

Minutes of Catholic School Advisory Council (CSAC)
MEETING OF THE 2007-2008 CSAC
St. Louis Catholic School
May 29, 2008

ATTENDEES	
Valerie Devine – Chair	Rosanne Morris - Principal
Connie Gemma – Treasurer	Joanne Yano – Member-at-large
Ida Foisy – Co-secretary	Bernadette Aman
Maria Soccorsa Tonon – Co-Secretary	Michelle O’Rourke
Adelina Santaluce	Mary Anne Cousineau
CSAC Members Absent: Stefanie Dower, Oriana Bono, Connie Antonacci, Michelle LeBlanc, Claudette Piscione – Member-at-large	

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 April 24, 2008

- * The Minutes from April 24, 2008 approved by Valerie Devine and seconded by Connie Gemma.

Principal’s Comments - Sharing Good News at St. Louis

Welcome to Kindergarten Evening

- * our Welcome to Kindergarten Evening was a complete success thanks to the hard work and efforts of the teachers and staff in our primary division
- * families with children registering for next September were invited to an interactive evening where children could meet their teachers and engage in activity based learning centres

- * the evening opened with a panel of guests welcoming parents and children, comprised of members from the community including The Learning Partnership; Toronto Public Libraries, Mimico Branch; Curriculum and Accountability Office of the TCDSB, Public Health Department, Parks and Recreation
- * visible displays from guests
- * feedback from all was extremely positive; we have received many emails and notes of thanks
- * parents were very pleased; children enjoyed the evening; babysitters were appreciated by staff and parents alike

Dance-a-thon

- * thank you to all parents who donated to the Dance-a-thon and contributed to the success of the fundraising event; thank you to the teachers, parents and students who provided support as well
- * the Heart and Stroke Foundation fundraiser and Play Day—Jump Rope for Hearts-- was also a complete success; as noted in the Principal Newsletter for May (see the website for more details) the event was celebrated by the Heart and Stroke Foundation as an excellent example of student leadership; grade 6 students in Mrs Mior's class guided the activities through out the day—in the gym and on the school yard
- * Ms Morris referred council members to the recent May newsletter that highlighted other successes at St. Louis for the month of May:
 - * Feast of St Louis celebration on April 25th
 - * the Economics of Staying in School—RBC, Ms Devine and Ms Devine-Turiff present a full day seminar to our grade 8s
 - * the new photo gallery in our front hall in honour of St. Louis and the virtues
 - * athletic news including today's Track and Field meet at Centennial Park
 - * CSAC Lecture Series: Kids Have Stress Too with Public Health Liason
 - * Purple Day for Meagan's Walk and 97.3 EZ Rock
 - * Scholastic Book Fair-- \$2334.15 sales (\$1305.26 profit for classes)
 - * sacramental preparation for Reconciliation, First Communion, Confirmation
 - * grade 8 tree planting near Kleinburg—over 1000 trees were planted
 - * St. Louis Choir shines at the TCDSB Music Festival
 - * Mrs. Yano – Art- Body Image, Waterfront Trail Artists
 - * Tulip Festival
 - * Grade 3 – Drinking and Driving Bags on display at LCBO – Dundas/Royal York
 - * Grade 7 and Grade 10 BA students – Science Links
 - * Grade 8 went to Waterloo (Research in Motion)
 - * Grade 6 and 7 – Science Olympics

Budget Concerns for TCDSB and Effects on St. Louis

- * as reported in the press, the Ministry has sent in an auditor to review the decisions made by the TCDSB board of trustees regarding cuts to program and budget; the current deficit is \$13 million and the Minister is requiring a balanced budget
- * decisions are being reviewed actively at board meetings held this week and next
- * as reported at the last meeting we have lost 2 full teachers; additionally we have lost 0.50 5th Block Program; 0.50 ESL ; 0.20 French; and 0.20 Daily Physical Activity
- * TCDSB Senior Staff is meeting with the Toronto Elementary Catholic Teachers (TECT) to negotiate the framework for moving forward to meet the Ministry requirements
 - News will be shared with the TCDSB community by Human Resources as soon as possible
 - See the TCDSB website for more information

Ms. Cousineau spoke about the different projects and she thanked everyone for donating so generously. A special thank you to Mrs. Cocomello and the Quilters Group for making the bags to hold the school and health kits.

St. Louis Catholic School Fundraising Timeline for 2008 – 2009 School Year

1. Fall CSAC Fundraiser – Acorn Cards (September)
2. Spring CSAC Fundraiser –
 - a. February: Dance-A-Thon for Valentine’s Day
(The CSAC Dance-a-thon has been a traditional event)
 - b) May: Purple Day at St Louis to Support Meagan’s Walk
3. Advent Global Community Service Outreach School Guided Project
Example: Project Harambee, Brick by Brick for Kenya, Bed Kits

*** also approved—a Christmas Nativity Celebration at Holy Angels in lieu of a Christmas Concert, with a silent auction run by CSAC*

4. Lenten Local Community Service Outreach School Guided Project
Example: Ernestine’s Women’s Shelter

CSAC Chair's Comments

- * Ms. Devine sent note to Board regarding the Trustee situation

Treasurer's Report

- * Reviewed Financial Statement
- * \$500.00 + \$70 Out Reach Grant to pay for pizza for the Kids Have Stress Too Program (\$198.56), the Welcome to Kindergarten Night Information Bags (\$200) and T-shirts for Senior Kindergarten's Graduation (\$200)
- * Various releases of money made and approved

Old Business

- * Kids Have Stress Too Program was a great success and we may schedule another session in late Fall 2008.

New Business

- * School buses will be paid for school trips
- * Mark Fenwick's Letter discussed regarding Trustees
- * Possible Christmas Concert/Pageant and Silent Auction – to be held in church (either St. Leo's or Holy Angels Church).
- * The TCDSB has issued surveys to all parents regarding revisions to the TCDSB student dress code and possible uniforms for the year 2009 for all Catholic schools in the board. The surveys went to all parents of children in grades 2 and 5 and were collected on June 9th by Ms Morris to be returned to the office of Curriculum and Accountability at the TCDSB. If parents have any questions they are invited to go to www.tcdsb.org for more information.

Important Dates

Year End Program and Enrichment Activity News - June 2008

The Year End Calendar for Parents

- May 30 HPV Gardasil administration for girls in grade 8 with Public Health
- June 2 Public Health Dental Team visits St. Louis
Year End Celebration at Wonderland for grades 7 and 8s
- June 3 Regional Track and Field
- June 4,18 Pizza Days
- June 10 Track and Field City Finals at York University
- June 13 Crawford Lake Excursion for grades 4, 5 and 6
- June 16 Boys Softball Tournament
- June 17 Girls Softball Tournament
- June 19 Graduation for Grade 8
12:00 noon Luncheon at The Canadiana
7:00 Graduation Mass at St. Leo Church
- June 19 Grade 3s travel to High Park School Nature Centre
- June 20 9:30 Graduation for Senior Kindergarten in the gymnasium
- June 23 Play Day at St. Louis guided by student leaders
- June 24th Final Report Cards go home
End of the Year Mass at St. Leo at 9:30 a.m.
- June 24 Year End Assembly with DVD presentation
WE ARE FAMILY at 1:00 p.m.
- June 25 Last Day of School
- June 26 Professional Development Day—no school for students

Booked for Next Year 2008/2009:

- * **Outdoor Education Excursion for Grade 8s at Mansfield
September 29th – October 3rd**
- * **Painting of the second floor, tiling of kindergarten classrooms, and some bathrooms,
all doors - To be completed in July, this summer**

Next Meeting

- * See you in September 2008 for CSAC Elections – Date to be advised

Adjournment

- * Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.