**Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School Council**

**Minutes of 1st Meeting**

**September 25th, 2023**

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**Attendees:** Heather Coelho, Patricia Hernandez Crowe, Trecy Manuela, Alessandra Fiore, Sandra Loiacono

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**Welcome and Opening Remarks**

* Principal Fiore welcomed everyone and shared the land acknowledgement

**Opening Prayer**

* Principal Fiore led us in prayer

**Catholic School Council review**

* Open positions for the School Council were reviewed and due to insufficient numbers, council duties will be shared by Heather Coelho (acting as chair) and Patricia Hernandez Crowe (acting as secretary)

**Dates for Upcoming School Council meetings**

* Monday, November 13, 2023
* Monday, February 12, 2024
* Monday, April 15, 2024
* Monday, June 3, 2023 (if necessary)

**Principal’s and Vice Principal’s Report: Ms. Fiore**

* See attachment

**Committees & Updates**

**Budget Committee:**

* Budget remaining from last year to spend or save is $0.36

**Fundraising Ideas:**

* Proposed Christmas Market was cancelled
* Warm lunch options were discussed – lunchpails.ca?
* Other ides council will look into are Poinsettia and

**Other topics:**

* All Councils meeting will be held at St. Francis Xavier on October 19, 2023
* Halloween Dance
  + Alessandra agreed to cover the cost of the rentals for a Halloween dance
  + Patricia to secure equipment from Long & McQuade and will compile playlists to DJ the dance
  + Sandra will send song requests to students
* Parent teacher interviews will be held November 9, 2023
* Meeting concluded at 7:00pm

**NEXT MEETING: Monday, November 13th, at 5:00pm**

**Principal’s Update – Monday September 25th**

1. Opening budget of 2022-2023 school year was: $3094.35

2. How the money was spent: a) Halloween Dance - $216.41

b) Christmas cookies for movie day - $225.10

c) School wide bowling - $2122.48

b) Water bottles for graduating class - $530.00

Closing balance as of August 31, 2023: $0.36

3. Current Enrollment: 225 in person, 1 remote learner

4. Reorganization took place on September 18th

We have one less class. We lost 1.2 teachers at Fatima. We had to dissolve the FDK B, 1/2, 2/3, 5, classes. We now FDK, SK/1, 1/2, 2, 3/4, 4/5, 5/6, 6/7, 7/8. We had to move students around to capture the 20:1 cap in primary grades, 23 cap in the 3/4 split and to maintain Board averages in the junior and intermediate classes

5. New staff members: ERW’s – Rosemarie Fera(LTO/ERW), Danielle Simmonds-King (LTO/ERW), Kathleen DeCastro-Tagabing, , Elizabeth Da Silva (LTO/Mrs. Blake), Rebecca Gani (SLP), Lizzelle Roach (LTO/Bergie), Cathy Draga (ERW)

6. Terry Fox – took place on Friday September 22. Donations totaled to over $1200 thus far.

7. Thanksgiving – Monday October 9th – NO SCHOOL

8. Hot lunches will be taking place again this year – will begin in October **Pizza Lunch Order – October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Jamie's Cracked Corn Popcorn - Fundraiser - ShareLife – October 31 Mr. Sub Day! - Thursday October 12 and 26**

9. Picture day is on Sept 29th.

Re-take / Absentee Photo Day is October 24th.

Graduation Photo Day is Feb 20th, 2024.

10. Book Fair took place the week of Sept 18th-Sept 22nd

11. Open House took place on Sept 20.

12. Cross country will be on Oct 18th

13. Truth and Reconciliation Week Sept 25th – 30th. Orange shirt day September 30th

14. Virtue Assembly taking place on Thursday Sept 28th, 2023

15. Dress purple day – Friday Oct 27th – Child Abuse Prevention Month

1. CCAT The Canadian Cognitive Abilities Test (CCAT) is administered system-wide annually with Grade 4 students as part of the gifted screening process. In addition, the CCAT test results provide valuable information for all students and can be used to help identify at-risk students and adapt instruction. Will take place Oct 16th- Oct 20th. Administered by Mr. Saieva – SERT teacher.

2. Sacraments – registrations packages sent home to all students in grades 2 and 7. If parents misplace the registration package, they need to go to the parish to receive a new package.

3. Recess – 2 15 minutes breaks

Lunch recess – 40 minutes – eat lunch from 11:32 – 12:32

4. No dogs allowed on school property – in the interest of student safety, dogs are not permitted

5. Agendas were given to all students – no cost to the parent. Students will only be getting one. If they misplace, lose or ruin their agenda the school will not be able to replenish.

6. Self-assessments still need to be done everyday

- stay home if you are sick

- come to school when you do not have a fever AND your symptoms have been improving for at lease 24 hours (or 48 hrs for nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea).

- severe symptoms like chest pain or difficulty breathing, go to the nearest emergency department

18. Communication Expectations –

- while staff may receive non-urgent requests and inquiries outside of the standard work day, please understand that the response will occur in a timely manner. We feel this helps foster a healthier work-life balance; something that was not prioritized in the pandemic working environment.

This shift in organizational culture is in alignment with societal changes and legislation that is designed to promote and support a healthier work-life balance.

- DPCDSB staff have always been available for emergencies and very urgent matters and this will not change. If there is an emergency matter after hours, appropriate staff will be available as needed.

- Ensuring healthy and professional boundaries between work and home supports positive mental health which, in turn, enhances our ability to better serve our students.

Respectfully submitted,

A. Fiore

Principal