

Mary Ward Catholic School Advisory Council Meeting

November 25, 2008

Attendance:

Terry Pastore Chair	Dennis Hastings Vice Chair	Jerry Joseph Treasurer
Angie Cornacchia Secretary	Alemeshet Banjaw Council	Fouad Chalabi Council
Cecilia Coutinho Council	Jude Coutinho Council	Lisa DiGaetano Council
Andrew Farinha Council	Ermina Lumia Council	Marian Robertson Council
Alfredo Andrenacci Community Rep.	Bob Robertson Community Rep.	Jennifer King School Constable
Carmela Giardini Principal	Andrea Magee Vice Principal	Santo Visconti Vice Principal
Krisel Abulenci Student Council Pres.	Lidia Kairska Parent Council	

Guests: Johnathan Gonzales, Marinella Gonzales, Gloria Salvador.

Regrets: Terry Pastore, Alemeshet Banjaw, Andrew Farinha

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Carmela Giardini at 7:30 p.m. Copies of the agenda and copies of the October 25th meeting were circulated.

Opening Prayer: Was offered by Santo Visconti.

Welcome: Dennis Hastings welcomed everyone as Terry Pastore was unable to attend.

Student Council Report: Krisel Abulenci - President

- Grade 9 Elections were held, 5 candidates and 2 were elected.
- Barbeque Event
- Halloween Event, Costumes, Missing Mystery and Pumpkin Carving to which Mr. Notten won.
- December is Christmas Activities, Movie Night.
- Semi Formal to be held in January. Grade 9-12 students can purchase tickets, for the dinner and dance. Teacher Volunteers needed.

Agenda: Council members approved the agenda.

October 28th Minutes: A few minutes were dedicated to read and correct a few spelling mistakes. Alfredo Andrenacci motioned the minutes and Marian Robertson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chair's Report: Dennis Hastings was asked to act on Terry Pastore's behalf.

- TAPCE - Terry Pastore and Dennis Hastings involved in TAPCE.
- Terry Pastore asking to be nominated again, Ermina Lumia motioned the nomination and Cecilia Coutinho seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Location of Resource Center is the Darcy MaGee Center, to get funding from CSAC setting a session at Mary Ward. Two years to get TAPCE funding.
- Defer decision until January meeting. Marian Robertson motions to defer decision, Fouad Chalabi seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Chair's Report Attached.

Principal's Report: Presented by Carmela Giardini. Report Attached.

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Jerry Joseph. Report Attached.

- DECA requesting \$500.00 going towards the purchase of learning and resource material, case studies, business exams, as well other supplementary material that will help students master the art of public speaking.
- Jerry Joseph motioned the \$500.00 and Alfredo Andrenacci seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Funding of \$1,000.00 requested for the French Dept. for Exchange Students. There are 15-17 students for a time period of 2 weeks.
- Jerry Joseph motioned the \$1,000.00 and Cecilia Coutinho seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Religious Study: Addressed by Jude Coutinho. How to help our kids? Religious Education Policy. Students - mandatory to take Religion. - To find out about other faiths to find their own faith? Requested to separate the images of the different faiths around the school instead of having them all in one area.

Updates:

Special Education Report #1: Presented by Alfredo Andrenacci.

- Frank Piddisi is now the Super Intendant for Special Education for the Catholic School Board.
- There was no November meeting due to the snow storm, hence lack of attendance.
- At the October meeting, there was a report from the Ontario Psychological Association Project. It attempts to identify students early (from Kindergarten to Grade 4) and puts programs in place while waiting for assessments and IPRC (Identification Placement Review Committee). It was also pointed out (identified) that differentiated instructions were very useful and it was recommended that CSAC would be educated regarding differentiated instructions so that they would share this information with the “rest” of the parents.
- There was also a presentation from the Transportation Department. He explained the difficulties in hiring and retaining drivers.
- Last but not least, in the subject of parents involvement, the school board is reviewing the consultation process for IEP (Individual Education Plan). It was recommended to send a form to the parent’s of children who have been identified early in the year, asking for their input.

Special Education Report #2: Presented by Lidia Kairska.

- The Board’s Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC).
- The Committee may make recommendation to the Board in any matter of special education programs and services.
- The Committee’s membership includes 3 Board Trustees, 12 members nominated by local associations of parents, and at least one member from the community.
- The members are committed to assisting parents who have children with special needs and abilities. They are available to make presentations at school council meetings regarding the role of the Committee.

Newsletter: Mary Ward C.S.S. Happenings Newsletter was given out Dec.1/08 to the students to take home. The congestion of the traffic is in the newsletter, and the Traffic Officer is to assess the situation.

Events Coordination: Presented by Ermina Lumia and Lisa DiGaetano. The Parent/Teacher Event will be Thursday, December 4th, to which a table will be set up with coffee.

“Go-Green”: Share Practices, Education Practices, Green Quest Committee. Ermina Lumia was asked to be on the committee by Carmela Giardini and she accepted.

Adjournment: Dennis Hastings called to adjourn the meeting. Ermina Lumia seconded the motion. The meeting was therefore adjourned at 9:45p.m.