



MINUTES OF THE CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Holy Trinity CSS

January 27, 2016

Present: Renee Rozon, Kellie Levis, Carolyn Bernard, Karen Torrie-Racine, Sandra Lavallee, Kirsten Sommerville, Natalie Trottier, Sandra Lavallee, Michael Whelan, Bryan Bouchard, Karen McClenaghan, Karen Harquail,

Regrets : Carolyn Cormier, Stephane Leclerc, Divina Fraser, Tia Foster-Scott, JoAnn DaSilva, Cheryl Tourangeau, Laura Marie Leclerc, Kim Blanchet,

1. Prayer and welcome- *Bryan Bouchard/ Renee Rozon/Kellie Levis*
2. Approval of Agenda- Moved by *Kirsten Sommerville* and seconded by *Karen Torrie-Racine*
3. Approval of minutes from October 2015 meeting –Moved by *Karen Torrie-Racine* and Seconded by *Kellie Levis*
4. **Principal's report**-*Renee Rozon* shared the following report:

We just completed Semester One and overall we have had a great first half of the school year. Some of the information to share includes:

- CEC Pilgrimage Mass- HT students and families were well represented at the Mass and it was great to see so many attend.

- Christmas Parade- The float was beautiful, highlighting our new nativity scene and participants were enthusiastic. We won for Best School Float. Lots of fun was had by all and this could become an annual event.
- The Social Justice Group will be selling St Albert's Cheese as a fundraiser through Lent with the proceeds to go to a charitable cause as yet identified as students will be selecting. The goal is to help promote the Spirit of giving.
- St. Vincent de Paul Canned Goods Collection/Stuff the Studio- instead of a competition between schools, the three Cornwall high schools from our Board came together to present everything collected. HT students brought in 7000 items alone. The students also helped load the truck so it would not be such a big task for the volunteers. This is an annual event and was the largest contribution from HT to date.
- Gift Cards for Optimist Club Toy Drive- The preference from HT was gift cards to give out to families and this year with the donations from HT students, we purchased over forty \$20 gift cards to give out at Christmas
- EQAO Grade 9 testing last week- all went well
- Open House last week – very positive feedback, over 50 of our current students involved! The Catholic School Council was there to greet parents for the first time and we hope to make this an annual tradition. They have heard lots of positive feedback about the evening. Registrations from these families have already started. Comments all around said that they also only heard positives about the open house and there were many families from other Boards as well.
- Sponsor Child Collection – February 19, 2016 –the school will be collecting money for our Chalice sponsor child.
- CPLCs with staff – our focus is on the school improvement plan and discussion centred on:
 - Grades 7-12 cross-panel and cross-curricular
 - Literacy, Numeracy, and Technology
- Resource Guide: Inspiring Your Child to Learn and Love Math. Renee shared the guide around the table. Additional information regarding how to obtain a copy will be in our February newsletter.
- There will be a fundraiser at the Colts game on February 18, 2016 with more details to come

- Renee explained that a new initiative will start soon through the Cornwall Community Hospital and HT has been selected as a Pilot Project to have a mental health walk in clinic on site. This is being coordinated through the Cornwall Community Hospital and the goal is to provide free one time counseling to HT students. More details to follow in our newsletter.

5. Chaplaincy Leader's report- Bryan Bouchard

We are in the final phase of our fundraising for the mission trip- the last few activities are:

- A presentation will be made at St Peter's Catholic Church this coming Saturday Jan 30 and Sunday Jan 31 and following mass we will sell chocolates and collect donations.
- We will do the same at Precious Blood Catholic Church in Glen Walter on Saturday Feb 6 and Sunday Feb 7
- We will host a pancake Lunch on Shrove Tuesday for the HT staff and students at school and sell tickets in advance for this
- Parents of an HT student who is participating in the trip this year are organizing a Movie night at the Port Theater. Students from all 3 schools will work this event and the proceeds will be shared by all three. This will happen in late February
- We continue to sell popcorn throughout the school year
- Students and families of students are encouraged to bring in any receipt from Boston Pizza and a percentage of this amount will be reimbursed to the school upon presentation. This will help lower the costs of the trip. Students from HT can bring their receipts to Mr. Bouchard.
- In the near future, they will have an online post saying that the group is accepting donations and for any donation of \$20 or more, the school can issue a tax receipt

A reminder that Ash Wednesday liturgy is scheduled for Wednesday February 10th @ 10:45am. All are welcome. Father Marc Piche will be at the school.

Eucharistic Adoration on Tuesday February 16th between 9:30 and 11:45am.

Bryan shared that he attended a Conference in Niagara Falls last week to meet with 79 other Chaplains. They discussed topic such as ways to "re-animate" faith in students and Catholic connections.

6. Committee Reports

- a. CEC- report – Karen Torrie Racine

Bishop Cup set for some time in March – date to come. First meeting this Monday to discuss planning. St Vincent de Paul continues to be charity of choice.

The Board will host a board wide mass and other event in the spring – more details to follow

b. Student Council Report- Laura Marie

Laura Marie was absent

7. New Business

A) Publicity- Open House- Karen Torrie Racine and I set up a table to promote our Catholic School Council and to be available to answer questions from a parent perspective about the school and about transitioning. I created a pamphlet which we had photocopied to provide additional information to parents about our committee, the members and our goals. Unfortunately, our table was very quiet. We felt that if we had a banner and possibly an eye catching tent card it would help draw people to our table. Wondering if we could invest in some promo material for future events such as spaghetti dinner etc..

Discussion followed and it was agreed that something would be needed to draw people in to learn more about the Catholic School Council. We need to promote and explain our role in the HT community. Renee offered to print color flyers and to leave some at the front office. Renee said that in the future we can move forward and encourage participation.

Also discussed was to get a price in terms of purchasing promotional material and Karen Torrie-Racine said that the committee is typically provided a budget every year. Also suggested was that the art department could possibly help out. A vote was proposed by Kellie to use the catholic school council budget towards promotional material was held and carried unanimously.

B) Spaghetti Dinner booked for April 29th- - Karen Harquail, Carolyn Cormier and Laura Marie have offered to help with the event however we will need 10 additional people who can help out.

Discussion followed and Kellie asked if we are still interested in running this event and if anyone would be willing to help volunteer. Renee mentioned that the school would arrange student volunteers to man the stations such as servers, dishwashers, greeters

etc.... Karen Torrie-Racine said that she would be busy with the MS run but has added the supper on her promotional material to encourage attendance. Kellie and Karen Harquail will send out an email with a list of what needs to be done so committee members can get a clear picture of what needs to be done and if there is anything on the list they can help with.

Karen Harquail looked into the Knights of Columbus and said that the expectation is that students are working and are involved. Renee feels we should go ahead and she did not foresee having trouble getting students to help. Different members offered suggestions in terms of helping out. Some mentioned trying to get Scotiabank to participate even if by selling tickets which guaranteed some financial contribution from them as well. One can apply for this online and Karen T-R said she would help connect with Scotiabank.

- C) Pro-Grant-**Tentative date for the Anxiety Workshop for parents would be March 29th. Renee confirmed with Dr. Krista Kiiffner, who is a Psychologist with the Board. Renee explained she had a fabulous way to help people understand different perspectives in particular understanding anxiety and placing ourselves in other's shoes. Her services would be free and we would have \$1000.00 to spend on that night. It was agreed that perhaps inviting CYCS in terms of discussing their pilot project mental health walk in clinic as well as inviting Counseling and Support Services of SD&G to promote their Thursday afternoon walk in mental health clinic might be good. They could have a table that attendees could visit. Discussion also about mental health prevention strategies such as natural health benefits, massage etc. Renee will discuss this further with Dr, Kiiffner and get back to committee members in terms of the best approach.

8. Comments and questions

Karen McClenaghan asked about the Nativity Scene that had been made by HT students and wondered if they would consider making more and selling them. Some suggested even smaller versions. Renee said she would share this request with the teachers involved.

9. Next meeting is March 7, 2016

10. Adjournment

