

CSPC (Catholic Student Parent Council) Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 4, 2018
6:30pm – 8:30pm
Location: Gym

Attendees: Tom Teahen, Nicole Watts, Michelle Raino, Leticia Caliri, Sophia Moore, Leila Harwood, Kristin Ballard, Philip Norton, Linda Ronan, Ryan Edwards, Stephanie Carmichael, Rosie Granato, Ariel Burkett, Catherina Maughan, Donato DiPaolo, Sarah Gundy, Colette Bright, Christopher Gayowsky, Christopher Burkett, Bronwyn Gray, Hannah Flowerday, Stephanie Dunn, Noemia Doody, Tracey Gaffney, Michelle Kosces, Paul von Ruu, Lisa von Ruu, Catherine Ferguson, Brigid Nousianinen,

1. WELCOME AND PRAYER

Mr. Teahen welcomed parents, called the meeting to order at 6:35pm and led the opening prayer.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (as amended)

There was a request to move up the Student Council and Playground update earlier in the evening's agenda.

ON A MOTION made by Kristin Ballard and SECONDED by Sophia Moore, the evening's Amended Agenda was approved (see attached Appendix A).

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Nov 6 meeting were tabled for approval. Tom Teahen noted a few amendments:

- Item number 6 (Appendix C) the full attachment did not copy out.
- Item number 7 – add reference to vote being under section 4.07
- Item number 11- Wording should be clarified to note that \$25,000 of the overall \$40,000 budget was approved.

ON A MOTION made by Stephanie Carmichael and SECONDED by Michelle Raino CSPC Meeting Minutes were approved. [Note: updated November 6 Minutes available at TCDSB website]

4. INTRODUCTION BY 2018/2019 CHAIR

Mr. Teahen provided brief remarks. In lieu of a full update he noted that this evening's meeting was an important one with a heavy agenda. The council looked forward to the committee updates, playground project update and budget deliberations.

5. STUDENT COUNCIL UPDATE

Christopher and Hannah presented an update on behalf of the student council. They noted that they had raised \$200 through concession sales at the Halloween Dance a Thon and were going to use that money to buy cookies for the Santa Workshop.

They shared a poster that the student council has created to educate student about the foster child the school sponsors. This will be displayed in the lobby and information has also been posted on the CSPC blog.

Christopher and Hannah highlighted the various activities for the coming weeks leading up to the Christmas break. They also spoke to some plans for the New Year including Valentine's dance and Candy Grams.

Mr. Teahen thanked the student council for their update.

6. PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Mr. DiPaolo shared information regarding Antonio's Toy Drive in support of Down's Syndrome and Ms. Brown has shared a calendar that is being sold in support. St. A's student Justin Brown is featured. Calendars are available for sale in the office.

Mr. DiPaolo addressed concerns around EQAO scores and discussed measurement and scoring and St Anselm scores in comparison to the board and province. He also highlighted best practices and how the school improvement plan is developed to support those goals. Ms. Gundy shared her experience in teaching students through the EQAO process.

The issue of Air Conditioning in the school has been of increasing concern in the past few year. Mr. DiPaolo noted that the board does not allow more than 2 units per school to be used to support a cooling center. It was recommended that the CSCP approach Trustee Kennedy to discuss the issue and invite her and board facilities to the next CSPC meeting.

7. PLAYGROUND UPDATE

Chris Burkett provided an update on the status of the playground project. To date \$167,000 has been raised. In addition, the Toronto Catholic District School Board will consider a recommendation from staff to cover the cost of the paving which, if accepted, would bring the overall project goal down from \$300,000 to \$250,000. This is great news and really sets us up for success and very optimistic we can meet construction timelines to start the project this summer.

Playground committee has also met with new City councillor Jaye Robinson in regard to accessing Section 37 funds. Mr. Teahen also noted that he has had further discussion with Father Moore, and that he and the Archdiocese have agreed that their parking concerns have been addressed with the proposed design.

8. VOTE TO INCREASE NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVE AS PER SECTION 4.07 OF BY-LAWS

CSPC voted to approve, by simple majority, to amend s.404(a) of the By-Laws to further increase from 13 to 14 Parents in accordance with s. 407 of the By-Laws.

9. ELECTION OF ADDITIONAL CSPC VOTING MEMBERS

Stephanie Carmichael and Ryan Edwards were nominated and accepted.

ON A MOTION made by Michelle Raino and SECONDED by Nicole Watts, Majority voted and all in favour Ms. Carmichael and Mr. Edwards were welcomed to council.

10. COMMITTEE UPDATES

Academic Committee discussed how they will work to support the school improvement plan, leverage the PIC grant and ensure that teacher allocations from CSPC are supported and tracked.

Event committee provided an overview of the schedule of events for the year including the new Marlie's St. A's day, parent social, curling nights.

Movie Nights: Ariel provided an update that the gym is very booked, the desired date of Dec 19 was not available as the gym is permitted for use by the North Toronto Basketball Association every day from 6pm onwards. They are looking for upcoming dates that would work. December is already very full so will look for a movie night for a Friday evening in January.

Social Media: CSPC blog and social media pages up and running. Make sure you follow and stay up to date on all the latest and greatest.

Health and Safety: Phil Norton provided an update following the first meeting as part of the first meeting with the board rep for the traffic safety program. A transportation survey will be going out to the school community which will be the basis for a report.

Lunch Programs: Sessions for January- March have been finalized and communicated to parents. There are options for 4 different lunch time programs running Monday- Thursday. There are approx. 20 spots and they are for grades 1-6.

11. PRO GRANT LETTER

Nicole Watts shared a draft of a letter to be sent to the Minister of Education (see attached Appendix B) asking for the freeze on PRO Grants to be lifted. Many other CSPCs in the board are doing the same and signing a province wide petition.

Mr. Teahen declared a conflict in relation to this discussion and decision on the letter to the Ministry of Education given his employment with an agency of the Ontario Government.

With that noted all other council members agreed with the letter by simple majority.

12. FINANCIAL UPDATE

Michelle Raino provided the financial update (see attached Appendix C) of disbursements to date and current account overview. It was noted that the donations to the Family Fundraiser are slightly behind previous years. Form will be resent, and deadline extended.

13. 2018-2019 CSPC BUDGET DELIBERATIONS

Michelle provided a line by line review of the proposed budget (see attached Appendix D). The document noted what items were approved at the November meeting and what items were outstanding for deliberation and approval.

Mr. DiPaolo noted some updates to line items to reflect recent changes. 2 additional classes for Scientist in the School and he noted that a grant has been approved to cover the change for the buses for skating.

There was discussion around technology investment. Mr. DiPaolo indicated that the proposed budget supported the immediate high priority areas for the school and that technology is being assessed. It was noted that last year CSPC bought every teacher a laptop and in the previous year apple TVs and smart boards were purchases. Mr. DiPaolo noted that there are currently 25 Chromebook and 25 iPads in the school which get signed out by teachers to support their teaching plans.

A full inventory and needs assessment will be brought forward to the January CSPC meeting and council will review any capital investment and also discuss contribution the playground project.

Ms. Gundy read a prepared statement in her position as the teacher rep in regard to the budget items. Expressing the appreciation for consultation with staff on the budget and school needs. It was asked that the physical education spend be clarified so more new equipment could be purchased. It was indicated that only 5 new microscopes were needed for this year bringing the set up to 10. Council agreed and reallocated the funds to the technology bucket.

ON A MOTION made by Tom Teahen and SECONDED by Nicole Watts 2018-2019 budget was approved. 12 in favour, 3 opposed.

14. OTHER ITEMS

NONE

15. ADJOURNMENT

ON A MOTION made by Stephanie Carmichael and SECONDED Ryan Edwards the meeting adjourned at 9:35pm.

APPENDIX A
Amended Agenda

AGENDA
CSPC Meeting
Tuesday December 4, 2018 (as amended)
6:30pm – 8:30pm
Location: St. Anselm Catholic School Gym

1. Welcome and Prayer – CSPC Chair (1 minute)
2. Approval of Agenda (1 minute)
3. Approval of minutes from November 6 meeting (1 minute)
4. CSPC Chair Update (5 minutes)
5. Student Council update (5 minutes)
6. Principal's Update / EQAO results / A/C (10 minutes)
7. Playground Committee update (10 minutes)
8. Vote to increase number of representatives as per Section 4.07 of By-laws (2 minutes)
9. Election of additional CSPC voting members (3 minutes)
10. Committee Updates (20 Minutes)
11. PRO Grant Letter Approval (5 Minutes)
12. Financial Update (2 Minutes)
13. Budget Approval (30 minutes)
14. Other – items to be tabled
15. Adjournment

APPENDIX B
PRO Grant Letter

Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queens Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1
Phone(416) 325-1941

Hon. Lisa Thompson
Minister of Education
Mowat Block 22nd Floor
900 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1L2
Phone (416) 325-5838

Dear Premier Ford and Minister Thompson:

I am writing to you today in my capacity as co-chair of the St. Anselm Catholic School Parent Council (CSPC). St. Anselm CS is a small school of 350 students from JK to Grade 8 serving the Leaside, Thorncliffe Park and Hyde Park areas of east Toronto.

Being a small school with a parent community composed of various socio-economic backgrounds, funding such as the PRO (Parents Reach Out) grant are built into parent council operating budget every year. The CSPC budget is focused on enriching the school experience for our children and engaging our parent community. The PRO grant specifically helps us conduct activities which engage our diverse parent community and provide a space for dialogue, collaboration and enrichment. In our case, we had already submitted our grant application, received approval and now we are left empty handed as a result of the recently imposed freeze and because of the lack of consultation we were not informed ahead of time that this grant was at risk.

I think we will all agree that an engaged parent community is critical to the fabric of any school and the experience of our children. It is worth noting that CSPC budgets also serves to deliver much needed resources, materials and support capital projects which the province and school board does not providing core funding for. This includes things such as technological upgrades, additional educational resources, transportation for athletic events, guest speakers, arts and culture enrichment and so on.

Currently at St. Anselm we are fundraising for much needed repairs and reconstruction of our school playground which has fallen into a state of disrepair and is not serving the needs of our students from a safety or accessibility view point. Again, because we need a full redevelopment this project does NOT receive funding from the province or the board. We are relying on private donations to make this

[REDACTED]

improvement. With news that the PRO Grant is now on hold is troubling as we are already into the school year and like many CSPC's across the province have already planned events and budget items leveraging the PRO grant based on past experience. To have to recalibrate because of this sudden freeze takes valuable time and resources away from other initiatives, in our case our playground fundraising, to make up this money some of which is already lost due to deposits for speakers.

While we appreciate the need to review spending and ensure accountability and transparency, the focus on the PRO grant is an unfair target and we are asking that the money for the PRO Grant start to flow immediately for the 2018-2019 school year.

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to personally invite you both to visit our school and see first-hand the repairs and improvements needed and the every day impacts and unintended consequences of the actions and decision you make, such as the now uncertain future of the PRO Grant, have on an already underfunded educational system.

Sincerely,

CC: Kathleen Wynne, MPP for Don Valley West
CC: Angela Kennedy, Trustee Ward 11 TCDSB

APPENDIX C
Financial Update

St Anselm's CSPC 2018/2019 Budget NOV 1, 2018 - NOV 30, 2018

| PROPOSED FUNDRAISING INITIATIVES | BUDGET | NOV | YTD |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Family Fundraiser 2018 (cash and cheques) | 20,000 | 3,255 | 4,755 |
| Family Fundraiser 2018 (online) | | 3,893 | 3,893 |
| Pizza Lunch | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Cobs Bread | 1,000 | | 1,080 |
| Mabels Lables | | | 50 |
| Spring Fundraiser 2019 | 25,000 | | |
| PIC Grant (18/19) | 500 | | 500 |
| TOTAL | 51,500 | 12,148 | 14,778 |
| PROPOSED PLAYGROUND INITIATIVES | | | |
| | BUDGET | NOV | YTD |
| Legacy (Cash and cheques) | | 1,950 | 3,110 |
| ECHOage (Playground) | 8,000 | | |
| ECHOage (Playground) 17/18 | | | 5,771 |
| Parent Social (Playground) | 5,000 | | |
| Halloween Dance (Playground) | 10,000 | 12,062 | 12,062 |
| DONATIONS | | 10,600 | 21,409 |
| TOTAL | 23,000 | 24,612 | 42,352 |

| PROPOSED DISBURSEMENTS | | NOV | YTD |
|--|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| Teacher's Discretionary Fund | 11,500 | | |
| Academics/Enrichment | 11,757 | | 2,107 |
| Arts | 3,705 | | |
| Athletics | 6,340 | 1,736 | 2,636 |
| School Celebrations | 1,500 | | |
| CSPC Funded Events | 2,200 | 550 | 550 |
| MISC Other | 1,600 | | |
| Capital Purchases | 4,675 | | |
| Bank fees | 250 | 17 | 22 |
| Capital Disbursement | tdb | | |
| Parent Engagement Activities (PIC Grant) | 2,500 | | |
| TOTAL | 43,527 | 2,303 | 5,315 |

CSPC Board 333 Account balance as at Nov 30, 2018

26,868

CSPC TD Account balance as at November 30, 2018

114,655

-2,500 PIC grant allocation

-2,107 Agendas- cheque issued Oct 8

-1,737 First Canada buses issued Nov 7

-73,768 Playground designated

-9,389 Pizza Lunch designated

CURRENT BALANCE

52,023

APPENDIX D
CSPC Budget 2018-19

St Anslem's CSPC Approved 2018/2019 Budget

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Teacher/Classroom Discretionary Funds | |
| (\$500x15, French \$500x3, V. Music \$500, Instrumental Keyboard \$500, Health and Phys Ed \$1500, Library \$500) | 12,000 |
| TOTAL | 12,000 |
| Academics/Enrichment | |
| Planetarium (guest speaker all grades) | 2,150 |
| Agendas (actual) grades 1-8 | 2,107 |
| Scientists in School (\$194/session) | 2,716 |
| RAZ Kids (k to Gr4) k-3 | 750 |
| Levelled readers | 4,500 |
| TOTAL | 12,223 |
| Arts | |
| HOZA (guest speaker x2 all grades) | 1,205 |
| Activities to be determined | 2,500 |
| TOTAL | 3,705 |
| Athletics | |
| Jerseys | 1,000 |
| Transportation - Cross Country \$1736 Primary Soccer \$540 Track and Field \$1081 | 3,359 |
| Nerf Equipment | 900 |
| TOTAL | 5,259 |
| School Celebrations | |
| SK Graduation | 400 |
| Grade 8 Graduation | 1,000 |
| First Communion | 250 |
| Confirmation | 250 |
| TOTAL | 1,900 |
| CSPC Funded Events | |
| Staff Appreciation (Lunches and gifts) | 1,500 |
| Pancake Tuesdays | 150 |
| Halloween Dance (DJ) | 550 |
| TOTAL | 2,200 |
| MISC Other | |
| Angel Fund | 500 |
| CSPC annual donation | 500 |
| TOTAL | 1,000 |
| Capital Purchases | |
| School Beautification | 750 |
| TECH | 1,713 |
| Microscopes 5&8 | 1,713 |
| TOTAL | 4,175 |
| Parent Engagement Activities | |
| TBD | |
| TOTAL | 42,462 |