

# St. Brigid Catholic School CSPC Meeting #1 2020-2021 Year

October 13, 2020 – 7 pm to 9 pm – via Zoom

In attendance: K. Blanchet, A. Sobol, T. McGhee, A. Kuzner, C. Corbin, D. Gonzalez, A. Paul, M. Brannon, B. Lacay, K. Coulter MacPherson, D. Forsayeth, C. Devine, G. Nunes, P. McFadden, M. Puglisi, M. Michalak, G. Finlay, K. Hawkeswood, H. Dunn, A. DeMoulin, D. Rodrigo, M. Costa, S. Michalak, M. Mifsud, T. Ardilla, L. Reedy.

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1. Welcome – Mrs. Blanchet & Mrs. Sobol
    - Opening prayer & Land Acknowledgement
    - Reminder of video conference protocols
    - Review of Agenda
    - Introduction of attendees
  2. Election of 2020-21 CSPC – All acclaimed.

Name	Position
Clifton Corbin	Chair
Diana Gonzalez	Vice-Chair
Annette Paul	Secretary
Mike Brannon, Bellamy Lacay	Co-Treasurers
Karin Coulter MacPherson	Communications
David Forsayeth	Website and Social Media
Cheryl Devine, Germana Nunes	Special Events
Patricia McFadden	OAPCE Rep
Maria Puglisi	Special Education Rep
Marc Michalak	Church Rep
Gordon Finlay	Member-at-Large
Charlotte Risk	Community Rep (TBC)

### 3. Determine meetings for the upcoming school year:

Thursdays remain optimal days. Meetings have typically been held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month. Dates set as follows; Nov 19, Jan 21, Feb 25, April 15, May 27, and June 17 for the final meeting.

### 4. Principal's Report – K. Blanchet

a. COVID procedures and the school buildings:

With support of Toronto Public Health (TPH), parents are made aware by letter about suspected case or contact with someone who is positive. Affected class(s) received 2 letters; the second letter from TPH with more information. At this point, all other communications are handled by TPH. F/up from TPH may not happen as expeditiously. Currently, 2 classes are in self isolation for 14 days. MGH created a pop-up

testing for those two affected classes. It is a challenge for support and communication if there is a negative or positive, as the school can't divulge. TPH will have to do it.

Question: Diana – Could the affected grades be communicated to parents not in the affected grade?

Answer: (Blanchet) Not possible because of confidentiality. All the school can do is ask you to self-monitor.

Question: Clifton - What about siblings of the self-isolated class?

Answer: (Blanchet) According to TPH, they are not required to self-isolate because they would be considered a contact of a contact and are considered less of a risk even though they are in the same household.

Question: Germana, Sheila - Will families be advised if there are positive cases?

Answer: (Blanchet) Yes, there is information on the website about a positive case, but it's a suspected. If there is a positive case, all families will be informed. A letter explaining the suspected case situation, notifications.

Question: David - If it's a negative case, does the class still have to self-isolate for two weeks? Could seem unsustainable for younger grades having meaningful learning.

Answer: (Blanchet) Yes, because of the way the symptoms present themselves. While they're isolating, they continue with learning through Google classroom. In addition, some families have chosen to keep the siblings at home, and those students should be able to do Google classroom easily. These are TPH rules. Staff has been ensuring Google classroom is very much ready to go.

b. All staff have done an exceptional job screening, deep cleaning, there are four handwashing stations, and are requesting a fifth, there are 2 outdoor classroom spaces, majority of physical education and library are taking place outside, log donation will improve fun zone, creating more outdoor space as weather changes, plexi-glass barriers for desks will be arriving soon for classes above 15 in number.

c. Class sizes; average is 23 (range is 18 to 27) class sizes, more requests for students to migrate to online learning.

d. Switching to virtual learning or to in-person learning must be communicated to the school based on Oct 19 at noon. This note went out by email today. Email Mrs. Blanchet or Mrs. Sobol, or call the school.

e. Staffing – The school is fully staffed except for those off on leave. Currently looking for 2 International Language instructors.

f. Curriculum Night – Will most likely occur via Google Classroom - More details to come!

g. Special Education – Five Educational Assistants (EA) and 3 Child and Youth Workers (CYW) have been provided to the school by the board. 5 EAs, but the school is awaiting the filling one of those positions. IEP notifications for those requiring special needs support has gone home for consultations. The school completed a needs report, which was reviewed and allocated by the Board. While the school assessed it needed a few more EAs and another CYW.

#### 4. Vice-Principal's Report - Mrs. A. Sobol

- a. Transportation - All bus routes are running but with reduced route capacity due to fewer students. There are more protocols; each bus has seating assigned plan, is cleaned by drivers in between route. There are currently no extra seats for extenuating circumstances, and there are families still waiting.
- b. PPE – The school receives regular deliveries for staff; hand-sanitizers, gloves, gowns, shields, soap. The school board warehouse has other items as needed.
- c. Fire and Lock-down Drills: In September, a modified mock drill was successfully completed under COVID protocols as expected by the Ministry of Education. Teachers reviewed with classes.
- d. Anaphylaxis Training to be completed by teachers this week with a second training soon. Board containing information of those with needs be updated for access but also with privacy in mind.

Question: Cheryl - Buses had fewer kids on them per bus.

Answer: (Sobol) The questionnaire showed many opted out that used it in the past. Same number of buses but ridership reduced by half.

Question: Mike - What can we do to help?

Answer: (Sobol) Ms. McGhee may have a request. Mrs. Blanchet would like one/two water bottle filling stations and can get a quote. Plexi-glass barriers may be needed if the Board allocated does not arrive.

Question: Sheila – What about see-through masks for JK or IL? What about ventilation? What's the rationale for plexi-glass rather than ventilation and airflows, filters?

Answer: (Blanchet) – The school trustees put forth plexi-glass as the option and organized geographically by "hot zones". Ventilation; repairs have taken place in the building. All windows open to 12 inches and bottom windows to 4 inches, with all class doors now open. The school has looked at HEPA filters, but it was not deemed as necessary for St. Brigid. See-through masks have been investigated and staff must wear medical masks to protected staff and students, according to TPH.

Question: Cheryl - CSPC has sent emails to Angela Kennedy, the trustee, about the ventilation concerns as well as the superintendent.

Question: Clifton - What was the assessment done re: HEPA filter?

Answer: (Blanchet) All mechanical aspects of the air filtration and exchange system were assessed and didn't meet the cut-off. It will be followed up on.

Question: Bellamy - Asked Cheryl if she got a response from Angela Kennedy.

Answer: Cheryl - The detailed letter from the school identified the large catchment area with lots of cases and perhaps if it should be re-considered. St. Brigid has partial mechanical ventilation and does not qualify. It is considered adequate. Cheryl will follow-up.

Question: Clifton - Are the bottle filling stations ok to have at school?

Answer: (Blanchet) There is a list of acceptable of amenities that CSPC can support through COVID. It would replace a drinking fountain now not in use. The school is also a year away from the 100th anniversary and the school is hoping to preserve historical items.

Question: David - When will school be able to let us know if and when we have cases that require shutdown

Answer: (Blanchet) - No info on that yet.

## 5. CSP Chair Report – C. Corbin

There is not much to report on, but to approve minutes from last meeting in June 2020. **Moved by Clifton, seconded by Cheryl. None opposed. Motion passes.**

## 6. Teacher Representative Report – T. McGhee

a. On behalf of teachers, thank the hardworking, dedicated, supportive families and looking forward to working together.

b. There is a request for voice amplifiers that could be used to help students hear masked teachers better and could be used for indoors and outdoors. Mr. di Toronto uses one.

Question: (McGhee) Would we have to procure through the school board or ordered from amazon which are about \$80-100 each?

Answer: Corbin - Anything to help. Could do like teacher allotment is done; scan and email receipt. Approve a certain amount like \$3000. Gonzalez - Good idea if we use Long and McQuade could do in bulk at a good price.

Motion – Provide up to \$3000 for use of voice amplifiers for teachers. **Moved by Cheryl, seconded by Clifton. None opposed. Motion passes.**

## 6. CSPC Treasurer’s Report – M. Brannon

The CSPC bank balance is currently \$56,000. On August 26, 2020, it was \$59,390.

### *Activity*

- Outstanding cheques; teacher allotment, pizza refunds, grad,
- Deposits; agendas
- Funds in Board accounts; investments; fun fair
- Outstanding commitments; Pizza \$18k, uncashed cheques \$5,000 (rollover from last year), CSPC approved items totaling \$11k in outstanding commitments that weren't spent i.e. playground improvement to be re-addressed.

Budget creation - Common expenditures, reaffirm school's commitment, history of expenditures, priorities are established through the year and roll-over items (see June 2020 minutes).

#### *Multi-year commitments*

Fundraising expenditures; \$5k rollover from 2020 postponed funfair for 2021 fun fair, agendas \$3,000 to co-pay with students.

Pizza money unspent due to in-person school cancellation March to June 2020; Offer options for families to refund vs donate to CSPC activities in lieu of doing any other fundraising. Karin McPherson will keep track through list that Cheryl Devine provides.

**Motion to offer options of refund or donation of pizza money is moved by Clifton, seconded by Diana. None opposed. The motion passes.**

**Motion to support co-pay of agendas with \$3,000 is moved by Mike, seconded by Clifton. None opposed. The motion passes.**

**Motion to continue to support the teacher allotment of \$200 per year last year is moved by Clifton, seconded by Bellamy. None opposed. The motion passes. (n.b. The voice-amplifiers are an approved additional expenditure approved for all teachers)**

**Motion to pay for overhead expenses such as bank fees and cheques is \$300 is moved by Mike, seconded by Clifton. None opposed. Motion passes.**

#### *Other asks*

- Software in the classroom licenses in need. ISL is valid until Nov., but teachers will be asked.
- X-Power that has an online component which is workshops for students to promote self-regulation, conflict resolution, wellness, health framing, and has a parent engagement night. The cost is 2 packages for \$295 for 12 months - for all teachers and \$490/12 gain access for all teachers and parents. **Motion to support the purchase of X-Power for all teachers and parents is moved by Cheryl, seconded by Diana. None opposed. The motion passes.**
- Another school had a virtual family magic show which is interactive. Brainstorming around special events will take place as there are lots of options to consider.

#### **7. Other business**

- School board meetings on Thursday nights are a good way to see things at work.
- For those who haven't picked up kids' item from school from the previous academic year, it'll be redistributed to those kids.
- Patricia McFadden - OAPCE AGM is on Nov 21. Some of the trustees may be there speaking about COVID. There are webinars on Nov 7, Nov 14 with keynote speakers.
- Marc Michalak - Deadline to enrol in First Communion classes is the end of October 2020.
- Cheryl Devine - Gr 8 Open Houses for high school is happening.
- Mike Brannon – Thanks to Mrs. Holder for doing a great job with the nutrition program. Money is rolled over and funding from the Angel Foundation.
- Thanks to lunchtime supervisors; Mrs. Holder, Mr. Marino, Mrs. Linhares,

- This is the first year that Terry Fox Day was held with other activities other than the typical walk or run- It was also the 40th anniversary, so; 40 jumping jacks, etc. all limited to the fun zone. Raised \$800 for the Terry Fox Foundation via online system!
- Mrs. Sobol appreciates how patient, compassionate, welcoming everyone is. It is what keeps everyone going; knowing that we have the support of parents. We know that there is a lot of stress in the building and that stress is real at home as well. It's uplifting to see the calm. That sense of community that acts as glue. It is incredible to see how open students and their families are adhering to the guidelines and nice to connect.

**Motion to adjourn is moved by Clifton and seconded by Diana.**

**Next meeting is November 19<sup>th</sup>. Zoom link to follow.**

**N.B.**

*Addendum: key items via email*

1. Meeting change: Moved from November 19<sup>th</sup> to November 26<sup>th</sup>.
2. Motion to approve \$300 for the purchase of parent-teacher interview scheduling software is moved by Clifton and seconded by Gordon. None opposed. The motion passes.