



MINUTES
of a meeting of the
St. Theresa of Lisieux Catholic High School Advisory Council
(the "Council")
held at 230 Shaftsbury, Richmond Hill, Ontario on
Tuesday, November 4, 2008 at 7:00 pm. in the Library

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Present:

Sharon Bellon, Non-teaching Staff Representative
Gary Borgacci, Chair
Theresa Byer
Sandra Daga
Angela D'Aversa
Susan Di Bratto
Bruce Endicott
Cosimina Gatto-Fruitman
Dennis Lam
Paula Marchione
Teresa Moore, Treasurer
Tina Perri
Anna Rossetti-Bortoluzzi
Viorica Rusu
Sendra Samsoundar
Diane Sousa
James Stirling
Elaine Toomey, Secretary
Natalie Tsui, Student Representative

Regrets:

Peter Bahen, Acting Principal
Angela Cappozzolo, Teacher Representative
Liz Farrell
Raimonda Kelly
Susan Mancini, Vice-Chair
Rose Leparulo
Rosemary Marra

Others Present:

Frank Dalla Corte, Vice Principal
Liliana Meschino, Teacher/Librarian
Claire Sandrin, Student Representative
Laurence Tavallocci, Vice Principal

MATERIAL DISTRIBUTED:

- 1) Minutes of September 30, 2008.
- 2) Financial report for the period ending October 31, 2008.
- 3) Budget Report for the year September 1, 2008 to August 31, 2009.

Chair and Secretary

Garry Borgacci took the Chair and Elaine Toomey, Secretary, recorded the minutes.

Welcome / Meeting Objectives	Garry welcomed members to the meeting.
Prayer / Special Intentions	The meeting began with an opening prayer and special intentions.
Approval of Agenda	The Agenda was approved.
Approval of Previous Minutes	The September 30, 2008 minutes were approved.
Student Government Presentation	<p>Natalie Tsui advised that she, Claire Sandrin and Laura Pilla would attend Council meetings on a rotational basis. Natalie and Claire reported on student activities.</p> <p>Athletic Council buy-in will take place on November 21. Athlete of the month has been changed to athlete of the season. Teams will be choosing more than one candidate. In response to Remembrance Day, Chaplaincy Council is selling poppies on behalf of veterans. A memorial book has been placed in the School Chapel for students and parents to record names of loved ones. The Diversity and Equity Council is hosting a multicultural civics day on November 19. The Environmental Council is organizing a mug drive to raise environmental awareness. There will be an intramural floor hockey event in November or December. The Social Justice Council is planning a live aid event. Tickets are \$8.00 and \$10.00 at the door. The theme is "One night can make a difference". Funds raised will benefit aids relief in Africa. Operation St. Nick will begin and will include a scarf, mitt and hat drive. Spirit Council hosted a Halloween costume contest. Student council is holding its annual semi-formal on November 27 at Le Jardin Banquet Hall. Tickets will be on sale November 5, 6 and 7 in the main hall. The theme is "An Arabian night -- a night of three wishes". The Student Council is researching acquiring a message board for the School to help communicating and deliver announcements to the student body and visitors to the School.</p> <p>Frank Dalla Corte noted that Natalie Tsui was recently honoured as an award recipient at the Father Fogerty awards dinner for being an outstanding Catholic role model for the School.</p>
Treasurer's Report	<p>Teresa Moore acknowledged Mary Ann Girard for her contributions as Past Treasurer and for maintaining impeccable records for the School Council.</p> <p>Teresa discussed the disbursements for the year, which are estimated to be \$56,290. The requests for funding, submitted to Council and reviewed by the Finance Committee prior to the meeting was discussed. Recommendations were made to support 50% of the total cost for the smart boards, laptops and hi def video switcher. Instead of assisting a particular group, recommendations were made to assist various groups within the School and to support as many activities as possible. No requests were turned down this year.</p> <p>It was noted that over the last two years, math and science department funding requests were primarily supported. A discussion then ensued in relation to the smart boards and laptops. Ideally, the School would like one for every classroom. Part of the cost will cover training for the teachers, specifically for their subject area. Of the five smart boards, two will be supported by portable stands. The Science Dept. has requested an additional board. Two mounted boards will be installed in the portapack. Three will be permanent; two will be portable. Laptops will be paired with the smart boards.</p> <p>A 40" LCD flat screen panel projector will be mounted in the front hall of the School. News, weather and School announcements will be displayed on the panel. The long-term goal is to have three within the School.</p> <p>The current switcher is outdated and upgrading it to high definition will assist the Tech Group during assemblies. A science teacher and math teacher will be invited to demonstrate the</p>

switcher to Council.

Garry Borgacci noted that additional revenue is expected from the sale of School flags, after deducting the initial cost.

Susan DiBratto moved and Diane Sousa seconded a motion to approve the following expenditures, as well as the other expenditures within the Budget Report for the 2008-2009 School Year, a copy of which was distributed earlier in the meeting:

Funding Proposal	Amount
Five Smart Boards (50%)	\$13,670
5 Laptops used with Smart Boards (50%)	3,750
Hi-Def Video Switcher (50%)	5,820
LCD Projector for Front Hall (100%)	<u>5,170</u>
	<u>\$28,410</u>

Teresa Moore continued with a review of the October 31 Financial Report. She noted that \$496.32 had been received from the Board, representing reimbursement for Council expenses.

Parent Reaching
Out Grant

Paula Marchione advised that the Parent Reaching Out Grant application had been submitted again this year. The program will provide \$1,000 in funds to the Council, provided the funds are used to support School community involvement. The funds will be used towards the half-day session on January 24, which welcomes Grade 8 parents to the School as well as a parent newsletter. Paula invited new parents to the School to contribute articles for the newsletter. The Ministry is expected to respond to our application soon.

On-line Databases

Liliana Meschino distributed information sheets and laminated cards setting out instructions on how to access to the School's on-line databases and on-line resources. Liliana thoroughly demonstrated how students might access resources by computer at school or at home. These resources are accessible through the School's website and can be accessed through www.ycdsb.ca (user ID: second; PW: ycdsb) and <http://stlh.ycdsb.ca>.

Liliana demonstrated areas within these sites where chat rooms with teachers, who are tutoring, can be found. It was noted that during school hours, any student using Facebook within the library databases will be cut off from the Library and access will be denied for one month.

Principal / Staff
Reports

Sharon Bellon reported that parent teacher interviews would take place on Thursday, November 6. Ms. McRae will give a presentation to update parents about university / college workshops from 6 pm to 8 pm. University presentations will take place in the Guidance Dept. November 12 during the first period and after School at 2:30 pm on November 17. College presentations will take place on November 25 and an after School presentation on November 27 from 2:30 to 3:30 pm. Information on how to register will be reviewed at all sessions.

Lilliana Meschino advised that the yearbooks are in and can be picked up in the Library. The Grad DVD's are not ready yet. Check before Christmas.

Laurence Tavallocci advised that a double assembly would take place on November 17 for grades 9/11 and 10/12. Two speakers, Johnny Williams and Curtis Bell will be talking about substance abuse. Other activities that week include a presentation at Burle Oake School and the President's Council meeting.

Frank Dalla Corte led a discussion regarding the coordination of a mug drive by students, who are asking for donations of gently used mugs by Thursday and who are trying to raise environmental awareness through this initiative instead of using paper or styrofoam cups. The initiative, while well intentioned, does not take into consideration issues that may arise in

regards to cleaning, storing and possible health issues that may result from cleaning products used in sanitizing the mugs.

Frank Dalla Corte acknowledged Laurence Tavallocci who had received an award in Calgary for an aviation program he launched at Holy Cross. He noted that Iolanda Faraone is currently in Italy. Ms. Lolita Bruno, retired Principal, is filling in for Iolanda in her absence. Current enrolment is at 1,740 students. Registration for next year's numbers project over 1,600 students. Students from St. Anthony and Our Lady Help of Christians will attend Jean Vanier.

Chair's Report

Garry Borgacci advised that he had participated at the awards ceremony where hundreds of students received awards and all celebrated the accomplishments of the School. Peter Bahen will stay on as Acting Principal to the end of the School year.

Due to environmental/health concerns related to the use of mugs, as previously discussed, Styrofoam cups will be used at the parent teacher interview night. Garry requested administration to coordinate students to sell the School flag that night.

A photo will be taken of the School Council at its next meeting on December 2. It will be taken at 6:30, prior to the Advent mass in the School Chapel. Laurence Tavallocci and Garry Borgacci participated in a meeting at Holy Cross. The school has an enormous shop class, aviation, culinary, hair-dressing courses. Long-term plans are for students at STL to be bussed to Jean Vanier for hands on classes.

Garry noted that the YDCSB is forming a committee to assist students in successfully achieving their Grade 12 diploma. The goal is to have two people representing York Region on the Board committee, who will lobby the Ministry on behalf of education. The committee will meet four times per year.

On November 5, between 7:30 to 8:30 pm, the "Getting Ready for High School" event will take place. The guest speaker is Michael Way Skinner.

Tomorrow is Take Your Kid to Work Day. The Catholic School Council seminar will take place on November 15 at St. Augustine. Barbara Coloroso is speaking.

Garry requested Paula Marchione to follow up on a request from a parent to have an advanced green light put in between the hours of 7:00 am to 9:00 am at the corner of Bathurst and Shaftsbury.

YDCSB will be introducing French immersion in grade 1 in a school in Richmond hill. A school has not yet been selected.

Confirmation of
next meeting
/refreshment list

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 2.
A group picture of Council will be taken at 6:30 pm.
Advent Mass will take place at 6:45.
The meeting will begin at 7:00.
Christmas Pot Luck Celebration will follow adjournment.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.