

St. John CSPC Meeting

Sept 17, 2019 | *Meeting called to order by* Nadia Niccoli

In Attendance

CSPC members: Nadia Niccoli; Jennie Gaffney; Claire O'Shea; Marianne Internicola; Jacky Arminen; Terry Isaac; Tanya Bismayer; Kim Cho; Sonia Pagliarello; Peter Casey; Christine Schuman

Regrets: Rosa Morphy; Carmen Vanderreest

Faculty / Admin: Mr. Comacchio; Ms. Horbay; Mr. Morishita-Miki

Approval of Minutes & Outstanding Updates

Jacky passed the minutes from the June month and Peter seconded the minutes

Update on safety: TTC coming next week to meet to discuss moving the bus stop in front of the school; waiting on crossing guard for Lyall; confirmation received that speed limit on Kingston reduced back to 40kph

CSPC Chair's Year-end Report

First off thank you for attending my first AGM as chair. What an incredible year it's been and I'm excited to share the highlights of the first year, but first I want to say thank you to our Parent Council team and the incredible leads for their enthusiasm and support throughout the year. A special thank you to the incredible executive, Jennie, Marianne and Claire and to Mr. Comacchio and Miss. Horbay for being our stewards of teaching excellence and leadership. What an incredible school we are blessed to have here at St. John's and it's because of your endless commitment to the students and the community.

The role of the parent council here is to unite home, parish and school. We continued to build on this fundamental principle by promoting co-operation between parents and teachers in everything pertaining to the well-being of the school community and to continue to encourage the development of social activities and togetherness among parents, students, teachers and the church. The ultimate goal of council is to enrich the beautiful school community we already have and I am proud to have contributed to that this year

Last year, we had a focused objective to continue to build on the necessary tools to make the students successful at St. John's. With three focused fundraising efforts led by the incomparable Tanya Bismayer. From the Halloween Dance-A-Thon to the all-new parents' night out at the incredible Balmy Beach Club to fave of the year, the Spring Carnival. The countless volunteers, donations and support does not go unnoticed. With everyone's collective effort, including the Pizza lunch program led by Angela Visconti and the Christmas Bake Sale and 50/50 draw led by Jill Finney, s we were able to support some incredible initiatives this year including; a permanent drum fit program. Air conditioning in all second and third floor classrooms so that we are giving the students an optimal learning environment. Raz Kids, Stem programs for all classrooms and new instruments and iPads and those are just some of the bigger items, but our goal is to always support the staff and school in what is needed to enrich the students' lives.

A secondary objective of council was to focus on school safety. With the lack of drop off areas, the high speeds of Kingston road and so much more, I am most proud of the inroads we made with city officials, the school board, TTC and local police. We are still working diligently on this, as many of you know, and hope to continue this objective for the new school year to ensure we get a crossing guard at the back of the school and safe and adequate drop off area. Dave is meeting with TTC again this week and we will continue our commitment to this cause as there is nothing more important than the safety of the students.

So with that, a big congratulations to everyone who made all of this possible. We should all be incredibly proud of the community we are building and the opportunities we are giving to our children. All of you here tonight volunteer your precious time and energy, which we all know we are short on, so if one thing is taken away tonight, it has to be the extensive gratitude from the bottom of my heart for all that everyone does. We are blessed to have the school that we do and the parents that we do that work so hard for one another's families, so thank you for your support in having me lead the council last year. It really was an honour.

Financial Year-end Update

Claire presented the 2018/2019 final financial report.

Bank fees update – CIBC changing bank fees; KEV online increasing transaction fees; Peter will investigate the KEV issue with OAPCE; Mr. C will also investigate whether KEV funds should go into the school account

Principal's Year-end Report & Welcome

Staff Update:

Current Enrollment 432

Class re-organization will take place on Monday, September 23, 2019

Changes to classes:

Ms. Misaljevic – currently teaching grade 6 will teach grade 5/6 in the AM

Ms. Bain – currently teaching grade 6 will teach grade 5/6 in the PM

New classes:

Grade 8 class – AM – with 18 students – Teacher TBD – from Mr. Morishita-Miki's class

Grade 7 class – PM – with 17 students – Teacher TBD – from Ms. Craig's class

Letters to the parents will go home on Wednesday September 18 if their child will be moved.

Staffing Needs as of Sept. 17:

- French Specialty for 3.5 days * Grade 7 and 8 teacher for the new class (see above)

Welcome New Staff:

Ms. Rebecca Van Holten (LTO) – FDK/3 – pm

Suzanne Hatch-Ennis – Grade 7 in AM and Grade 6 in PM

Kelly Craig – Grade 7 PM

Danielle Cliche (LTO) – Extended French Grade 7 and Grade 8

Amanda Kennedy – Core French

Ballroom Dancing: Grade 5 students will be participating once again in The Dancing Classrooms Program. Letters are going home on Wednesday September 18. Classes will take place on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons for 10 weeks for a total of 20 sessions (20 hours total). This program is an enhancement to the Grade 5 Dance curriculum. A parent showcase will be organized at the end of the lessons in later November / early December. Cost per student is \$70.00. First lesson is Tuesday September 24.

First School Mass of the Year: Will take place on Thursday September 26 at 9:00 am at St. John Church. We invite parents to attend.

WE DAY: The Toronto WE Day event will take place on Thursday September 19 at the Scotia Bank Arena. This year will be very special for St. John as we have been asked to have 2 students speak to the audience about the Operation Smile week that the St. John Triple C Team planned last year. We are very excited to have our school showcased to the entire country and all watching around the world!!! Great work Triple C Team!!

Curriculum Night: Will take place on Wednesday October 2 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. This year, the program will run differently. Tentative schedule is as follows:

6:00 – 6:15 – meet in Gym for welcome and introduction of staff

6:20 – 6:35 – Session 1

6:40 – 7:00 – Session 2

7:00 – 7:45 – Parent social organized by Parent Council – details to follow

7:45 – 8:00 clean up

Information will go home to parents as soon as details with Parent Council are confirmed.

Orange Shirt Day: On Monday, September 30th, 2019, the TCDSB will once again recognize Orange Shirt Day. Orange Shirt Day is a national movement which invites all Canadians to wear orange shirts to acknowledge the history of residential schools, and to stand in solidarity with Indigenous peoples. Staff and students are invited to wear an orange shirt on Monday. St. John will share photos with the Indigenous Education Department through email or social media.

Committee Reports

Committee reports

- **Fundraising** (Tanya Bismayer):
 - 3 events last year (Halloween Dance; Parents Night Out; Spring Carnival)
 - Halloween Dance – pledge sheet; 1 hour in gym per grade; DJ
 - Parents Night Out – Balmy Beach Club; finger foods; silent auction; DJ; beach-themed
 - Spring Carnival – rented inflatables; silent auction; baskets
 - Record turnout for teacher attendance at all events
- **OAPCE** (Peter Casey):
 - 1. Upcoming OAPCE meeting is set for Tuesday October 1, 2019 at 6:30pm at the Board
 - 2. Upcoming Commissioning of new OAPCE Reps is set for Monday December 2, 2019 at 6:30pm also at the CEC.
 - 3. September newsletter came out. Basically, it outlined the upcoming meeting agenda, including elections for the Executive. New positions that will be open are for a Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. The appointment of a President will also take place.
 - 4. This year, they hope to look at new ways of parent engagement and will also look at revamping the annual Principal of Excellence Awards.
 - 5. There will also be some tweaking of the website. It will be linked to the provincial website in the near future. there are some great resources on the site, including guidelines for CSPC's; help on how to link to School Cash Online; Pro-Grant and Other Grant Guidance and ideas; and many more helpful links for parents and CSPC's.
 - www.toronto.oapce.org
- **Sponsorships, Grants & Special Events Year-end Report** (Jacky Arminen):
 - Grad reception well received by students and parents despite rain; committee stayed within budget and looking forward to another fabulous reception this coming school year; reception hosted by Grade 7 parent volunteers (cake & beverages) – Jenny will take over leadership og Grad reception
 - Bake Sale & 50/50 – during Christmas concert; sweet treats; donated pizza for sale and 50/50 draw
 - Gap in grants last year – ProGrant likely not available this coming year
- **Website & Communications Year-end Update** (Kim Cho):
 - Keep materials on website updated; open to additional ideas; volunteers from parent community to support events can be a challenge
- **Year-end Parish Update** (Carmen Vandeeresst):
 - September 26th – first mass; Carmen will orient the kinders to the church by bringing them to the church prior to first mass

Next Meeting

15 October, 2019, Finance Meeting 7:00 pm St. John Library / gym

Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Nadia at 8:08 p.m.

Elections Update (2019/2020):

Chair (Nadia Niccoli)

Co-chair (Marlo Taylor)

Secretary (Marianne Internicola)

Treasurer (Claire O'Shea)

Parish rep (Carmen Vanderreest)

OAPCE co-rep (Shelan McCreary)

Fundraising Chair (Tanya Bismayer)

Fundraising Co-chair (Sonia Pagliarello)

Fundraising Committee (Sonia Perez, Angela Visconti, Liz Sconce, Jacky Arminen, Jamie Wilson, Lianne Tapuska)

Teacher Rep (Horbay / Mr. Morishita-Miki)

Communications Lead - TBD

Sponsorship, Grants and Speakers Lead (Kim Cho)

Volunteer and Special Events Lead (Jacky Arminen & Jenny Gaffney)

Diversity and Inclusion Lead (Terry Issac , Cathy Blewett, Melanie Battaglia)

Upcoming CSPC Meeting dates:

October – Tuesday Oct 15th 7pm (Finance meeting)

November – Tuesday Nov 5th

January – Tuesday Jan 14th

March – Tuesday March 10th

May - Tuesday May 5

June - Tuesday June 16

September 2020 (AGM) to be determined