

# MINUTES

## St. John CSPC Meeting

January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 | *Meeting called to order by* Marlo Taylor

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### In Attendance

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CSPC members: Claire O'Shea; Marianne Internicola; Terry Isaac; Sonia Pagliarello; Marlo Taylor; Kim Cho; Shelan McCreary; Sonia Perez; Carmen Vanderreest; Cathy Blewett; Liz Sconce; Jacky Arminen; Melanie Battaglia; Tanya Bismayer

Regrets: Nadia Niccoli; Ms. Horbay; Mr. Morishita-Miki; Jamie Wilson, Jennie Gaffney; Lianne Tapuska; Angela Visconti  
Faculty / Admin: Mr. Comacchio; Ms. Horbay

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### Approval of Minutes & Outstanding Updates

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Tanya passed the minutes from the November meeting and Marlo seconded the minutes

Updates:

- Research technology eligibility for students with autism through external program (Melanie to work with Mr. C) – **defer to next meeting**
- Tactics to raise awareness for developmental assets/student leadership program awareness – flyer to be distributed to parent community; info table at parent/teacher interviews with student ambassadors and video (year-long project) – (Ms. Horbay / Mr. C) / there was a table out at parent/teacher interviews; a new set of student ambassadors; open house during catholic education week w/ leadership board; make a list of leadership opportunities to share the number of initiatives; maybe showcase during open houses and on school website
- Options for playground upgrades – including update on board planned upgrades (Co-chairs to work with Mr. C) – update shared as part of principle report
- Update on crossing guard & TTC stop relocation (Nadia) – **defer to next meeting**

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### Misc. Items

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Swim meet host discussion & vote (Nadia / Marlo)

- Currently, next year's host has backed out – and there are no other schools offering to act as host for 2020 – 2021; opportunity now to act as host for next year
- Kristen has still offered to take on the swim portion
- Can follow the organizing school this year to gain experience
- Food, registration, advertisement in the race sheets, silent auction, baskets etc. (1300 swimmers) - \$20,000 – 60,000 fundraising opportunity
- Usually first weekend May or first weekend April
- Majority of parent CSPC voted to host for 2020 - 2021 school year (14) / Jacky passed the motion and Melanie seconded

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### Financial Update

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Claire presented the month's expense report:

- Bank changes in fee structure has minimized banking fees to date partly due to maintaining a minimum balance
- Reminder to teachers of the Arts Development and classroom materials budgets
- Basketball – will need to purchase the backboard and hoops to be ready for the warmer weather

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### Principal's Report

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Special presentation by Ms. Van Wyck on 'School Learning Improvement Plan' (Target Thinking & Application questions in numeracy) based on CAT scores and other data

- i.e. Application - using knowledge and skills to make connections within and between various contexts / more than one step
- i.e. Target Thinking - use of critical and creative thinking skills (problem solve) / planning skills (info gathering) / processing skills (analysing)
- Teachers provide 'descriptive feedback' – corrective in nature; helps student understand what they need to improve; provides strategies
- Helpful tips for parents to support learning - Mathbeforebed.com; ask children about math and strategies they are learning at school; ask teacher how you can help support your child's learning

**Staff Update:**

- Core French PM – Ms. Ruphine Makenne
- Extended French Specialty – Adriana McKenzie – starting January 20, 2020
- Grade 5/6 AM and Core French PM – Ms. Ruth Murray (LTO for Ms. Misaljevic)
- Evening Caretaking Staff – Derek Nishikawa

**Christmas Donations:** Thank you to the community for the many donations for Center 55 and St. Vincent de Paul delivered prior to Christmas. Your generosity has helped many of the members of our community and your support is always appreciated.

**Registration for Sept. 2020:** Registration for 2020 opens on **Wed. January 15**. Parents will apply using the SOAR program and will also meet with office staff, at a later date, to provide necessary documents. An evening registration night is also available for parents which is scheduled for **Thursday January 30** from 6 – 7 pm. Parents of newly registered students will have the option of getting a tour of the school – student lead by our Student Ambassadors

**Property update:** Mr. Comacchio met with Board staff to look at the best use of the convent property to address parking, parent drop off and play area issues. Ideas from the school were put forward prior to the Christmas break. No information regarding approval, next steps or future meetings have been presented at this time.

**Progress Reports / Parent-Teacher Conferences:** Reports will be going home on Tuesday, February 11. Please ensure that the last page is signed and return to confirm that parents have received and reviewed their child's report.

**OLSAT/8:** Grade 4 students will be participating in the OLSAT/8 assessment on the morning of Wednesday January 29. Parents have received letters regarding the assessment.

**Grade 8 Graduation – Thursday June 18:** Dates have been confirmed with St. John Church. Mass will be at 9 am, followed by the awards ceremony and reception that evening. Time TBC.

**Christmas Parade – Sunday Nov. 24:** Thank you to the parents that assisted with the St. John float for the Beaches Santa Claus Parade. We had a wonderful turnout of students and staff and the school received a number of calls and messages thanking us for such a beautiful representation of our Catholic Faith.

**Ballroom Dancing Showcase – Thursday Nov. 28:** Our ballroom dancing showcase was a success again this year. We had many family members in attendance. The students put on a great performance showcasing all that they learned during the 20 sessions. Next step is that a team will be selected to represent St. John at the Grand Ballroom Dancing Competition in June. Details to follow. Thank you for your continued support of this program.

**School Learning Improvement Plan (SLIP):** Ms Van Wyck to briefly share details of the school focus on numeracy. Look at the different types of questions in numeracy (Knowledge, Understanding, Thinking, Application). A brief explanation of various teaching strategies such as Descriptive Feedback.

**Cooling Center – Library:** The Board has approved 1 cooling area in each school. St. John's AC units were installed in the library over the Christmas break. There is still some work to be done in the coming weeks so they are ready for the spring and early summer.

## THANK YOU CSPC:

The school has received the 10 iPads that were purchased using CSPC funds. They will need to be formatted and protective cases have been ordered so that students can access them as soon as possible.

Chromebooks and laptops have been ordered. The school will receive them once they too have been formatted with the TCDSB platform.

The ixl math program has been renewed with funds allocated by CSPC. This allows for 30 licences for students to support them in numeracy.

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## Committee Reports

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### Committee reports

- **Fundraising Leads** (Tanya Bismayer / Sonia Pagliarello):
  - 120 tickets sold; donations from the community
  - Sat May 30<sup>th</sup> – save the date (Spring Carnival)
  - Pizza lunch forms will go out this week / due back next Friday; first lunch is Feb 7<sup>th</sup>
- **OAPCE Leads** (Shelan McCreary / Terry Isaac):
  - Leads attended the Dec meeting; focus of meeting was (1) Award Ceremony for parent Volunteers of Excellence and (2) OAPCE & CPIC parent consultation on CSPC S.10 Policy. Past member of St. John CSPC (Rosa Morphy), received the 2019 Parent Volunteer Excellence Award
  - The St. John CSPC were provided the link to have input on the changes being proposed to the CSPC S.10 Policy
  - Next OAPCE meeting – January 27<sup>th</sup> 2020
  - **ACTION: letter/card of congratulations to be sent to Rosa Morphy on her well-deserved award from St. John's CSPC – Co-chairs/Mr. Comacchio**
- **Sponsorships, Grants & Speakers Lead** (Kim Cho):
  - N/A
- **Volunteer & Special Events Leads** (Jacky Arminen / Jennie Gaffney):
  - Focus is Gr8 graduation planning – grad date Thursday June 18<sup>th</sup>
- **Website & Communications Lead** (TBD):
  - N/A
- **Parish Lead** (Carmen Vandereesst):
  - The president of our St. Vincent de Paul Society sent a note of gratitude to the school community that was printed in the parish newsletter. It was sent out to the school community yesterday. They were very moved with the generosity of gift cards received just before Christmas. Over \$800 in food cards and close to \$200 in toy store cards (Mastermind, Toys R Us, and Walmart). From this they were able to provide a better Christmas to 171 adults and 69 children within our parish and neighbourhood.
  - The collection of items and bags for the homeless served by the Good Shepherd Refuge Centre was also a big success. No “numbers” were provided but there was a great response from the school community to the request.
  - Grade 2 students have started their classes for First Holy Communion in the church Hall on Sunday mornings.
  - They will receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion on Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> 2020. A message will be sent to the parents of last year's class asking if anyone would like to donate their child's First Communion clothes to this year's students.
  - Registration for Confirmation classes for students in grade 7 will take place on the Sundays of January 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> in the church vestibule after either the 9:00 or 11:00 Masses. To register, parents/students must hand in the completed Registration Form with a photocopy of both, the student and their sponsor's Baptismal Certificate together with the \$60 registration fee. Registration Forms and information sheet were sent out through a school email. Candidates are expected to attend all classes, the enrollment ceremony on Sunday March 29<sup>th</sup> and the group retreat in order to fulfill preparation requirements. Classes begin on March 1<sup>st</sup> and will be held in the church Hall on Sunday mornings between 10 am and 11 am. Students will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

- The Milk Bag Project is a big success. Thanks for including a reminder in the school's newsletter. (Carmen will continue to pick-up the bags weekly)
  - Asking that prior to school Masses, students are reminded to not race through the Lord's Prayer. It is a prayer and they should be following the lead of the priest.
  - We are working on providing a Narrated Mass for the parish and would like to look at providing one for the grade 7 and 8 students. This is a proper Mass, celebrated a bit slower, with a narrator explaining the historical purpose and significance of what is happening during the different parts of the Mass and why.
- **(Pangea) Diversity & Inclusion Leads** (Terry Isaac & Cathy Blewett)
    - Successful Lego raffle at Christmas concert. Thanks to Ciara and Ashley for donating the set. We have yet to confirm what the funds will be spent on however the consensus is likely books – and will co-ordinate with Ms. Foster
    - Decided to focus emphasis this year on increasing visible signs of diversity and inclusion at St. John. Initiatives underway:
      - Purchased the diverse image religious posters displayed on wall outside office
      - Purchased a diverse nativity scene
      - Discussed with Mr. Comacchio "electronic/device days" at end of the term being exclusionary, and as a result there were fewer such days prior to Christmas
      - Committee responsible for the bulletin board outside library to ensure content speaks to diversity & inclusion
      - Through Mr. Comacchio, asked staff to think 'diverse' when they are bringing in guest speakers
    - Would like to explore with Mr. Comacchio how to make the sports teams at St. John more inclusive – committee to connect with Mr. Comacchio and provide update at next meeting

## Next Meeting

**Tuesday March 10<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm St. John Library / gym – Reminder to arrange babysitting (Ms. Horbay)**

Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Marlo at 9:07 p.m.

2019/2020 CSPC Meeting dates:

- ✓ October – Tuesday Oct 15<sup>th</sup> 7pm (Finance meeting)
- ✓ November – Tuesday Nov 5<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ January – Tuesday January 14<sup>th</sup>

**March – Tuesday March 10<sup>th</sup>**

May - Tuesday May 5

June - Tuesday June 16

September 2020 (AGM) to be determined

**Items deferred to March 10<sup>th</sup> meeting:**

- Brainstorm strategies for speakers / learning info sessions for parents
- Research technology eligibility for students with autism through external program (Melanie & Mr. Comacchio)
- Update on crossing guard & TTC stop relocation (Nadia)
- How to make sports teams more inclusive (Cathy, Terry & Mr. Comacchio)