



Michael Power - St. Joseph High School

Catholic Secondary School

Catholic School Parent Council

CSPC Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 15th, 2023
7:00 pm @ School Library

AGENDA

1. Welcome and opening Prayer - Anapaula Elliott (Chair)
Land Acknowledgement - Martin Clough (Principal)
2. Introduction - Anapaula Elliott (Chair)
We all went around the table and introduced ourselves to the group.

Declaration of Quorum 10/13
Review and Approval of Agenda
1st: Annette 2nd: Irene
3. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes – Katie Piccininni (Secretary)
1st: Cori 2nd: Judith
4. Chair Report - Anapaula Elliott (Chair)
Anapaula reports that she spoke to MTC Life which is the speaker April 25th he will be here for the whole date 1 per grade. Miguel is amazing. He will work with all the grades to make it specific to their needs and obviously age appropriate. We need to motion for the cost that will be used from our PIC Funding. \$1,000.00- Which includes all the presentations both to students and parents. We also can add some of the PIC grant funds to buy refreshments for the parents who attend etc., as that falls within the grant criteria.

PIC Grant - Vote Required
Anapaula Motions to approve PIC Grant Funds towards a presentation from MTC Life.
2nd: Cori
Motion passes unanimously.

Q: Is this at the CSPC meeting or separate? A: it is a separate presentation likely will be held in the Auditorium

5. Principal's Report - Martin Clough (Principal)

Introduces the newest member of the admin team. Mr. Alessandro Mazza, he is our newest VP.

- Taught Science / Mathematics and Chaplaincy @ St. Mother Teresa (LTO) (1 year)
- Special Education – Gifted and Science at St. John Henry Newman (1 year)
- Student Success (SHSM) / Guidance / Cooperative Education / Religion / Chaplaincy – Madonna Catholic Secondary School (3 years)
- Student Success Department – SHSM/Pathways Resource Teacher (4.5 years)

Mr. Mazza said that he is happy to be at Power. Getting to work with the team in a very busy place great to see the students and everyone has made him feel very welcome. Most recently he worked as a Pathways Resource teacher and so he had already worked a bit at power. Mr. Mazza is looking forward to bringing his lens and working with the school community. Our school really is an excellent place to be.

-Grade 9 EQAO Math testing took place on January 23/24, the second set of tests for the second term cohort will be held in June

-Final exams for Semester 1 took place from January 27 through to February 1st; students were able to view final exams and final marks on Friday, February 10, 2023. This was the first time for most students since COVID to write final exams, so it was a bit of an adjustment for all including teachers.

-PA Day took place on February 3, it was a great day for teachers to do some planning. The day focused on several topics:

Differentiated Instruction/Equity and Inclusive Education

STEAM and Pathways

STEAM education, including new STEAM-related curricula (Grade 9 de-streamed science and connections to skilled trades and apprenticeship)

Anti-Racism and Anti-Discrimination – Mitigating and Other Factors – Widening the Equity Lens

Special Education and Supporting Students with Disabilities

We held a Virtual Assembly at the beginning of February to re-iterate expectations regarding uniform, attendance, student code of conduct (and introduction of new Administrator, Mr. Mazza)

-African Canadian Heritage month taking place throughout the month of February (daily announcements, cultural food fundraiser, cultural activities including demonstration of hair braiding, BHM grade-level student-led presentations at the end of the month)

-Grade 8 Registration (IB registration already took place and regular program registration will take place on March 2nd)-We had 500 students register for Grade 9 which is good as it meets our target and means that there is still a lot of interest in attending our school.

-Guidance Department is currently involved in Grade-level presentations to guide students in course selection process – provide dates

-PA Day -Friday, February 17, 2023 – LOYOL- Leaders of your own Learning, which is presented by the union who has offered their own opportunities for learning for teachers to select their own professional learning that day.

-Math Contests to take place in the morning (prior to the late start) on Wednesday, February 22, 2023

-Ash Wednesday liturgy to take place on Wednesday, February 22nd as well as ashes are distributed in individual classrooms.

-Semi-Formal for students in Grades 10 and 11 taking place on Friday, February 24, 2023, at Le Treport. 450 tickets have been sold for this event, so it is already quite successful just in the interest alone.

Q: Who supervises this? A: Staff and Security.

-OSSLT testing to begin on March 1st, 2023

All grade 10 students will be writing the OSSLT in **Spring 2023**. Some Grade 11 students will also be writing if they were previously unsuccessful.

A little bit of information from VP Corriera about OSSLT/Literacy Plan 2023

All grade 10 students will be writing the OSSLT in Spring 2023. Some Grade 11 students will also be writing if they were previously unsuccessful.

Please encourage your child to join the grade level google classroom. All literacy information will be shared to students on this platform.

Starting February 8th, Grade 10 homerooms will be watching a 30-minute presentation in the library. The presentations will wrap up on February 16th. The purpose of this presentation is to familiarize the students with the expectations of the test. The Literacy Lead will be available to answer any questions that students have.

Students in Grade 10 will have the opportunity to practice the main components of the test through four, in-class activities. These activities will cover:

- a. Real life narrative
- b. Information paragraph
- c. News Report
- d. Dialogue
- e. Written Multiple Choice
- f. Series of paragraphs

These in class activities will begin on February 28th, and each period will have a different task which will be posted to the grade level google classroom. Students without a device will be provided one for the period.

An after-school literacy course will run second semester. This course takes place after school and gives students an opportunity to receive intensive preparation for the OSSLT. Permission forms will be available on the grade level google classroom a week before the course begins. The tentative start date for this course is February 27th.

Parents of Grade 10 students will be receiving a syner-voice email from the school with information about this after school course as well as the dates for the literacy test.

Literacy testing will be taking place in Grade 10 homeroom classes. The test no longer takes place on one day, and the test will be written using school computers in the library. Students will be writing the OSSLT on their designated day during period 1 and 2. Students will then be expected to go to their regular period 3 and 4 classes on that day. All students are entitled to extra time. Testing will begin on March 28th and will take approximately 10 days to

complete. Once the students have their literacy test date, they will be encouraged not to miss school on the date of their test. In certain circumstances, students who miss their literacy date will have a chance to complete a make-up session.

Grade 11 students who were previously unsuccessful will have a chance to write the literacy test during the spring testing window.

Literacy results will be returned to students by the end of June. These results will be communicated to students using the grade level google classroom.

Q: What if someone is away A: we will work this out and book their test on a different day

Q: OSSLT is it mandatory? A: Yes

Q: Is it Pass or fail? A: No, it uses a Scoring rubric in the 300's and they must meet that number, it is people/manually scored.

Q: Does it count towards a student's average? A: No but it is a requirement for graduation.

Q: What paper do students use to fill out their requested courses what is that? A: Courses are requested using "My Blueprint" and this must be completed online by March 1st. If anyone is struggling, there are several sessions after school to teach them how to do it and homeroom teachers are also a helpful resource.

Q: How to opt out of a course during the year if you plan to take it in summer? A: It will be scheduled into timetable and the adjustment would be made on return and would be accounted for once the credit is obtained. It still must be listed in the student's selection though until the credit is obtained.

Q: I'm wondering about The Welcome to Grade 9 program, (the summer transition program)—do they get spare in grade 12 for that? A: Yes, it is a full credit course.

Responses from Mr. Clough to follow up questions from a past meeting about French textbooks. The teacher French teacher said that the textbooks were always available in class but not to take home. Mr. Clough has asked dept heads to really take stock on textbook quantities as it comes up regularly in our community and to ensure they are replenishing them.

In response to questions about MPSJ having a large-scale Drama production: Yes, they are working on something to create a production with music vocal drama in the school year 2023/2024.

Also, with respect to a TPH Inquiry last meeting, this was handled privately.

Q: If student has a spare at beginning of day can they come late A: Yes

What about if it is in the middle of the day? A: They can be in the library

6. Treasurer's Report - Annette Heim (Treasurer)

Because there have been so many School Cash Online transactions that happened in January, I decided to use the opening balance from our December statement to provide more transparency

The School Cash Online amounts are still a blend of the Varsity Hockey (as some were paid in Jan) and toque sales so I haven't tried to split them up – we know that we received another \$1448 in January, and I had issued a cheque for \$2000 for the Varsity Hockey fees (between Dec & Jan we received a total of \$3928 from School Case Online)

Under Planned but not yet booked I made these changes:

- Updated our Parent Involvement Donation to reflect the \$3176 in Revenue we have for PIC and ADDED \$3176 as a planned expense as we want to spend it this year (and can only spend it on certain things)
- Added the \$6550 in Activity Fees we received (haven't cashed the cheque yet as I'm hoping to do it when we set up BMO)
- Added the \$120 in Uniform Sale proceeds we received from Cori (again, haven't deposited them as we're hoping to set up BMO)
- Added the Account Interest cheque I received but not yet deposited
- Added in Helping Hands for \$975 as we've started to spend that fund as approved in our budget
- Updated the Graduation Grants to \$2000 for this year as per the approved motion from the January meeting

Overall, our funds available is currently sitting at \$10423 which is a little lower than this time last year but not too bad

As of Dec 31st, it hasn't been split out yet and \$2,000 for varsity hockey team we had to pay back the school funds that they accidentally deposited into our account. Helping hands fund is a fun to the school to provide students who are having financial difficulties like field trips or mental health items. This grant was provided as a lot of people are reluctant to come for help; when they need money because they were embarrassed, they can talk to a trusted teacher or admin to get funding for a field trip. This fund is how we provided for that the past 2 years with covid we were using it predominantly for mental health. As the economy is going badly, we need to return to the original model that was set up now that covid is shifting gears.

Motion from Annette that the rest of the "Helping Hands" funds be applied back to the administration (Mr. Clough) for their original purpose. 2nd:by Anapaula- Motion passes (unanimous)

Waiting to deposit cheque to BMO when the account is officially transferred there

WE will loop in with the school awards committee for the grants we just voted on as we must also meet to create the criteria for the newly revised graduation grants.

Still waiting on toques and pub fundraiser. GIC family grant. 15,900 that is a donation that is strictly specific to the weight room.

Q: A parent asked about how to get money for their child's club/team.? A: The parent was informed that the teacher who leads the club/team needs to follow the proper procedure that is set up and present at the yearly "Grants" meeting which will be held later in the Spring. They are welcome to bring their request at that time.

6. Fundraising Report – Cori Stadler (Fundraising Committee Chair)

Toques are ready to go, and we sold 108 which was great, and we also bought extra to sell. Would love to sell these at a table at the registration night on March 2nd. Cori is now working on the distribution. For those wishing to donate instead it could be donated to the god squad if you didn't want to wear it.

Flipgive over \$100 raised so far and so perhaps Mr. Clough can include the code to promote it again? A: Mr. Clough to follow up.

The Bull finally got back to Cori and has a similar set up but might be a bit cheaper, so we don't have to pay to rent the whole space to have a band. Food compares price wise, but venue makes it more cost effective. The issue is a minimum food spend is \$1500-\$2,000 will have to raise the ticket prices as food is more expensive and in 3 years everything has gone up in price as we all know. Tax and gratuity also should be considered. We can bring in décor but must clean that up at the end of the night like the London Gate. We need to decide where to have it in the next couple of days. We want to start working on obtaining raffle items from parent community. May 6th 7pm holding it for the date leaning toward the bull. And John confirmed the band, so it makes most sense to have it at the bull. Willing to work with us for food for platters etc. Maybe do a presale for a bit less incentive for presale.

Uniform sale will be a great way to sell these extra toques.

Uniforms out to students to bring in an extra uniform for the sale we need to start stocking up. Can we have the school cash online link? NO probably easier to just do cash. A new item might cause confusion. In future looking for a payment square. WE will give some thought to this idea. Choose between Bull and London Gate and then have a fundraising meeting about the details.

Motion from Cori that the CSPC commits to host the event at The Bull.

2nd: Anapaula Motion carries unanimously

A few discussions about items to have within the event. -Wine and Beer Pull? How does it work? Someone to ask Connie Also Mr. Clough what about a 50:50? Mr. Clough has information about doing this and will connect with Cori. Cori to arrange a fundraising committee meeting to move on next steps.

8. OAPCE Report – Vincent Nguyen (OAPCE Rep)

A few weeks ago, there were 2 topics presented on PIC and PRO grants and how to make applications for those. The other big topic currently is the community policy Shazia Vlahos presented T07 about who they (TCDSB Staff) must engage parent wise. The board claims they are trying to streamline policies, but parents don't like it. Basically, parents raised a lot of concerns about the policy as it looks like the board staff are trying to reduce the role and voice of parents. Vincent will share the proposed we were not really being appropriately consulted with. Also concern about transparency, the website is now buried and it's very hard to use. A lot of concern about parents being cut off from communications. Vincent's take away was that the Chair strongly advised the communications department to revise the proposal to something more acceptable to the stakeholders. Suggested Council could provide this feedback through a survey. Most felt that the Consensus piece within the policy it isn't acceptable. More discussion and consultation needed not less.

Q: Were they looking for feedback on how to improve this policy? A: No not really, it was more like this is a done deal and it didn't seem like they were interested in making changes. The communications person Shazia was being

very dismissive of the parents, it was not good. People were very angry. Q: Will they be doing a Parent engagement survey? A: No, they were dismissing that. They will look it over and get back to us. Katie mentions that it is her belief that the Education Act requires fulsome parent consultation and so this doesn't seem like it is ok. We need to be very conscious of new policies that diminish our parent voice. This is one we should pay close attention to as once policy gets approved its' very difficult to roll it back. Also, we can go through our trustee. Q: Should we write a letter as a council? A: We can. We may have to call a meeting if it doesn't meet our timelines. We can also consider writing a letter. Vincent will share the information to share with the parent community. It's a large item. Our council can always delegate to the board if it must come to that.

Information about this updated Community Engagement Policy can be found at www.Toronto.oapce.org

9. SAST Report – Mayeli Macias -sends her regrets, there is no report tonight.
10. SEAC Report – Irene Stompf things are not as transparent at the school regarding transitions from high school. SEAC wants to see more actions towards preparing special needs students for life after high school with autism workshop etc. January was psychology and mental health awareness and there were various workshops. List of improvements for the accessibility plan also is up on the TCDSB website.

Q: What if any improvements will happen at MPSJ? A: Mr. Clough mentions that at MPSJ we had many upgrades recently (cafeteria doors) and we have a future project for the renewal for changerooms that will give better accessibility in the shower and washroom areas located in the big gym and washrooms upstairs.

11. New/Other/Pending Business
Q: A parent mentions that the digital board outside of the school appears to need repair. A: The Communication Board outside—a work order has been submitted and we are waiting on a timeline for repair.

Q: When do soccer teams etc., have permits for the fields.? A: Any day after 6pm
Parents have concerns about it being used during the winter outside of permitted use.

A: Mr.Clough to address.

Q: Do we get any of the funding from the permits to make repairs or improvements to the field? A: Mr. Clough to address and he is also looking into number painting/refurbishing from the board funds.

Q: Parents want to know why are we (the school/CSPC) responsible for damage when there is blatant use outside of parameters? A: Mr. Clough to return with answers

CPSC Hybrid meetings what is the follow up for that Mr. Clough. There is a device called an owl but unfortunately it creates a privacy issue. For the moment meetings will remain in person only.

12. Adjournment - Anapaula Elliott (Chair)
1stAnnette 2nd:Katie

Next Meeting (April 26th, 2023)