**St Edward Catholic Elementary School CSAC Meeting Minutes**

May 4, 2015

1 Botham Rd

Present: Anthony De Ciantis (Principal), Dan Amodio, Lisa Nerpiti-Cazzolli, Larisa Mottaz, Anthony Chan, Marie Palombi, Alison Boase, Gonzalo Santana, Kirby Szeto, Robert Batelli, Stefano Ianes, Chris Perreira, Catia Creatura Amelio, Cheryl Bristol, Emily Gardiner-O’Halloran, Gloria Desiri, Dan Capozzi (teacher rep)

Recording Secretary: Alison Boase

1. **CSAC Member Photo (end of meeting)**
2. **Opening Prayer – lead by Tony DeCiantis**

Tony provided a few thoughts from his Principal’s Retreat at O’Connor House

1. **Last Meeting’s Minutes and Action Items**

Last month’s minutes were reviewed.

Robert motioned to accept the revised minutes, Catia seconded. Motion was unanimously passed.

**Action Items:**

Note: this week’s updates are in blue.

| **No** | **Action Item** | **Assigned to** | **Due Date** | **Status** | **Comments/Notes** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | A donation letter to be made to the Catholic cemetery, for Rebecca’s garden. | Mr. DeCiantis | TBD | Open | No update. |
| 2 | On-Line payments.  Can we have an on-line payment form for CSAC fundraisers? Research and presentation back to CSAC. | Chris Pereira |  | In Progress | Call with a Cambridge company to get a demo of their payment tool, which is used in other parts of Ontario. Looking to influence the board to adopt this tool.  With board awaiting decision on whether we can be chosen for a pilot |
| 3 | Youth Leadership | Gloria | Mar 2015 | In Progress | Gloria to look into opportunities with St Edward’s Parish.  TCDSB attended December meeting. Documentation attached.  Discuss how we want to engage the team from the board at next meeting |
| 4 | St Edwards hand book | Parent Engagement Committee | June | In Progress | Email to other CSAC Chairs asking if they have a parent orientation book.  FAQs will not be a handbook but a website. Need access from board to edit the website. |
| 5 | Treasurer to attend staff meeting to encourage teachers to spend the money | Lisa |  | Open | Not happening yet...  Next meeting after March Break.  Lisa to work with the teachers to spend their allotted funds |
| 6 | To regroup with volunteers and send an update on the Fun Fair plan | Mike Fitzpatrick | June 4, 2015 | Open | Volunteer forms will be going out this week  Advanced ticket sale forms going home by May 14th  Games ordered  More communication will be forthcoming  Please let Rebecca know if there are any high school students for face painting, arts and crafts |
| 7 | Liaise with Tony to put forward MyBlueprint from the TCDSB to the school | Cheryl Bristol | June | Open |  |
| 8 | Teachers to provide feedback on Career Day - | Dan Capozzi | June | Open |  |
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1. **Treasurer Report and Swim Meet Budget Vote – Lisa Nerpiti**

Lisa presented the treasurer report and noted it had been a busy month in April. Closing balance is ~ $42k.

Swim meet budget is starting to be spent. Budget Committee continues to drive the execution of this budget towards completion by the end of the school year.

Finance committee is tracking certain line items of expenditures paid through the board account to ensure we are being reimbursed HST. We are currently not certain whether, or not, the HST is being reimbursed by the board.

1. **Principal Update – Tony DeCiantis**

**Enrolment:** Increasing to about 410 students for next school year. This will generate two additional classes (one primary/one intermediate) with existing space within the school.

**Teachers**: With a retirement plus the new classes above, there are currently three classes without an assigned teacher. Tony is interviewing for these positons over the next few weeks. He is limited by the collective agreement, Tony must consider full time staff first vs teachers on temporary assignment. Full time staff must be given teaching assignments first before considering the temporary staff. Hiring is not based on seniority. Based on transfer requests of existing full time staff from another school; then surplus staff are considered. Tony will be providing a teacher/classroom update in the June CSAC meeting.

Strike action can start by Catholic school teachers sometime in June. But “strike” can take many forms… not necessarily school closed/lock outs. The word from the board is that they do not anticipate a strike this school year.

**Extra Activities:** This year there was focus on new arts programs (ballroom dancing, spring concert) and new sports. Thanks to the many teachers who volunteer to help with these activities.

**Testing**: EQAO testing will occur in early June for grade 3 (measures understanding of curriculum); CAT4 testing for grades 2, 5 and 7 end of May/early June

**Long Term Assignment Staff**: Trying to bring back long term assignment staff, but perhaps not in their current roles.

**Roots of Empathy:** staff are being training on Roots of Empathy in June. Bringing a new Mom with a baby into the classrooms (usually in grades 1-4).

1. **Pro Grant - Larisa**

Next year’s Pro Grant fund request will be submitted for the 2015/2016 school year in the next few weeks.

1. **Hockey Tournament – Dan**

Cancelling due to lack of interest.

1. **Teacher Appreciation Breakfast – Rebecca and Eleonora**

Confirmed for the week of May 25. The appreciation breakfast is confirmed for Friday, May 29th. Many activities planned for the week (Clap-ins, superhero themed events)

1. **Dance-a-Thon Lead Selection**

Looking for a lead now before the next school year starts to start involving the grade 7 class now for the next year. Gloria and Emily have agreed to work with Dan as co-leads for next year’s Dance-a-thon.

1. **St Edward Painting**

The grade 8 students have selected a portrait. It is currently being painted and will be framed afterwards. CSAC has allocated funds for both the painting and framing.

Note: the board has officially changed the name of Catholic School Advisory Council (CSAC) to Catholic School Parent Council (CSPC). Our St Edward CSAC will change our name beginning the next school year to avoid communication confusion with parents at the end of year.

Dan motioned to adjourn the meeting, Anthony seconded, all were in favour. Meeting ended at 8:35PM. Next meeting is June 15th.