

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL
CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING # 1

September 19 2012 Location: Staff Room Time: 7:00-9:00 pm

Attendees: Mrs. Brenda Hamilton Mr. Zaldy Perez
 Mr. Lucio Iassogna Mrs. Marisa Xenos
 Mrs. Dayana Sovran Mr. Dave Hinds
 Mrs. Melanie Skrlac Mr. Geraldine Beckley
 Mrs. Tisha Dayap-Berrio Mrs. Mary D'Souza
 Mrs. Susan Korah

Regrets: Mr. David Cheeranjie

1. Introduction

Mr. Iassogna led the group in prayer and Mrs. Hamilton opened the meeting with introductions and welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the School Council

2. Quorum

3. Catholic School Council Guidelines

Mrs. Hamilton handed out the Catholic School Council Guidelines 2012 and discussed the salient points with the School Council members.

4. Election of Officers for 2012/2013

The School Council members elected the following as office bearers for the school year 2012/13

Chairperson: Mrs. Tisha Dayap-Berrio
Vice Chair: Mrs. Dayana Sovran
Treasurer: Mrs. Mary D'Souza
Secretary: Mrs. Susan Korah
Councillors: Mr. Zaldy Perez Mrs. Marisa Xenos
 Mrs. Dayana Sovran Mr. Dave Hinds
 Mrs. Melanie Skrlac
Non-Teaching Rep: Mr. Geraldine Beckley
Teaching Rep: Mr. David Cheeranjie

5. Approval for Agenda for Sept 2012

The following items were added to the Agenda

9.5 Community Representative,

9.6 JEPAG,

10.2.a. Milk Program, 10.2.b. Pizza program and 10.2.c. Popcorn,

10.4. ByLaws Committee

6. Principal's Report – Mrs. Hamilton

6.1. Staffing Report

Mrs. Hamilton provided an update on the status of Staffing. This year school has an enrolment of 375 students. The following classes were added: an ELKP class, 1, 2/3, 3/4. The teacher/student ratio is such that no changes to the classes or teachers are required at the current enrolment level.

6.2. School Budget

Mrs. Hamilton stated that the annual budget for the school for this year is \$28,300. This budget is based on the school enrolment. The school budget is divided up into various categories such as library, instructional and learning materials, photocopier, consumables, petty cash, furniture and computers etc. The budget expenditures reflects the priorities of identified needs and wants identified by the school staff to support student learning.

6.3. EQAO Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics Spring 2012

Mrs. Hamilton handed out the EQAO assessment for the School on Reading, Writing and Mathematics for Primary (Grade 3)and Junior(Grade 6) Divisions for the year 2011-12. This was the second year that Immaculate Conception School had participated in the EQAO. The results are encouraging. The school was scoring at a much higher level than the Board and Provincial average. The school has definitely shown a great improvement from its average in 2010-11. This is more profound in the Primary Division. Mrs. Hamilton attributes the reason for improvement to the introduction of new technology such as Smart Boards and the dedication of the teaching staff. However, a more accurate comparison, will be noted once the results from the Grade 3's from 2009-2010 are compared to the same class' Grade 6 results that will be done in the school year 2013-2014. The full provincial assessment results are available at the EQAO website www.eqao.com

6.4. Moveathon- Oct 31, 2012

Move-a-thon is recognized as the major school initiative fundraisers for this year. This provides an opportunity for the students to participate in raising funds for resources to support the five pillars within the School Improvement Plan for the school. The event will be held on Oct 31st in the gym with classes having an opportunity during the day to move to the music that will be provided. Students will have the

choice of wearing black and orange or their Hallowe'en costumes for the day. More information will be sent home to parents.

6.5 Active Recess Initiative

A partnership with McMaster University Nursing Program and the students and staff of our school will see efforts to promote active recess activities for students in Grades 1-8. Student Council will be involved with working with the nursing students and provide input during lunch meetings. A survey will be distributed to all students to seek out their ideas as well. Funds to purchase active recess equipment for the students will be provided through the school.

6.5. School Improvement Planning

Mrs. Hamilton will be engaging with staff to develop the School Improvement Plan for 2012-2013 with a particular focus on goals within the following pillars: Learning With Faith, Literacy, Numeracy, Pathways, and Community, Culture and Service.

7. Chairperson's Report – Mrs. Dayap-Berrio

The Chair requested that the School Council consider the continuation from last year of the introduction of Smart board to the Primary classrooms on the first floor as the second floor is fully equipped with the Smart Board system in every classroom. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by the School Council.

The Smart Board system purchased from generated funds of the Council was delivered and expected to be installed in Mrs. Kolaski's Grade 2 classroom shortly.

8. Treasurer's Report – Mrs. Mary D'Souza

Mrs. D'Souza read out the Treasurer's report. An amount of \$819.78 from 2011/12 school year was reported. The cost for the student agendas was paid for by the Catholic School Council for 2012-2013.

9. New Business

9.1. Parents Reaching Out Grant

An application to the Ministry of Education for a grant was approved in the amount of \$1000 (maximum allotted to School Councils) for the purpose of purchasing resources for parents. They will be available for borrowing by parents through our Learning Commons. Parents will also be invited to offer suggestions of books, topics, specific authors, titles in the near future.

9.2. Feast of Immaculate Conception Pasta Dinner

This charitable event is hosted by the School Council to celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. This year it will be held on Wednesday December 5th in the gymnasium. It will be a buffet style Pasta and Meatball Dinner with salad, dinner rolls, dessert, coffee, tea and milk for the children.

Raffle tickets will be sold at the event and the funds raised are directed towards a specific charity approved through the Catholic School Council Guidelines.

9.3. \$500 Parent Involvement Grant

An amount of \$500 was provided to each school by the Ministry of Education and deposited into the school account to improve communication and engagement of the parents in school events. The funds are earmarked for broadening the number of school events that include parents and the number of parents who attend open houses, guest speakers, presentations, monthly meetings, volunteers etc. Catholic School Council will be given the opportunity to determine how to direct the funds to enhance parental engagement in our school.

9.4. Fund Raising Report

Chair reported that Funscrips Gift Card Program can be used as a source of fundraising by which gas cards/grocery cards etc are sold at the school to the parents and the school receives a minimum of 2% of the proceeds. Similarly Pizza program and pop corn sales are the other fund raising sources by the Catholic School Council.

9.5. Community Rep

Mr. Lou Giancarlo, a retired principal with HWCDSB was nominated as a community rep at the school council. A motion was made to approve the appointment of Mr. Gicancarlo as the community rep for Council. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

9.6. JEPAG – Joint Educational Parental Advisory Group

Mrs. Dayana Sovran was appointed JEPAG rep. When available, Mrs. Sovran will attend JEPAG meetings or seminars and report back to the Council.

10. Committees- Council Liaison

10.1. Christmas Wish Upon a Star

Previous years this was a successful program in which the School Council and all of the school participate in providing hampers to the needy families. Student Council assists on the wrapping day by making hamper greeting cards and assembling donations. Council wishes to continue with this program. Donation letters will be ready for distribution at next meeting. Communication to the school community will be distributed in November.

10.2.a. Milk Program

This is to bring fresh cool milk to students at school who wish to participate. A milk crew consisting of 6 Grade 5 students distribute milk to the classrooms each day. This is not a fundraising program but rather a service provided.

10.2.b. Pizza program

This is a fundraising program and in the past parent volunteers have graciously participated in making this a success. Grade 8 students are often called upon in the event that parental volunteer numbers are insufficient for timely distribution. Toppers on Upper James has been utilised for this program. Pizza served has to meet the nutritional guidelines as set out in PPM 150. Slices are \$2.00 each. Gluten free pizzas are also available.

10.2.c. Popcorn Program

Kernels is used to provide popcorn in Buttersalt, White Cheddar and Caramel. All are in compliance with PPM 150. This is a fundraising event on the last Thursday of each month. Bags are sold for \$2.00 each.

10.3. Safe and Healthy Schools

Mr. Dave Hinds was appointed the Council Representative for the Safe and Healthy Schools Committee. He is to work with Mrs. Hamilton in reviewing the safety and health related procedures at the school.

10.4. Bylaws Committee

Mrs. Melanie Skrlac volunteered to be the Council Liaison for the By-Laws Committee.

11. Dates of Meeting

Wednesday, October 17

Thursday, November 15

Monday, January 14

Wednesday, February 13

Thursday, April 18

Monday, May 13

Wednesday, June 12

12. Correspondence

13. Items for next agenda

- School Improvement Planning – Pillars of Success
- Funscrips

14. Adjournment