

Catholic Schools Advisory Council
St. Benedict Catholic Secondary School
Tuesday, March 29, 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

None

3. SAC Report – Co-Presidents - Haroon

- February – successful month of activities
 - Valentine’s Day - Carnation flowers successfully executed with the help of Zehrs who worked with SAC to get a fair price for the flowers
- March – between March 7-10 was the Ukraine Fundraiser which was a board initiative
- April
 - Many Easter activities are planned including an in-person QR code for Easter eggs, schedule for April 13
 - Spirit week from April 25-29
 - Kahoot,
 - handout candy/pep rally (soccer game/food trucks)
 - Real photo booth coincides with a Civics Day
 - Launch Party – student vs teachers basketball game
 - Re-cap of week along with Tree Trust dedication
- May
 - Art block – May 4 in Atrium
 - Mother’s Day --- creation of cards for Mothers from the Elgin St Shelter
 - May 1 – 31 – Asian Heritage Month
 - History, Art, Athletics and Modern Day
- June
 - Pride month (history, art, athletic, Modern day heroes)

4.. Principal Report

- Covid Restrictions have relaxed
 - Starting on Monday April 4 – increase capacity use in cafeteria, reduce down to 1 gym and hoping for nice weather to return when the students can enjoy the fresh air
 - Students should continue to do covid screening each day – check fine print, always changing
 - Absenteeism is very low (less than 100 out of 1600 students)

- Mask are still encouraged but not mandatory any more, majority of staff still using them
- Upcoming dates:
 - April 8 and June 3 ---- PA Days
 - May 10 ---- Asynchronous day, students at home except for the students writing the OSSLT
- Graduation/ Prom
 - In-person Graduation ceremony is being planned at the Forward Church
 - Ceremony will be live streamed regardless in case of restrictions or for people not comfortable large crowds
 - Prices at Kitchener Aud has increased and in the past money has been lost due to cancellation, Forward Church has been very helpful and understanding with the situation and the planning
 - School has decided not to offer a Prom – complications to where and who would be able to attend
 - Many venues require people to be fully vaccinated to attend which could exclude some students
 - Due to the uncertainty with where we will be in 2 months so focusing on Graduation was the priority
- Transportation challenges – no progress today
- Next year planning has started, focusing on the de-streaming
- Not many interested for the Hybrid system
- E-Learning requirement for graduation – 2 credits
- Hope to start offering Grade 11 courses on E-learning next year to help with this requirement
- Cafeteria Update – let contract go due to Covid
 - Wasn't welling a lot, not much revenue to the school
 - There are conversations occurring to see what could be offered to students such as hot lunch days, vending machines. Tabling different options
- Equity, Inclusion and Diversity Presentation ----- Erin Riley
 - Stated in the fall with 4 different groups
 - 5 staff members are supporting the 4 different groups
 - An additional mural was added to our walls, increasing our murals to 3 now

5. Other Reports

Bingo Update: (Diane)

Balance in account: \$7101

- Thank you to Diane for all her hard work keeping the Bingo program running. We are sorry to see her moving on.

- Need to look for a Bingo liaison – monthly/yearly reports, apply for license and coordinate volunteers ----- Posting in the BENN to see if any interested persons
- Biggest challenge with the program in volunteers
- Benches have been given approval
- **Upcoming Bingo dates:** April 26 (1 volunteer), May 3 (2 volunteers), June 7,14 (2 volunteers)
- Interested volunteers need to do a 2-step training – online and shadowing for 1 shift

<https://www.charitablegaming.com/volunteer-training>

- Uniforms will be required – thinking navy polo shirts with school logo – cost can come out of bingo fund now

6. Discussion Items

- Catholic Education Week – meet and greet with a Mass/Liturgy
 - Host all Elementary schools' councils (8 schools)
 - Need to decide on a date, where to hold and what to serve
- June get-together to celebrate Council members that are leaving at the end of the year

Meeting adjourned: 7:35pm

Minutes submitted by: Nicole Carriere

Next Meeting: May 3 @ 6:30pm