

Catholic Schools Advisory Council
St. Benedict CSS
Virtual Teams Meeting – May 4, 2021

1. Opening Prayer & Welcome, Territorial Acknowledgement and Call for Additional Agenda items

I (we) would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather today is the land traditionally used by the Haudenosaunee, Anishinaabe and Neutral People. I (we) also acknowledge the enduring presence and deep traditional knowledge, laws, and philosophies of the Indigenous People with whom we share this land today.

2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes/ Agenda - Eric

- ❖ Motion to approve minutes: passed

3. SAC Update – Marg

- ❖ Still doing project lead by school trustee – day for leaders
- ❖ Another initiative – Harboursing Hope
 - virtual with other SACS
 - more info to come
- ❖ Co-prez elections/campaign starts next week
- ❖ Student council applications will be in 2 weeks
- ❖ May - Asian heritage month
- ❖ June – pride month
- ❖ Virtual year end assembly end of June
- ❖ Working on changing LINK program for Grade 9's to accommodate COVID
 - whole school may benefit from a transition program
- ❖ Well-being in new school reality is a big focus

4. Principal Update – Marg

- ❖ Unsure what will be happening re: return to classroom for the remainder of this year
- ❖ Continuing to look at different scenarios for June return, as well as September return
- ❖ There are discussions on having a quadmester return in September, but still a lot to be discussed and determined
- ❖ Principles meet at Board level every 2 weeks
- ❖ Minister made decision today that eLearning will continue
 - St. Benedict's did not show a lot of interest in eLearning
 - Hybrid model was of more interest
 - Limited courses available for eLearning
- ❖ Mental health week this week
- ❖ Catholic education week as well this week
- ❖ BENN – lots of information on mental health support from Sandra, the social worker for our school
- ❖ Webinars coming available regarding mental health
- ❖ Guidance – report cards went out today
 - Subject verification for next year is coming due
- ❖ Grad 12 = community service hours reduced to 20

- Lots of virtual opportunities available for those who need more hours
- ❖ Homework club running
- ❖ Lots of questions re: how to return textbooks and how-to pick-up grad pictures
 - For now, students are to keep their textbooks
 - Picture pick up not available now, but if we do not return to the classroom the school will make a safe protocol to arrange for pickup
- ❖ Used Uniform Sale – on hold for now
 - Trying to connect to feeder schools to see if any students need used uniforms
- ❖ Grad celebration – what is possible will depend on whether or not we return to the classroom in June
 - Convocation changing to the fall? Board has not made a decision yet
- ❖ Idea: come up with a way to celebrate all the kids persevering and making it through the past year to let students know we are proud of them
- ❖ Working hard on next year – courses, staffing, safety
- ❖ Numbers to student enrollment for next year were expected to be down because of demographics. Retention rates are down at some feeder schools, appears to be mostly due to students not wanting to ride the bus so they are choosing the High School within walking distance
 - Interest in remote learning for our school was really low
 - Interest in remote learning for Secondary School was less than 200 for the entire school board

5. CPIC

- ❖ Doing a great job of offering spring activities
 - They are doing their best to encourage people to sign up, but some are going unsubscribed so CSAC members are encourage to spread the word to the community

6. Discussion Items/Updates:

A. *Bingo Update – Diane*

- ❖ As of March 31, 2021 we have \$3409.70 in the bank
- ❖ Total revenue since start: \$8407.69
 - A big thank you to the Cambridge Bingo and Gaming Centre for continuing to provide organizations like our school with revenue throughout the pandemic. It was exciting to make our first purchase with bingo funds in March! CSAC contributed \$4997.99 towards the school's purchase of live stream equipment from Bingo proceeds.
 - Andrew, Marg, and Anton put an announcement in the BENN with pictures
 - Will be a great benefit to the whole school, and everyone is so appreciative
- ❖ We continue to submit monthly revenue reports, as well as monthly participation requirements in lieu of volunteering
- ❖ 2020 year-end report has been submitted (it is due by June)
- ❖ They announced volunteers will not be returning until November at the earliest, so we will continue to complete participation requirements until then



B. *Financial Update – Eric*

- ❖ No changes

C. Parent Engagement – Marg

- ❖ Presentation has been shut down for the time being due to the pandemic, encouraged to access on-line opportunities and resources.

7. Adjournment – Eric

- ❖ 6:30pm
- ❖ Liturgy
- ❖ No meeting booked for June unless we determine it is necessary