

St. Brigid's School CSPC

Meeting Minutes: November 23, 2017

Present:

<p>CSPC</p> <p>David Hogan (Principal) Cheryliane Gomes (Vice Principal) Helen Dunn (Co-Chair) Cheryl Devine (Co-Chair) Richard Payne (Vice-Chair) Nalini Bateman (Secretary) Jennifer Clarke (Co-Communications Rep) Przemyslaw Pawluk (Web Site Manager) Kristen Hawkswood (Church Liaison) Margherita Attanesio (Co-Special Events) Germana Nunes (Co-Special Events) Elaine Pipher (Special Education Rep)</p> <p>REGRETS</p> <p>Clifton Corbin (Treasurer) Liz Liberty (Co-Communications Rep) Ann Poochareon (Co-Special Events & OAPCE) Silene Alsuran (OAPCE Rep) Patricia McFadden (OAPCE Rep)</p>	<p>OTHER ATTENDEES</p> <p>Mary Rose Leishman David Dempsey Gordon Finlay Danielle Pollington Ghermai Berhe</p>
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1. Confirmation of Approval of Previous Minutes

- Minutes from the October 19, 2017 meeting were approved online October 27, 2017
- Confirmation of online approval: Confirmed

2. Principal's Report - Mr. Hogan

➤ French Immersion Update

- The consultation session with the board and parents was well attended on November 8, 2017.
- A survey was sent home so parents could provide their feedback on the program. These were collected and sent on to the board.
- The results will go before the education council November 27, and we will know when the board has reached a decision regarding the process, catchment and other details.
- **Question:** Can parents complete the survey online? **Mr. Hogan:** Will follow up.
- **Question:** Do you expect that teachers will leave as a result of the introduction of the French immersion program? **Mr. Hogan:** Not sure, the whole community will be affected. Currently there is one junior kindergarten class allocated for French Immersion in September. There may be another one added if there is the demand.
- **Question:** Will you get the results of the survey and can they be shared with the parents? **Mr. Hogan:** They should be made available to the parents.
- **Question:** When is the board expected to decide? **Mr. Hogan:** Soon because registration starts in January. They hope to have a decision in December.
- **Question:** Will there be disruptions to the students in September? **Mr. Hogan:** The running of the classes should be business as usual. But there could be challenges with the registration if a decision is not made in December. Classes are based on projections so this will only affect kindergarten - cap of 30 students per class and 5 classes, so 150 students.
- **Question:** Is it possible that students within the catchment area could be turned away? **Mr. Hogan:** They may be as the school is full.
- **Question:** Is there any update on the shortened day? **Mr. Hogan:** No, the status quo will be maintained. Changes can only be made if there will be no additional cost to the board - they could not make it work so there will be no changes at this time.
- **Question:** Has there been input from other schools and students regarding French Immersion? **Mr. Hogan:** Yes
- **Question:** How was the response to the survey? **Mr. Hogan:** About half responded.
- **Question:** What about late forms? **Mr. Hogan:** They will be forwarded on.

- **Question:** Could there be inequality between French Immersion students and the other students? **Mr. Hogan:** In the past yes, but now there is more integration. From grade 3 it is 75% French and 25 integrated and from Grade 5 it goes to 50-50. The classes are mixed so the students will be integrated and this leads to better interactions between the students.
- **Question:** Do the teachers have any input whether students remain in the program or not? **Mr. Hogan:** Only JK/SK as all of the kindergarten classes are combined. CSPC has a language committee that can discuss these questions.

➤ JUMP Math

- St. Brigid is one of 14 schools to participate in Jump Math pilot program.
- The Principals Learning Network met to discuss the progress if this is a venture the board should continue as teachers and parents are in favor. The board will support Jump math but will also look at other ways to supplement the program (e.g. Nelson Math). This will give teachers flexibility as they deliver Jump as the main program.
- Originally teachers had concerns that Book One was too basic but they now feel much more comfortable with the program.

➤ Weather Policy

- Kids need to be outside. There is a protocol for indoor recess and cold weather.
 - If temperature and windchill is -20°C or warmer students will go out for recess.
 - -20°C to -25°C students will go outside for 10 minutes, the staff will gauge the weather to decide
 - -25°C or colder students will stay inside
- **Question:** How do parents know if it is an indoor start? **Mr. Hogan:** There will be staff to direct parents when they arrive.
- **Question:** What if students are really cold, can they go inside? **Mr. Hogan:** Yes but they are often outside for shorter times..
- **Question:** What happens in hot weather? Do students get more water breaks **Mr. Hogan:** Yes. Also students have their water bottles and the gym can be used a cooling centre.
- Link to TCDSB Cold Weather Alerts:
<https://www.tcdsb.org/FORSTUDENTS/HealthandSafety/Pages/Cold-Weather-Alerts.aspx>
- Link to TCDSB Weather Conditions Protocol:
<https://www.tcdsb.org/FORSTUDENTS/HealthandSafety/Documents/GuidelinesforWeatherConditions.pdf>

➤ **St. Brigid Family Advent Masses**

Tuesday December 12 7 pm	Thursday December 14 7 pm
Ms. Ross/ Ms. DeSouza Ms. Benedicto/ Ms. Reid Ms. Bertone/ Ms. Vecchio	Ms. Boucher/ Ms. Kaizar Ms. Caruso/Witteveen/Anderson
Ms. Curammeng Ms. Brisbois Ms. Zaleski Cox Ms. Cuthbert	Ms. Donald Ms. Seymour Ms. Laluck Ms. Shoniker
Ms. Wakeham Ms. Ford	Ms. McGhee Ms. Evanson Mr. Andrenacci
Ms. Smith Mr. Wigglesworth	Ms. Leone Ms. Rowland
Ms. Collins Donleavy Ms. Koehl Dunbar	Ms. Kuszner Mr. Masucci

➤ **Mr. Moulds First Annual Memorial Skating Day:** Mr. Moulds was a well loved teacher and this day will be dedicated to his memory - as a testament to his 13 year commitment to organizing hockey and skating for all students at St. Brigid. It will be held on December 14, at the East York Memorial Arena 9am-1pm. All grades will be attending. There will be a shuttle bus between the school and the arena with a schedule for the students. As well there will be samosas and hot chocolate waiting for the kids in the gym when they get back to the school. Mr. Moulds' wife, family and friends will be attending.

- We will need volunteers for tying skates and on ice supervision
- We are always looking for skates and helmets so students that do not own their own will be able to participate.
- Angelo at the rink will sharpen the skates for free.

Motion to approve \$600 for shuttle bus, samosas and hot chocolate for Mr.

Moulds Skating Day: Cheryl;

- **Second:** Richard;
- **Motion CARRIED:** None opposed

➤ **Other Business**

- **Question:** How much money is in the CSPC account here at the school?**Mr. Hogan:** Start of 2016/17 September balance was \$2143. Current balance is \$4249 plus \$500 for parent involvement initiative
- **Generosity of the St.Brigid Community:** Last year instead of baskets with St. Vincent de Paul we did gift baskets for families in our school. We asked for gift cards. A paper and email request was sent home with specific requests. A message and link to Fundscrip will be emailed to parents and posted on the website. When gift cards are purchased through Fundscrip a percentage of the card value is donated to the school while the purchaser gets the full value of the card. There are many popular vendors and more are always being added.

Link to Fundscrip site: <https://www.fundscrip.com/support-a-group>

Group invitation code for St.Brigid: **Y4FMTC**

Also consider using Fundscrip for:

- the holiday season shopping and gift giving
- donations
- using gift cards for retailers that are used regularly (e.g. gas, groceries, clothing) <http://www.fundscrip.com/retailers>
- setting up automatic recurring orders for paying with gift cards instead of cash.

3. Vice Principal's Report - Mrs. Gomes

➤ **P.A.L.S. Playground Activity Leaders in School**

- The PALS program is being run in the school. Public Health will be sending a nurse liaison to coach selected Grade 6 students on how to play a leadership role on the playground. The students will be coached on on games and play for grades 1, 2 & 3 as well as skills in socializing and conflict management. This program is part of setting students up for success in the future. There will be a schedule and a designated space for the activities.
- **Question:** How many students are participating? **Mrs. Gomes:** Twenty-three students were recommended by their teachers and were required to complete an application form obtain parental consent. The students are very excited about the program.

4. Teachers Report - Mrs. Ross

- Nothing to report the month. Regrets from Mrs. Ross

5. Church Liaison Report - Kristen Hawkswood

➤ FIRST RECONCILIATION & HOLY COMMUNION

- Mandatory Sessions for students preparing for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion are underway. The remaining dates for the Mandatory Sessions are:

Session #4 November 26, 2017

Session #7 January 14, 2018

Session #5 December 10, 2017

Session #8 January 28, 2018

Session #6 December 17, 2017

Session #9 February 4, 2018

Session #10 February 11, 2018

- Lay Pastoral Associate Kevin Pettit has begun visiting the Grade 2 students in their classrooms to assist in their preparation for the sacraments. The children will participate in 22 weekly in-school sessions. Each session is approximately 40 minutes.
- As in past years, students **are be required to have their “First Holy Communion Passport” stamped to confirm their weekly attendance at Mass.** Replacements costs for lost passports will be \$20.00.
- Guardians have been contacted by email if a copy of their child’s Baptismal Certificate is required. Baptismal Certificates can be emailed, faxed, mailed, or given to St. Brigid’s teachers. Please refer to Kevin’s email for complete instructions. **Baptismal Certificates are due by Friday, December 15, 2017.**
- Please direct any questions about First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion to Kevin Pettit (kevin.pettit@rogers.com) or to Fr. Carlos.

➤ CONFIRMATION

- The Enrollment Mass and Ceremony for students in Grade 7 or older who would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation took place on Sunday 22, October. **48 students are now enrolled**, representing approximately 75% of the Grade 7 students (an increase in the numbers from last year). Classes with Kevin Pettit will begin in the school in the next few weeks.

➤ BAPTISM

- Eight students from the St. Brigid’s Parish Community will receive the Sacrament of Baptism on **Sunday, December 17, 2017 at 10:45 AM.** The 4-week baptismal

preparation classes began in November. There are two weeks of instruction remaining.

➤ **UPCOMING SCHOOL MASSES**

- Every member of the St. Brigid's Community is welcomed and invited to attend the St. Brigid's School Masses.
- The next two Masses will be held on: **Friday 24 November 2017, 9:00 AM** and **Thursday 25 January 2018, 12:30 PM.**
- Please note that unforeseen events in the life of the Parish may cause schedule changes with short notice. We will do our very best to let the community know as soon as possible if a change becomes necessary. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

➤ **ST. BRIGID'S FAMILY ADVENT MASS**

- As is our tradition, families are invited to participate in our Family Advent Mass. To accommodate the large number of families that are anticipated to attend, two Masses will be held on: **Tuesday 12 December 2017, 7:00 PM** and **Thursday 14 December 2017, 7:00 PM.**

➤ **SCHOOL ADVENT CONFESSIONS**

- Advent confessions will take place on **Thursday 30 November at 8:45 AM** for students in Grades 3-8. Four priests will be available to hear the students' confessions.

➤ **WAVE AFTER WAVE YOUTH GROUP (WAW)**

- Twitter: @waveafterwave16
- The St. Brigid's Catholic Church Youth Group, Wave After Wave, are celebrating their One Year Anniversary. There are approximately 70-75 WAW members. Last weekend, the group celebrated with a pizza party and bowling. WAW will also be celebrating in the church hall following the Youth Mass this Sunday (Nov 26), with cake and a year-in-review discussion.
- Students in Grades 7 to 12 are invited to join WAW. The WAW Youth Group participates in a Youth Mass at the 11:00 Mass on the fourth Sunday of every month.

➤ **ST. BRIGID'S PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION AND LINKS**

- To contact Fr. Carlos Sierra or to learn more about St. Brigid's Parish, visit:
Telephone: 416 696-8660
Email: stbrigid@rogers.com
Twitter: @StBrigidsTO
Facebook: St. Brigid's Catholic Church

6. OAPCE Report - Silene Alsuran, Patricia McFadden, Ann Poochareon

- Nothing to report, Regrets from OPACE reps

7. Special Events - Margherita Attanesio, Germana Nunes, Ann Poochareon

- Looking into a few events that we may be able to offer:
 - Training for older students
 - Speaker, Anne Douglas - Kids & Anxiety, \$750/hr
 - *Kids Have Stress Too* free workshop for 4-9 year olds. Requires a 2 hour commitment for 3 weeks.
 - Police officer, *Kids and Social Media talk*
 - We have had speaker, Alyson Schafer, come in the past to speak about parenting and siblings and it was well attended - but she is a bit more expensive and we do not have ProGrant funds this year
 - **Motion to allocate \$1000 of PIC funds for guest speaker:** Cheryl;
 - **Second:** Helen;
 - **Motion CARRIED:** None opposed

8. Chairs' Report - Cheryl Devine & Helen Dunn

- The date for the January meeting is **Thursday, January 21, 2018**
- **Process for Review of Minutes**
 - We need to establish a process to approve and post the minutes quickly
 - Draft minutes will be provided to Mr. Hogan for initial review.
 - Draft minutes will be sent to all attendees of the meeting
 - Attendees will have two days to respond with comments
 - Full council will review and approve draft minutes
 - Final minutes will be posted to the website and confirmed at the next meeting
 - **Motion to approve above process:** Richard;
 - **Second:** Helen;
 - **Motion CARRIED:** None opposed

➤ **Treasurer's Report - Presented by Cheryl and Helen in Corbin's absence**

- **Cash Flow Oct 10-Nov 9, 2017**
 - **Cash on hand at Oct10, 2017: \$17,573.57**
 - **REVENUE: \$ 17,711.47**
 - Pizza deposits \$16,341.52
 - Agenda deposits \$1369.95
 - **EXPENSES: \$3,513.55**
 - Expenditures for school \$776.70
 - CSPC overhead \$76.85
 - Fundraising expenses \$2,660.00
 - Net increase in cash: \$14,197.92
 - **Cash on hand at Nov 9, 2017: \$31, 771.49**
 - +\$4770 in the school account
 - -\$4290 for pizza
 - **Available Cash: \$32, 251**
 - Approved Expenses not yet paid: \$21,150.07
 - **Outstanding Cheques/Expenses: \$326.70**

➤ **Pending Approvals**

- Forest of Reading - need to purchase books for province wide GR. 3-7 program
Motion to approve \$1700 for Forest of Reading books: Cheryl;
 - **Second:** Helen;
 - **Motion CARRIED:** None opposed
- Agendas - original budget was \$2800, invoice was \$3027.62
Motion to approve \$227.62 for remaining balance for agendas: Helen;
 - **Second:** Richard;
 - **Motion CARRIED:** None opposed
- TTC fares - original approved funds was \$150 but \$330 was spent. Need to cover \$180 difference and approve additional \$300 for tokens & youth fares.
Motion to approve \$480 for TTC fares: Richard;
 - **Second:** Przemyslaw ;
 - **Motion CARRIED:** None opposed
- Little Red Theater: The Tales of Peter Rabbit, for JK-Gr3 on Jan 23, 2018
Motion to approve \$375 for theatre : Cheryl;
 - **Second:** Jen;
 - **Motion CARRIED:** None opposed
- French play: Fana Soro (musician,dancer, educator), for grades 1-5, \$660+HST
Motion to approve \$750 for theatre: Jen;
 - **Second:** Cheryl;
 - **Motion CARRIED:** None opposed

➤ **Other Business**

- **Little Robot Friends:** Run by a St. Brigid parent. Looking to offer a lunch time workshop in the library for grades 3-7. Max 20 students.
- **Interview Night:** CSPC raised \$615 less ~\$400 spent, Spiritwear raised \$280.
- **School Yard:** There have been a number of suggestions for improvement of the school playground areas:
 - The playground equipment is beginning to show its age - consider exploring options for upgrade
 - Primary basketball structure is too high for the primary students
 - The large rocks in the kindergarten yard
 - Turf in the senior yard
 - Buddy Bench
 - **Mr. Hogan:** the board will be committing funds for Kindergarten outdoor play.

➤ **Fun Fair Volunteers:** Richard, Laura and Mary Galati will begin planning for the 2018 Fun Fair. Tentative date set for Friday, June 1st.

➤ **Website sub-committee** is being formed. Przemyslaw, Jen and Nalini have already joined. Parents are welcome to volunteer for this committee. Current topic for discussion - changes and improvements to the CSPC website. Looking for more input into the type of changes/improvements parents would like to see. Planning to meet on either Tuesdays or Thursdays - more details to follow

Meeting adjourned 9:05 p.m.

Next meeting – January 25, 2017