Teacher Inservice for Curriculum Development with Ministry of Education

- Continues across all grade levels:
  - Early Reading Strategy
  - Early Writing Strategy
  - Junior Shared Reading
  - Differentiated Curriculum for Grade 2

- Impacts on curriculum delivery in the classroom
- Continuous development of the Professional Learning Community at St. Louis - excellence for all children and professional dialogue

#### Volunteers at St. Louis

- There are currently ten adult volunteers in classes and the Library
- There are also four Co-op students from Bishop Allen in various classes

#### Parent Discussion Forums: Topics of Interest ...

- Daniela Mares, TCDSB Psychology Department, presented “Emotional Intelligence and Your Child” on February 21<sup>st</sup> at 7 p.m.
- This is the first of many other evenings of interest to the parent community
- Ms. Morris welcomes input from parents regarding future forums
- Area 2 schools will be joining together for presentations on Cybersafety, Bullying and Community Building. Details are TBA and St. Louis will lead this initiative
  - There have been a few incidents, involving Grade 7 and 8 students, where internet BLOGS have been mis-used, over the past few weeks. Unkind things have been said about some of our students by other St. Louis students and the victims have approached Ms. Morris who has called the Police to discuss Cybersafety with the Grade 7 and 8 students. Ten out of sixty students have been affected and some of the victims have been placed at risk – because the perpetrators have mentioned the victims by name. School PCs cannot be used for BLOGs, as our school PCs have controls set on them which disallow this practice. The BLOGging was done at the students home PCs using myspace.com, MSN, ....
- Pat Miller, Early Years Co-ordinator for Etobicoke Lakeshore will present in future at St. Louis

#### St. Louis Athletics...

- Thanks to our dedicated teacher coaches!
- Upcoming sports events:
  - March 29<sup>th</sup>: Junior Boys Volleyball tournament at Christ The King - Mrs. Radi and Mrs. Pacheco
  - May 30<sup>th</sup>: Junior Girls Volleyball tournament at Christ the King - Mme. Smith and Mrs. DiCarlo
  - Track and Field Plans are well underway at Centennial Park
  - April 24<sup>th</sup>: Cross Country

#### Public Health

- Anaphalactic Protocol presentation will take place for all staff on March 29<sup>th</sup> - presented by Edie Cade, Public Health Nurse for the City of Toronto. This will help teachers understand what has to be done if a student has an allergic reaction
- Hepatitis B vaccinations are now complete for Grade 7s
- School-wide Dental Screening is now complete

#### Fundraising

- Thanks to Mrs. Belair and Mr. Robins for spear-heading the Acorn Art Card campaign which will be in full swing next week
- We look forward to wonderful creative products to be enjoyed by children, staff and families

#### Treasurer’s Report

Ms. Gemma provided the following update:

- We have a balance of: \$8,798.92

MINUS previously committed:

\$6,308.71

**REVISED BALANCE:**

\$2,490.01

Ms. Morris will ask staff if there is anything they require for their classrooms/students which can be purchased from a portion of the CSAC funds

### Old Business

- CSAC Bylaws

- Mr. Robins and Ms. Morris met on March 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss the CSAC Bylaws and minor changes were made to this **draft** document:



"St.Louis CSAC Bylaws.doc"

- This is the **final version** which resulted from that meeting:



St.Louis CSAC Final Bylaws.doc

- Carolyn Anco, the Staff Development Curriculum Co-Ordinator has seen this final version and has indicated that the document meets Board requirements
  - Ms. Morris commended Mr. Robins for the fact that he ensured that the spirit of consensus, community building and cooperation are integrated into the CSAC framework and process, as evidenced in the Bylaws themselves
  - These Bylaws will generate a process to provide structure to the school which will facilitate communication from year to year – so that our school and our CSAC can grow
- Fund-Raising Report
    - Chocolate Sales
      - There are still monies to be returned from the chocolate sales. We will not be doing any more follow-up to ask students to return funds owed to the school
    - Fund-Raising Start
      - We should discuss 2006-2007 fund-raising activities before the end of this school year, in May or June 2006
    - Dance-A-Thon
      - The Dance-A-Thon is to be held on Friday, May 19, 2006.
      - Theme:
        - Mrs. Di Carlo confirmed that the theme will be "Disco Days"
      - Prizes:
        - each student will get a prize for participating
          - Mrs. Di Carlo will provide a listing of male/female students for each class so that gender appropriate gifts can be bought for each student
          - Mrs. Kalsi and Mrs. Piscione will pick up \$50 and \$35 gifts Walmart Gift Certificates (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> prizes)

- Ms. Devine will pick up the \$20, 3<sup>rd</sup> prize (2 movie passes (valid any day of the week, includes 2 child admissions (3 - 13 years of age), 2 small soft drinks and 1 small popcorn)
    - Ms. Devine will pick up the water (\$100 for water for each of the 281 students (assuming 24 bottles in each case @ \$2.97/case currently on sale)
  - Dance Times
 

Ms. Morris will confirm the following dance times with the teachers:

- Morning JK/SK, Grades 2 and 2/3	9 a.m. to 10 a.m.
- Grades 3, 4 and 5	10:30 a.m. to 11:30
- Afternoon JK/SK and Grade 1	12:45 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.
- Grade 5/6, 6, 7 and 8	1:45 p.m. to 3 p.m.

NB Consideration should be given to a schedule change so that the Grade 5/6 and 6 dance could be scheduled for 10:30 a.m. or the Grades 5/6 could be scheduled at 10:30 a.m., while Grade 6 could be scheduled for 1:45 p.m.

    - Ms. Devine will fax a copy of the confirmed dance-times to Yolanda, closer to the date of the Dance-A-Thon
  - Contract
    - The Contract to Platinum Music and Entertainment Inc. was signed by Ms. Morris and faxed to the company
    - Ms. Devine has mailed the cheque for \$200 to Yolanda's attention, to the company at 910 Rowntree Dairy Road, Unit 23, Vaughan, Ontario, L4L 5W5
- Greeting Cards
  - We have received the materials for this fund-raising activity (Acorn Custom Cards)
  - Each order will cost parents \$20
  - Mrs. Belair has been organizing this fund-raiser and she attended the meeting on February 16<sup>th</sup> with J. Finlayson to further discuss
  - Mrs. Belair provided the following update:
    - Class packages have been assembled – including extra order forms
    - March 27 – Teachers will receive their class packages
    - March 31 – Artwork has to be completed by the students
    - April 3 – Information will go home to the parents
    - April 7 – Orders are due back in school
    - April 11 – Orders are due at Acorn Custom Cards
    - April 19 – Acorn Custom Cards send confirmation spreadsheet to school
    - May 3 – Completed cards are received to be school
  - If this fund-raiser is successful, we may want to consider doing it in the Fall – in time for Christmas cards
  - Ms. Gemma reminded us that cheques from the parents should be made payable to "St. Louis PTA"
- Campbell's Labels
  - We will continue to collect Campbell's labels in the school

- Mr. Robins confirmed with Campbell's that the manager of the store will have to speak to his/her Campbell's store representative to ask for a box to be placed in that store
- We can have a box placed in as many stores as we wish as long as we speak to the manager of each of those stores
- We are waiting for Mario at the No Frills at Drummond and Royal York Road to get back to us about his conversation with his Campbell's store representative
  - Our Campbell's account number is 7243 and the contact information for Campbell's is:  
Linda Molloy  
LFE CANADA Administrator  
Campbell's Labels for Education  
website: [www.labelsforeducation.ca](http://www.labelsforeducation.ca)  
Toll Free Phone: 1-877-522-3574

### **New Business**

- Ms. Moran's Gift of Recognition
  - CSAC's gift to Ms. Moran will be a plaque to be placed near a tree planted in her honour by the staff of St. Louis

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

### **NEXT CSAC MEETING:**

7:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 27, 2006 in the St. Louis Catholic School Library