

**Mission:** *Disciples of Christ, nurturing mind, body, and soul to the fullness of life.*  
**Vision:** *Changing the world through Catholic education.*

## **Approved Meeting Minutes**

### **Catholic School Council Meeting**

**Date:** October 16, 2024

**Time:** 6:39 p.m. to 8:23 p.m.

**Location:** St. Gerard Catholic Elementary School, 1300 McBride Ave, Mississauga ON L5C 1M8

#### **Attendance:**

- |                     |                             |                                  |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Ana Pavao         | • Andrea Vieira             | • Luz del Rosario,<br>Trustee    |
| • Diana Da Ponte    | • Jessica Gutowski          | • Kathleen Ferrao<br>Principal   |
| • Sandra Szewczyk   | • Beata Cyzbrowicz          | • Drago Radic,<br>Superintendent |
| • Chantelle D'Mello | • J. Mendonza-De La<br>Cruz |                                  |
| • Jennifer Vassallo | • Justyna Garrido           |                                  |
| • Melissa English   |                             |                                  |

- Agenda Approval: Diana and Andrea
- Minutes Approval: Chantelle and Diana

#### **Luz for Trustee Update**

- Thank you for your efforts with fundraising for the school
- Any questions from the newsletter can be directed to Luz via email.
- Excursions:
  - Policy updates have been made
  - OAPCE to be used
  - Safe Dismissal – guidelines to be followed

Principal's Report – refer to page 2.



## St. Gerard School

1300 McBride Avenue  
Mississauga, Ontario, L5C 1M8  
Tel (905) 277-4512 Fax (905) 277-0647

---

*Let your light shine, so others may see God's good works. Matthew 5:16*

---

### Principal's report:

Enrolment – current enrollment - 236

Fundraising: -Terry Fox run – raised \$650 for the Terry Fox Foundation

### Curriculum

- Gr. 1 teachers – workshop on new Religion/Family Life program

K-2 – teachers – workshops on new screener for reading

Literacy Facilitator working with K-3 teachers this week to support the use of Board supported literacy programs

Gr 4 & Special Ed teacher – workshop on CCAT – we will be sending out a letter soon to advise parents of gr 4 students that CCAT testing will take place in the first week of November

Mr. Vidot is our Equity Lead – he is going to an inservice

Mrs. D'Souza and Mrs. Graham Murrin are our Eco Lead teachers – Mrs. D'Souza will be attending a workshop \$500 for Parent engagement will be deposited into Council Funds shortly

Continue to encourage teachers to organize field trips

Information regarding grad hoodies to go out tomorrow. The system is set up. Council agreed to pay \$25 per student (need to add 2 students). One cheque to go from Council to Talbot and they collect the remainder from parents directly upon ordering.

### Gr 7/8 overnight trip

- Contacted Camp Muskoka – awaiting response regarding ability for people to pay in installments to make it easier for parents
- Consideration for council - \$50 for each student selling one box of chocolates to go towards the trip and help defray costs.
- Open to suggestions for supporting parents that cannot afford the trip

Request to add April 24<sup>th</sup> as a CSC meeting date- this is the public budget consultation date provided by the Board;

Still looking for Student monitors to watch classes during the lunch hour (12-1). If anyone knows people that would be interested, please have them call the office and I will connect with them.

Additional Meeting Request: April 24<sup>th</sup> – approved by council

### **Teacher's Report – Melissa English**

- Graduation hoodies have all been designed and ready to order
- Graduation Date and Location has been secured:
  - o Time: 4:30PM – 6:30PM
  - o Date: Thursday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025
  - o Location: Le Treport Banquet Hall
- Halloween Dance – students will create a playlist and DJ in place of Mr. Habib this year
- Snowbar to donate pumpkins for the Pumpkin Decorating Contest
  - o Principal to donate prizes for the top classes
- Uniforms have been ordered
- Volleyball Net – major health & safety concern
  - o The net and poles are broken. Held together with a pencil during practices.
  - o Quote for new poles: \$745.00 (includes 10 new balls)
  - o Drago to contact High School Principals in the area to ask if they have unused gym equipment they can donate to St. Gerard to save money.
- Principal added that the new mats need to be ordered for the gyms as well – tall ones for behind the basketball nets and short ones under the stage.
- Basketball nets still missing – Principal advised they were found and put up last year. Only two remaining on the nets.
- Soccer nets have been anchored. No nets are on the posts.

### **Action Items:**

#### **1. Board Game Drive Suggestion from the teachers:**

- Approved by the Principal to host
- Good used condition or new are welcome
- Part of indoor recess bins for the children
- Sandra to create a flyer for Principal to send out to the school community
- Scheduled for the month of November

#### **2. Winter Clothing Drive:**

- Principal has suggested a clothing exchange for upcoming colder season approaching
- Held at the school for parents to drop off items or take what they need
- Approved by both Principal and Council
- Will not be monitored. We will use the honour system.
- Fair, used condition and new items welcome
- No dates provided

#### **3. Looking for 4 Class Monitors for lunch duty. Send email to Principal for more information.**

#### 4. Curriculum Resources:

- Operational budget cannot be shared with council, but can be shared with staff members upon request
- Technology is a central purchase
  - o The board will be purchasing new technology on a needs basis
  - o Luz has requested the principal resend the list of technology that are both end of life and broken for review and escalation
  - o Board to review all school and how to replace the end-of-life computers
  - o End of life and total quantity are on hand from last year's meeting.
- Photocopying
  - o Concern is not paper cost is too high or the ink is too much. It's a click charge of the sum of the three components.
  - o \$6,000 was the total budget for photocopying last year
  - o There are no textbooks on hand for any grades. No complete sets for classes to use. Photocopies are being limited.
  - o Grades 7s and 8s have their Edwins, so those grades don't need as many photocopies compared to the primary grades who rely on paper copies.
  - o Teachers are being questioned to provide context to the principal of what they are photocopying.
  - o 15,000 copies are allocated per teacher per year.
    - Teachers disagree that they haven't been reaching their maximum amount of copies.
  - o Luz, Drago and the Principal to side bar this topic for another day. There is a high demand for copies at this school, and it needs to be reviewed in more detail.

#### 5. Other Fundraising:

- Each school can have a maximum of three (3) major fundraisers per school year, as per the Superintendent. Unclear as to what constitutes a major vs. minor fundraiser.
  - o Current fundraising campaigns: Chocolate Drive, Dance-a-thon, and third is TBD.
- **Craft Night – Community Event**
  - o Principal has approved a Bake Sale to be held at Craft Night.
  - o Bakes goods to be sold to the parents.
  - o Signs to be posted with ingredients for transparency.
  - o Suggestion: Paid photos with Santa. Grade 8s to create the backdrop.
- Silent Auction has been approved by the Principal.
  - o Prizes will be collected by council members and donated from the community.
- Parent representative has offered to create crafts to be sold at Craft Night. All proceeds will go back to the children.
- Can parents donate to the classrooms? Yes.
- Suggestion: Giving Tree to be created for Craft Night
  - o Approved by the Principal
  - o Teacher to supply a high needs list to the teacher representative of class supplies
  - o All items will be donated from the parents attending Craft Night

- Sandra to create the tree and create blank leaves
- There is a need for a Big Fundraising Event with community support
  - Skate Night?
  - Movie Night outside in the spring – next year at this point
- Chocolate Fundraising: Currently 22/104 boxes remaining to be sold

**Other Notes:**

- Muskoka approved to be environmentally accessible. Needs accessible to be confirmed by the teacher rep and principal.
- Principal to advise the grade 7s and 8s that the trip is happening, and their chocolate fundraising donations will be used towards bringing down the price.
- OAPCE MEETING: November 14<sup>th</sup>
- Parent Engagement: November 21<sup>st</sup>
- Superintendent to advise about the volleyball poles. Season ends November 28<sup>th</sup>. Sandra to follow up with Superintendent one week from today's meeting.
- Youth Vaping presentation by the principal (8:05PM – 8:16PM)
  - Follow up – what happened with the staff presentation?

**Meeting Adjourned:** 8:23 p.m. by Ana Pavao