

**St. Mary Catholic School Council  
Meeting Minutes  
November 15, 2017**

**Attendees**

Niki Calvert  
Sherri Devison  
Laura MacDonald  
Karen McCormack  
Laura Krentz  
Patti Ainsworth  
Megan Dekeyser  
Jennifer Fraser  
Liz McNair  
Krista Minifie  
Ashley Fulton  
Karin Giroux

Student Representatives: Patrick and  
Adam

Guests: Connie Campbell

**Regrets**

Fran Schissler

**1. Call to Order/Welcome/Prayer**

Niki Calvert called to order the St. Mary Catholic School Council meeting at 6:30pm on November 15, 2017 at St. Mary Elementary School, Grafton. She welcomed everyone to the meeting. Student Representatives led us in prayer.

**2. Approval of Minutes of Meeting of October 18, 2017**

Motion was made by Niki Calvert and seconded by Ashley Fulton to approve the minutes of the meeting of October 18, 2017.

**3. Additions to Agenda**

Agenda amended to switch order of "Approval of Agenda" (#3) and "Additions to Agenda" (#4) and to add "School Trip Policies" and "Transportation Policy" to the agenda under a new "#16 – Other Business", therefore amending the remaining numbers of agenda items. Motion made to add these items to the Agenda made by Niki Calvert and seconded by Laura MacDonald.

**4. Approval of Agenda**

Motion made by Niki Calvert and seconded by Karin Giroux to approve the agenda as amended.

**5. Mindfulness PRO night**

Niki advised PRO Grant was approval came today. Last year CSC voted to make application for the PRO Grant based on a Mindfulness night. Connie Campbell and Niki Calvert spoke about a Mindfulness night for Parents on March 28<sup>th</sup> whereby Connie would introduce parents to mindfulness, what role it can play and various techniques. This would then transfer into an online self-guided program for parents to follow in the months that follow. Motion was made by Niki Calvert to approve the Mindfulness Evening on March 28<sup>th</sup> and to use the PRO Grant to pay for same. Seconded by Laura MacDonald.

**6. Business Arising From Minutes**

See notes below

## 7. Treasurer's Report

Reporting Sept. 7-Nov. 10/17

Total Receipts \$2,161.50

Total Expenditures \$1,463.50

General Account balance \$9,859.33

Parent Involvement \$0

Playground \$2,000

P.R.O. Grant \$1.42

Sherri motioned to set aside \$625 for year end Grade 8 trophy, gifts and décor. Seconded by Niki Calvert.

## 8. Fundraising

### i) Vendor Sale Review

Event was well received. Next year have Vendor's pay up front as some did not attend and hadn't pre-paid.

### ii) Empire Cheese

Order has been placed with company.

### iii) Christmas Cards

We have some left over that we will ask Father David to place at back of church for sale. It was suggested that next year we should put child's first name and grade on front of card and have 3 winners per class.

### iv) Sign Painting

Jennifer will contact the business and ask for date availability.

### v) Boston Pizza Night Review

Great turnout! Student Hosts/Servers were excellent.

### vi) Hot Lunch Days

Grilled Cheese Day was very popular. Next one will be held January 19, 2018.

Christmas Lunch will be December 5th

### (vii) Fun Fair/Alternative

To be discussed at future date. Sub-committee to be formed.

### (viii) Fire Department/Dempsters

Fire Department has \$500 fund available to them. A letter was sent to the Fire Department to apply for this fund. A Letter was also sent to Dempster requesting a donation of bread to aid in Grilled Cheese lunch day costs. Ashley will provide a status update at next meeting.

## 9. Goals

### i) Classroom Needs

No requests were brought forward.

**ii) Playground Equipment**

Discussion was had around the aging playground equipment and the coming replacement needs and costs associated therewith. Karen advised she has joined the Board Playground Committee. Krista has some playground information that she will bring to the next meeting for discussion.

**iii) Soccer Nets**

Student Representatives spoke about the need for soccer netting. They will look into pricing for replacement netting and will present quotes to CSC at a future meeting.

**iv) Journey Through the Arts (May 2018) - ongoing**

**v) Scientist in the Classroom (Ongoing) - ongoing**

**vi) Class Trips (\$5.00/Student) – voted on at previous meeting**

**vii) Grade 8 Graduation – see vote under Treasurer's Report**

**viii) Internet Safety**

Jennifer attended the presentation at St. Mary's Catholic Secondary School. The presentation and materials were the same that she received and distributed to CSC from the OAPCE Conference. Look to this as a possible speaker for next year.

**10. School Community Events/Communications**

**i) Communications from CSC/School**

New website is now live.

**11. OAPCE Update**

No new updates

**12. Student Representative Report**

Student Representatives reported that they have been able to partake in various activities/events:

- October
  - Cross Country Meet Boardwide
  - Primary Classes had a dairy presentation
  - JK/SK class went to Pumpkin Patch
  - Boston Pizza night – kids had fun
- November
  - Grade 4/5/6 Curling
  - Remembrance Day Presentation
  - Craft/Vendor Sale
  - Spirit Week
  - Book Fair is on
  - Parent-Teacher Interviews tomorrow
  - Grade 6 is going to Ganaraska Forest on Friday

**13. Community Report**

Laura MacDonald reported that the Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Legion was wonderful and that Vendor sale was great.

**14. Staff Report**

In Fran's absence Laura Krentz reported. Student Representatives covered what is going on in the school. We Remember packages sent to each class were well received.

**15. Principal Report**

Principal Karen McCormack spoke:

- New portable is up and running

- Fran is off; Martha is back

**16. Other Business**

**i) School Trip Policies**

It was brought to the attention of CSC that a parent has a concern about school trips and risks to students with respect to outside workers/volunteers. Karen advised she would be happy to do a presentation for parents on what is considered safe and rich programs for students. Trips are categorized according to 4 Categories of Risk. All trips are evaluated by the Principal and must be approved by the Principal. The Category of Risk helps determine the student/chaperone ratio. Who children may come into contact with on a trip is impossible to control, however each child will always have a chaperone on their trip that has a police check done and on file.

**ii) Board Transportation Policy**

Jennifer alerted everyone to the Board's new draft Transportation Policy that was sent home with report cards with the option for parents to comment on the policy. Jennifer advised that it does affect our school children greatly as increasing the distance children will need to walk puts many students having to cross Highway 2 which has great concerns. She urged parents to provide their comments to the Board. Karen will discuss with the Board as well.

- 15. Next Meeting –** Next meeting date changed to January 10, 2018 at 6:30pm.  
Motion to amend made by Niki Calvert, seconded by Krista Minifie.
- 16. Motion to Adjourn –** Motion to Adjourn made by Niki Calvert at 8:05pm, seconded by Krista Minifie.