

Minutes of Catholic School Advisory Council (CSAC)
MEETING OF THE 2008-2009 CSAC
 St. Louis Catholic School
 April 23, 2009

ATTENDEES	
Valerie Devine – Chair Ida Foisy – Co-Secretary	Rosanne Morris – Principal Connie Gemma – Treasurer
Ann Andrachuk – School Board Trustee TAPCE Representative – Daniel Barrett	Claudette Piscione - Member-At-Large
CSAC Members Absent: Bernadette Aman- Co-Secretary, Joanne Yano - Member-At-Large, Michelle LeBlanc - Member-At-Large; Oriana Bono - Member-At-Large , Connie Antonacci - Member-At-Large , Mrs. DiCarlo – Teacher Representative	

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 January 15, 2009

* The Minutes from February 19, 2009 were approved and seconded.

TAPCE Presentation

- TAPCE is trying to recruit parents to join TAPCE;
- He was impressed with our school website;
- TAPCE is to provide a broader concept and informs parents of what is upcoming with the school and school board;
- There are a number of things that they are trying to advocate for;
- TAPCE is an apolitical organization, on the side of parents and children;
- TAPCE approaches the Board on behalf of parents
- Parents can come and share any concern and they will try to address issue;
- TAPCE is over 200 years old;
- Check TAPCE website often as there is a section called Parents’ Corner and will often give information regarding pro-grant ideas and other free events;

- TAPCE hopes to soon be implementing teleconferencing if someone is interested in attending the sessions but unable to go to the CEC location
- TAPCE has meetings every 4th Monday of the week;
- Daniel suggested that our CSAC review our Bylaws as there is no reference to the presence of a TAPCE representative, a Parish representative and a representative from the Community.
- Attached is the presentation that Daniel wanted to share with our CSAC, but could not do so due to lack of time



TAPCE Orientation
updated Feb 09.ppt

Ann Andrachuk, Trustee

- She spoke of the Accommodation Review (schools merging in South Etobicoke); - St. Louis is in Section B where discussions are to begin (potentially) next year
- She will be speaking with the Archdiocese regarding Parishes of the schools – as it is unclear as to which parish will be associated with each school;
- Recommendations are being made regarding the school uniform for 2011;
- Our school may have a dress code (does not include jeans) or uniform depending on outcome – and the school community will make the final decision on which of the two is chosen for the school;
- School community has been given 2 year notice for pending dress code or school uniform (2009 to 2011);
- Before the end of the school this year, a final decision will be made by the Board;

Heart and Stroke Fund-Raising Presentation

- Representative did not attend school this evening
- CSAC will not consider the Heart and Stroke Foundation in our fund-raising activities for the 2009-2010 school year.

Principal's Comments

Welcome to our guests this evening:

TAPCE Representative

Our Trustee—Ann Andrachuk

Parents

Enrichment News

French Concert and French Café—was held today to honour the feast day of St. Louis, one of the patron saints of Paris. Mlle. Mondano did a spectacular job with preparing our students for a thrilling concert. The afternoon our gym was transformed into Café de la Paix, with white glove service from our grade 8 students. The day was a terrific success.

Catholic Education Week—Week of May 4th

Archbishop Collins hosted school teams at the Catholic Education Centre on April 15th, celebrating the three year themes of: **WORD, WORSHIP and WITNESS**. Ms. Devine, our CSAC Chair, her daughter Emma, her teacher Miss Burke and the Principal, Ms Morris represented the school at this inspiring event.

St. Louis hosts a regional evening of celebration “**Realizing the Promise of Diversity**”, with aboriginal story telling, drumming, legends, student art work and refreshments for school communities in areas one and two. All families are invited and notices have been sent home. The event sponsors and celebrates Catholic Education as well as promotes the Ministry of Education initiative “**Ontario’s Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy**” dedicated to reaching every student. St. Louis is proud to sponsor this event as hosts.

Sacramental Preparation—is well underway (See list attached of dates).

Father Frank met with the principals of St. Leo and St. Louis, the grade 8 teachers of both schools as well, to plan for the sacrament of Confirmation to be blessed by Bishop Boissonneau at St. Leo Parish. Plans for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion are also underway. A retreat for our grade 2s was held yesterday in the library, with Father attending; and a retreat for our grade 8s is planned as well at Bishop Allen, to be held in the chapel, facilitated by Father Frank.

Our Lenten Project—O, Happy Day!—Supporting Children in Africa

We are proud to announce that we have raised over \$1600 to support the Bendal Nursery in Milawi, Africa. A letter of thanks will go home next week to thank all families who contributed so generously to our Lenten Global Outreach Project. I informed Ms. Morris that Ms. Pacheco was still collecting money for this Lenten Project. The amount should change.

Exemplary Practice Award—Goes to the St Louis School Team and the PAST Program Staff, Mrs. Anne Wiley and Mrs. Melissa Ferreira Da Silva, for best practice for our regional program to support children with Asperger Syndrome. We are very proud of this award and will receive it at the school board office on April 28th at 6 p.m. Please feel free to join us! (CEC, 80 Sheppard Avenue East, Toronto, Ontario)

Artist in the School—Nazreth Mebrahtu

Grade 3s—Masks Projects; Grade 8—Silk Screen T-Shirts—A Great Success!

Events for April, May and June: (see the list of dates attached)

- cross country, track and field, play day and baseball—see list of dates attached
- assessments: EQAO (Grades 3 and 6); CAT-3 (Grades 2, 5 and 7)
- Purple Day—to celebrate Meagan’s Walk (April 29, 2009)
- Mimico Tulip Festival – We will have 3 Tulips this year
- Destination Imagination—St. Louis Regional Gifted Program travels to Tennessee!
- Queen’s University—Enrichment Program—Week long excursion
- Welcome to Kindergarten event—to be filmed for Ministry purposes (3rd year for St. Louis)

Setting the Fundraising Timeline for 2009 – 2010

- we will set the goals for next year together at the May CSAC meeting on May 28th.

Accommodations Review and Dress Code Guidelines—Summaries are attached

Requests for Funding—Ms Morris will share bus receipts with Miss Gemma, our treasurer following the meeting as per approved protocols.

A special request has been made on behalf of the PAST Program to cover half of the cost of 3 bus excursions to Reptilia in Vaughan. Total cost is \$660. Half of the funds will come from the Exemplary Practice Award monies (\$1000.00). CSAC will not be able to fund this request.

Treasurer’s Report

- \$3,000 GIC is available for next year’s council.
- Released \$33.37 for refreshments for February 4th Wellness Lecture
- An additional \$150.00 is needed for Confirmation Refreshments (as the Bishop will be attending this celebration) – approved;
- A request has been made on behalf of the Gifted Program. A group of students from Mr. Finucan’s Grade 6 class has moved on to the Destination Imagination Global Finals in Tennessee. As Mr. Finucan has to raise the funds for his trip, Ms. Devine requested help from CSAC. CSAC will not be able to fund this request. Ms. Devine will see if the Board will provide funding and if not, Ms. Devine may have to approach other schools in the Gifted Program to ask for their support. St. Ambrose has provided \$250/child for their 2 children from their school.
- Ms. Morris’ requested \$1,463.77 for buses – Released.
- Mrs. Piscione requested funds to buy a tent to shelter the children at track & field and/or cross-country meets. She will look into the costs for tents and bring this

information back to CSAC for their approval. CSAC will consider purchasing tents next year.

CSAC Chair's Comments

- Ms. Devine reminded everyone about the PRO Grant-sponsored event on May 5th – where Vikki King will be talking about Nutrition. The event will begin at 7:00 p.m., with light refreshments served.
- As in past years, we will also be leading the Junior Achievement, Economics of Staying in School, to Mrs. Di Carlo's Grade 8 class, on May 27th.
- Ms. Devine will be sending a note to Mr. Anthony Pettiti to express our displeasure that the cross-country meet was held in rainy, cold and dangerous conditions. Ms. Devine will be copying Mrs. Tovey-Shackleton and Mrs. Andrachuk.

Dates for CSAC Meetings

- * May 28, 2009
- * June 2009 (to be determined)

Adjournment

- * Meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.