

**PARENT SCHOOL COUNCIL 2024/2025
MEETING MINUTES FROM April 03, 2025**

SCHOOL COUNCIL 2024-2025 ACCLAIMED MEMBERS:

- Co-Chairs - A. Patola & N. Popova
- Secretary - K. Zeljkovic
- Treasurer – N. Sarin
- Community Rep - J. Bird
- Parish Rep – S. Bhola
- OAPCE - T. Morris
- Voting members – A. Pronski, H. Jagiello, E. Mayen, K. Pasia
- Staff: Teaching Rep. - K. Maier, Ms. Thibault Non-Teaching Rep - R. Johnson

In Attendance:

- **St. James Staff:** M. McCann (Principal), A. Litster (Secretary), R. Johnson (Non-Teacher Rep), K. Maier (Teaching Rep)
- **Council:** A. Patola (Co-Chair), N. Popova (Co-Chair), K. Zeljkovic (Secretary), S. Bhola (Parish Rep), N. Sarin (Treasurer), T. Morris (OAPCE), A. Pronski (Parent Rep), H. Jagiello (Parent Rep),
- **Parents:** Christie N-B
- **Regrets:** Ms. Thibault (Teaching Rep), E. Mayen (Parent Rep), K. Pasia (Parent Rep), J. Bird (Community Rep)

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Welcome/Opening Remarks – M. Cloutier McCann
2. Opening Prayer – M. Cloutier McCann
3. Land Acknowledgement – shared video
4. Approval of Agenda
 - New add: CCCSC information, community police contact
 - **MOTION:** A. Patola motioned for approval, N. Sarin seconded
5. Approval of Catholic School Council Minutes (February 06, 2025)
 - Business arising from the Minutes
 - Social Networking Safety (Paul Davis)
 - He is not on the board approval list for presenters so is unable to present to students until he has been added
 - Ms. McCann reached out to another school and discussed combining this presentation
 - Council has funds still available from the parent engagement grant
 - **MOTION:** A. Patola motioned to approve the minutes, A. Pronski seconded

B. TRUSTEE UPDATE

- Nothing to add

C. UPDATES

a. Fundraiser – One Time Donation

- Donation window has been closed. Received last donation of \$19.60

b. Parish Rep – S. Bhola

- St. Mary's has opened up new times for families to come for confession before Easter on April 05 and April 11
- Easter Basket Blessing – April 09
- Church will be offering a summer camp, Jul 7 – 11 and Jul 21 – 25. \$150.00 per camper
- CWL & CFFC are accepting gently used bicycles on April 05/06 at St. Vincent de Paul truck in the church parking lot

c. Community Rep – nothing to add

D. OAPCE – T. Morris

- Announced registration is now open for annual conference - Coming Together as One, Will be held in Niagara Falls at St. Michael's High School on May 24
- All parents, educators and community members that took initiative upon themselves to create something that had a positive effect has an opportunity to share in a 3 min video testimony which may be presented at the conference. All submissions can be sent directly to T. Morris or OAPCE.
- Newsletter offers more information on Lent activities for families and the book club
- **ACTION:** Ms. McCann will send out the link to the newsletter and conference to the school community

E. REPORTS

1. Financial Report – N. Sarin

Bank Balance (December 31)	\$ 7804.64
Deposit -One time donation Debits: Grad tree(23/24), Sewing Studio, service charge	\$ 4532.50 -1204.95
Bank Balance (February 28)	\$ 11,132.19
Cheque - Neil Sarin - community Carnaval	-70.45
Commitments: Sensory Pathway ECO (\$250 -\$ 73.39) Carnaval event BBQ (Sept. 2025) Bank service charges (April-Sept)	-(\$1000.00) -(176.61) 0.00 -(1000.00) -(29.70)
Available Funds	\$8,855.43 Additional 19.60 donation will be seen on next bank statement

2. Allocation of funds

Requested by staff and students

Parent Engagement (\$ 500-75=\$425) First Communion event, Journey Into Learning Bags	\$ 425	
Standing items (Student agendas, awards, grad gift)	\$ 1750	
Faith Development Palms, transportation to end of year mass	\$ 500	
Library	\$ 500	
Whole School Presentation	\$ 1000	
Microphones	\$ 300	
ECO Team Retaining order for garden, plants	\$ 220	
Repaint outdoor pavement	\$ 600	
Classrooms (10 x \$350) Misc. requests	\$ 3500.00	

- Whole School Presentation
 - N. Sarin attended recent bullying presentation (The BRAVE) offered by CCCSC, advised organization can run their program at a classroom level as they can tailor their content based on the ages of the students. Cost is \$155 per class (approximately 1750.00 for all classrooms FDK to grade 8, 1400.00 for Gr 1 to Gr 8)
 - Ms. McCann mentioned we have had them come in before and it was a positive experience
 - They are currently booking dates in May but could be good to postpone until September/October
 - Discussed taking \$500.00 from the classrooms request and adding \$500.00 to Whole School Presentation so we can cover the cost
- MOTION: Council funds to cover all above requested items with the following revisions:
 - Deduct \$500.00 from Classroom requests and add \$500.00 onto Whole School Presentation
 - Whole School Presentation to be offered by BRAVE Bullying and to be booked in October 2025
 - Try to offer event for Parents as well
 - Voted in favour: A. Pronski, K. Zeljkovic, H. Jagiello, A. Patola, N. Sarin, T. Morris, N. Popova, S. Bhola

F. INFORMATION

1. BBQ/Open House September 2025

- E. Mayen confirmed same chef is willing to come back and be put on school vendor list, council will try to lock him in every year
- A. Pronski suggested to confirm a standing date for each year. Ms. McCann advised calendar is approved yearly and once approved it could change the standing date that we choose due to PA days, etc.
- Thursdays are preferred by staff
- Sep 18 or 25 is an option, ideally Sep 25 so we have time to collect orders and prepare
- Council to decide on a committee that will oversee the BBQ
- Ms. McCann has asked if we could obtain food options and cost by end of August so we can add this information into the September newsletter which goes out the first week of school
- Will offer hotdogs, burgers, vegetarian option with chips and drink – no fries this time, may still offer churros
- Still need to discuss how the timing will work to avoid a long line at the beginning of the BBQ

2. Crossing Guard

- Crossing guard has been requested by a few parents again this year at Shaw dr. and Lakeshore Rd
- Report from last year advised there were only 20 pedestrians and not enough to support a crossing guard
- **ACTION:** N. Popova to create a write up asking parents to come forward with their own concerns

3. CCCSC

- Brave Education Workshop – varying degrees of topics, understanding bullying, talked about the PALS program, decently attended event, thirst from all communities
- St Marguerite of Scotland CSC – Guest speaker – Richard Wiggers – Apr 09, The Changing Landscape of Postsecondary Education Ontario
- St. Valentine School – Community Services Carousel – Apr 23, Opportunity to gather some information on service providers in Peel and how to access them

F. SCHOOL REPORT

1. Catholic education Week

- May 07 – Crowning of Mary
- May 8 – Journey into Learning

2. Exhibition - May 29 - Grade 5

3. EQAO

- May 26 – 28 – Grade 6

- Jun 2 – 4 – Grade 3
- 4. Swim to Survive – Grade 3's – will be booked at Carmen Corbasson, dates not yet confirmed, parents volunteers are always appreciated
- 5. Year end mass – June 17
- 6. Graduation – Jun 24

F. STANDING ITEMS

- **School Report**
 - PYP – both FDK classes are working on the inquiry of patterning, looking for patterns in nature, camouflage etc. Will be hunting for colours and patterns at upcoming field trip to Ripley's aquarium
 - MYP
 - **We Are Global Citizens** – gr. 7 and 8s have already/will be going to help at Dr. Simone's, community projects are on the go
 - Year 1 – working on electrical circuits, focusing on how electrical currents can allow power to travel and make things fully operational, each group received a donated kit of materials to build their creations
 - Year 2 – Through Inquiry, the grade 7 students are modelling the plate tectonic boundaries that create various landform regions, built resurrection gardens
 - Year 3 – Community projects including raising funds for Blue Mountain Graduation trip by selling a hotdog lunch, students are able to prepare and hand out 300 hot dogs out in 20 mins
 - FDK to grade 3 – in the library they have been working on literacy / art project Millie Fleurs poison garden
 - Exhibition – culminating project (Grade 5) is in progress
 - Addition of book club premised around creating a love for reading and bridging both older students and younger students begin on Tues
 - IB Evaluation
 - Preliminary review (December) completed, documents submitted including School Policies, curriculum samples, legal status etc. – met with evaluation team virtually, coming from all over the world (4 people), received glowing comments back from case manager, good opportunity to review policies and update
 - Self study Questionnaire (March) – started looking back in October, Self assessment of how we are meeting the IB standards and practises / Programme Development Plan – Area of strategic development
 - Visit – April – IB panel of representatives visit the school for observation and discussion with staff, to see what our standards look like in person, day in the life as per normal. Team will be here for 3 days which includes a set agenda, does involve whole community, surveys will be sent out to a select number of parents and council members next week via email to see if they can participate in the discussions during this time.
 - Ms. McCann wanted to commend the IB coordinators as they have done a wonderful job – Ms. Thibault, Mr. Kelenc, Ms. Maier – Job well done!
 - H. Jagiello – we have new police contact - Constable Wright – phone number and email for school related incidences to be shared with school community

G. ADJOURNMENT

- MOTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING
 - A. Patola motioned to approve, A. Pronski and N. Sarin seconded it

Future meetings (St. James School Library & Virtually via Zoom)

- Thursday, April 24, 2025 - online Financial Public Consultation