

Parent Council Minutes September 26, 2024

Mrs. DeSouza-Kenney welcomed everyone including Principal Ms. Gale and the Secretary Ms. Mitanis to our first meeting of 2024-2025 school year. She went on to say that we will hold a Council election today. Principal Gale then said a few words about her journey and experience and welcomed everyone as well.

Call to order: 6:15 pm

- Land Acknowledgement / Opening Prayer

Motion to approve Agenda: 1st M. Boules, 2nd D. Radman

Motion to approve Minutes: 1st M. Saba, 2nd D. Amburo Lee

Elections were held for the School Council 2024-2025 that will have the following composition:

Chair: Leanne DeSouza-Kenney

Secretary: Rana Toma

Treasurer: Allison Chang

OAPCE Representative: Ivana Sestito

Parish Representatives: Mikolaj Lielinski and Reubin Abraham

Community Representative: Sonia Janik-Corvinelli

Non-teaching Representative-Erika Mitanis

Fundraising Representatives: Mary Boules & Nick Gaganiaras

Parent Members: Mera Guindy, Diana Amburo Lee, Marwa Saba, Marilyn Maxwell-Smith

Ajay, Craig, Daniella, Lisa, Sandra, Georgia, Amanda

Regrets: M. Maxwell-Smith, I. Sestito, A. Chang

Present at Meeting or Virtually: D. Di Lella, L. De Souza-Kenney, R. Toma, S. Janik-Corvinelli, M. Saba, S. Lopez, M. Boules, M. Guindy, M. Lielinski, Principal Gale, G. Li, D. Amburo Lee, D. Radman, G. Kloussis, N. Gaganiaras, Theresa McMalon, E. Mitanis, Craig, Amanda, Ajay C., R. Abraham

- Principal Report

Welcome everyone to our first meeting of the 2024-2025 school year.

Thank you for the warm welcome to the St. Rose of Lima Community. I look forward to working with the St. Rose of Lima Catholic School Council. We welcomed some new students, and some new staff including; Mrs. Erika Mitanis, head secretary, Ms. Diana Savi, Planning Time teacher, Ms. Isabella D'Angela in for Ms. Jaqueline Oldman, grade 6/7 teacher. We sadly had to say good be to Mr. Steven Leach. Ms. Deanna DiLella continues to be a teacher representative on the School Council and we welcome Mr. Theresa McMahon as well as a teacher representative. We also welcome Mrs. Erika Mitanis as a non teaching representative on the council.

As always, staffing and classes were tentative until September 16th. Our projected enrolment was 248 and we currently have 253 students. We had some reorganization of teaching duties and classes, however we were proactive and did a large part of the reorganization on August 30th.

Transportation this year includes 4 buses and have been experiencing some lateness due to driver shortages, traffic patterns and local construction. If your child rides the bus, please sign up for Stopr at www.stopr.ca so you can receive alerts. You will need your child's OEN number which can be found on their report cards. Our Open House/BAHBAHIZZA/Meet the Teacher Night, held on September 19th, went well. Fr. Sutka from Merciful Redeemer Parish joined us...We had a great turn out and were delighted to have such a wonderful Council group to organize and we even had an ice cream truck! Thank you!

The Terry Fox Walk is scheduled for Friday, October 4th with a rain date of October 7th. We are hoping to raise \$2000. Thank you to Mrs. Kotis, Mrs. O'Riordan and Mr. Del Vecchio for their work organizing and spreading the word about Terry. We look forward to seeing many parents out as volunteers! We will be serving apples and granola bars upon the students returning.

On Tuesday, September 24th we welcomed Father Sutka to our beautiful Opening School Mass host classes were Mrs. Workman's and Ms. Quach's classes. The choir helped to make the mass special and memorable. We thank Mrs. Workman for her work with the choir, as well as the parents who came to join us. Parish visits and Morning Star Rosary visits will begin next month. Schedules is set up and will be in our newsletters monthly. Oct. 2nd Fr. Sutka will visit grades 2 and 7 as part of sacramental preparation. Our liturgical dates have been set with Fr. Seamus. Parents of children in grades 2 and 7 have parent nights at Merciful Redeemer to register for First Eucharist/Confirmation. First Holy Communion Parent Meeting #1 In person is Wednesday, October 2nd at 7 pm. The Confirmation Parent Meeting is scheduled in person for October 9th at 7 p.m. Both meetings are at the parish. You can contact Jane Scamurra at Merciful if you have any questions.

The Virtues Program continues this year. September is Faith. As a school, we are focusing on the 10 identified virtues through daily prayer, reflection, and deeds. This is strongly tied to the Catholic Graduate Expectations and our Catholic School Improvement Learning Plan, which includes; Learning Goals, Success Criteria and Descriptive Feedback. As a school we will be meeting periodically to update our school goals.

Athletic events have begun. Our Rose Run Club for Grades 4-8 started two weeks ago and meets every Tuesday morning at 8:15 a.m. Our Cross-Country team will be selected from these runners to compete at the Mississauga West Meet at Erindale Park on October 10th. The junior boys' and girls' volleyball teams will also start soon.

We begin our emergency procedures with a fire drills tomorrow and complete 6 throughout the course of the year. A lockdown drill will also be done during the month of November. It is important to have these safety procedures in place and teach students what to do in the event that they need to use these skills in the future.

Our grade 4 CCAT (Canadian Cognitive Abilities Testing) will happen at the end of October with Mrs. Kotis. This is a test that helps determine Verbal, Quantitative and Spatial Reasoning. Educators can use the results as a baseline and a means to identify intellectually gifted students.

October 10th is our Thanksgiving Liturgy in the Gym, hosted by Ms. Marchione's class. Friday, October 11th is a PA Day and Monday October 14th is a holiday for Thanksgiving....

Edge Imaging is booked for individual and class photos Tuesday, October 1st, a flyer will be sent to all families. Photo retake day is set for October 29th and Grade 8 Graduation photos in the new year.

Finally, we have asked for all Verification and Emergency Response forms to be returned so that we have the most up-to-date information available at school for your children. If you are not on our email list, we ask that you do sign up- we are trying to be eco-conscious and that really helps us cut down on paper- plus it ensures you get the school news directly. If you have signed up and aren't getting emails- check your junk/spam folder.

Progress Reports go home on November 12th and interview evening is November 14th.

God Bless and let's have a great year and thanks for all you do for the St. Rose of Lima Community.

- Chair Report: L. DeSouza-Kenney

Mrs. DeSouza-Kenney provided an update on Central Committee for Catholic School Council, with a few contacts and an upcoming election. She reminded everyone to have their criminal check up to date. Attestation required once a year.

- Community Report: S. Janik-Corvinelli

Mrs. Janik-Corvinelli said she is looking forward to the new school year.

1. Career awareness day discussion format and with the feedback she will plan for the day(s).
2. Any ideas for grants?

3. Skills Ontario-new idea and would like to know if we can proceed this year. Kids can be taken to see a wide variety of skills related to Skilled Trades.

- Action Items and Committee Updates:

Mrs. L. DeSouza-Kenney started to discuss the wish list for the year and informed everyone a few rules in regards to it and how it works.

Secondly she discussed Pizza Days. Than asked if we want to vote on 2 pizza days for another month (November).

2 pizza days for November was voted in favour for unanimously.

Another lunch option that will be looked into is Lunch Box. Once we have information Council will look into possibly incorporating this.

Volunteer Donation was also voted for unanimously. Council will try to add a QR code for donation.

Crispy Crème was discussed and Mrs. Boules will look into dates and details to share for future meetings.

- OAPCE Report: I. Sestito

Mrs. I. Sestito was absent but sent print outs for her notes and updates.

- Future Meeting Dates:

Wednesday October 30 at 6:00 pm

Thursday December 5 at 6:00 pm

Motion to Adjourn 8:42pm – 1st D. Amburo Lee, 2nd M. Boules