

Catholic Schools Advisory Council
St. Benedict Catholic Secondary School
Tuesday, January 25, 2022 Virtual Teams Meeting

1. Welcome & Open Prayers - Margaret Introductions

Territorial Acknowledgement – Margaret

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. Minutes of last meeting/ New business arising

Status of Yearbooks

3. SAC Report – Co-Presidents - Haroon

- December
 - Christmas Cheer Drive – participating in a friendly competition with the other school to see who could collect the most items – the Saints did amazing, Bridges was very happy with the donation
 - Christmas music was playing through the halls when possible
 - December 13 -17 – Majority of Christmas activities
 - Provided a new slide show each day
 - Photo booths
 - Elf yourself video
 - All activities were class based due to the Covid restrictions, and some activities needed to be cancelled but hope to do them later in the year
 - Candy grams was very successful
- January – not much could be planned
 - School spirit has dipped – identified by council that SAC is doing an amazing job and this is something that all not just our community is dealing with
- February – Black History month, focus on celebration of our community
 - Theme for each week of the month – History (Canadian), Media impact Athletes/Artists, Virtual tour of the month (wrap up)
 - Each week a slide show will be made available to classes – suggested to post to website
 - Valentine’s Day is usually a bit deal – work in progress
 - one activity using occurring is the giving of Carnation flowers but due to cost we don’t know if this will happen – any connections please let us know
 - Pink/red shirt day, Instagram posts

4.. Principal Report

- Guest Speaker – Sarah Gonzalez Day – past Bennies teacher now working at board on the De-streaming program

- Presentation Link:
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1rnfcMVsAEtPslJ3WRp8iars11_X9FN4Ho8XzfxKgHA/edit#slide=id.g35f391192_029
- De-stream for math started Sept 2021 and the remaining courses (English, Science, Geography, French) will happen for Sept 2022
- De-stream classes will be teaching the Academic curriculum
- Transportation challenges – many challenges today
 - Many different causes – absentee of drivers, weather, late runs
 - Feedback from members: notification not consistent for parents, lack of understanding from teachers (not all) when absent from class
 - Transportation challenges is adding stress to all, including drivers, students, parents and teachers – we need to be understanding of all situations
- Return to school brings changes to the process that we having been doing
 - No more Case and contact tracing
 - Tracking is based on attendance as request by the Province
 - Friday, we saw absentee above 20% as reported in the media but was expected since there was a PA Day for elementary school, day of the meeting there was only 17%
 - 30% absentee does not automatically mean school closure – this will initiate conversation with Public Health to see what is going on in the school
 - Using attendance could be misleading because if people are away do to trips not Covid/illness they are in that count - but attendance is definitely higher than is usually expected
- 300 students decided to take advantage of the short-term remote learning option
- Pause to sports – hope to start up practices once we are back in 2nd Semester
- Lunch time is the biggest challenge
 - using gym 1, lecture hall but the limitation of #of students allowed in cafeteria does not help
 - hope the numbers go down so more options become available
- 3 masks were distributed to the students upon return and rapid tests went out this week
- Future Saints
 - No grade 8 nights again – will be virtual for the families
 - Course selection material and swag were at the Elementary school in time for the students return
 - Many virtual activities are available for classes, parent and students to explore
- Guidance
 - Course selection starts in Feb, expect emails from Guidance with more information
 - Lunch time sessions will be available in career centre
- Covid Isolation
 - Almost all classes have a virtual class set up for students to be able to get material if required to do isolation.
 - The only classes that are not setup virtually are Tech/Gym classes

5. Other Reports

Bingo Update: (Diane)

We raised \$6873 from Bingo

Balance of account - \$6499

Purchases

Donations to Bridges, Food Bank and St. Vincent De Paul - cashed
Approval for benches - not paid for yet

Note:

- ❖ Closed to volunteers – we got 3 sessions in (2 in November and 1 in December)
- ❖ Participation requirements are required – will use Instagram picture of the students dropping off items to Food Bank

6. Discussion Items

- Update on BTE Engineering investigating into Traffic study – nothing since meeting was postponed
 - Traffic around school has improved – permanent signage will be done in the spring
- Family of Schools Gathering – need to discuss at net meeting
 - What can we do – parent open house (incorporate indoor and outdoor activities)
 - How can we use the Pro Grant Money for this event?
 - Outdoor Mass???
- Yearbooks – expected at end of November but was delayed, expected another 6-8 weeks – supply issue
- Graduation and Prom – a bit early but planning meetings are starting
 - Need to see how we can get a graduation, don't want to miss another one

Meeting adjourned: 7:25pm

Minutes submitted by: Nicole Carriere

Next Meeting: March 29th @ 6pm