



Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School School Council Information Meeting

MINUTES May 1, 2018

Meeting called to order at 6:40 pm by Cheryl Fletcher

- **Prayer & Welcome** – Council was welcomed by Co-chair Cheryl Fletcher (Erin Bell sent her regrets). Opening prayer led by Principal, Mrs. Halycz.
- **Attendance-** Attendance was noted
- **Approval of the January 9'18 and Feb. 6'18 Minutes-** Minutes had not been printed and will be shared via email.
- **Conflict of Interest-** Cheryl Fletcher inquired if there were any members with a conflict of interest with being on parent council. None reported.
- **Student Council Report – Presidents** Teacher advisor Lindsay Andrews reported. On May 3rd there was an information night scheduled for details regarding student council elections. She also advised that on May 10th there would be a Trivia Night Arts Café taking place in the school library. Lastly, student council elections are scheduled for May 17th.
- **Chartwells-Cafeteria Presentation-** Carmen, Dorsay and Liz presented. Council was shown a short video presentation from our food service contract cafeteria providers. We were also shown menu options, monthly specials, information on the reloadable card, as well as how to follow them on social media. Council members were also offered samples of the nutritious brownies that are offered for sale.

School Council Updates by Cheryl Fletcher, co-chair:

- Funds remaining from our 2017/2018 PROGRANT will be used for our June 1 Grade 8 orientation and parent workshop night.
- Regarding the PRO GRANT application for the 2018/2019 school year, various options were discussed.
 - Option 1: Mrs. Halycz advised that Curriculum night has been scheduled for Sept. 27, 2018 and it will be formatted differently from in the past. Parents will be offered a workshop on 'MyBlueprint' in the theatre in order to learn about various pathways. Tech and Art classes will be open for experiential learning. There will also be a presentation for students with an Individual Education Plan (IEP) and settlement workers for ESL students. The evening will also be extended to our family of schools and encourage grade 7's and 8's parents to attend so that they can begin to learn about all of the possibilities at HT. There will also be a special presentation regarding the 3 SHSM's (Specialist High Skills Majors). This is a strong consideration for our PRO GRANT application as it is an awesome opportunity for parent engagement.
 - Option 2: Wellness Evening for parents to learn about self-care, social media, yoga or meditation.

- Cheryl Fletcher reported on the Feb. 28th Council of Chairs meeting. Council members were each given a book “Resisting Happiness” from CPIC. Christian mediation was also a topic discussed. Banners are on display in each school honouring the land the school is built on. As well a fall symposium is being planned to review the cannabis legislation, and the rules that apply to smoking and drinking to be carried over to cannabis. The Board policies will need to be updated for the next school year. The next Council of Chairs meeting is scheduled for May 23rd.
- Cheryl reported on Kendra George’s behalf regarding the used uniform sales. On **June 13th and 14th** grade 12’s are asked to donate 3 uniform items, in exchange for permission to wear civvies for the balance of the school year. **Volunteers are needed for the sale from 8-10 a.m.** This sale is the School Council’s primary fundraising initiative.
- Cheryl also presented a detailed summary regarding the proposed Board changes to the fund raising policy: below are some of the topics covered in her information session:
 - Media-coverage of what we have seen in print and online in terms of coverage
 - Background: Why were changes made?
 - Proper process not followed to consult School Councils – as required by the Education Act.
 - The new policy was found to be restrictive with many undefined terms such as “affiliates and associates”
 - Many charities have opted out of the “exception process”, in some cases to support the student leaders opposed to the new ban, or due to the administrative costs associated with completing any necessary paperwork. Some of the charities that have opted out are: We (formerly Free the Children), Terry Fox runs.
 - This new ban, as currently worded, appears to eliminate: hospitals – e.g. Sick Kids, Canadian Cancer Society, MS Society, Red Cross, United Way, Terry Fox Run, Relay for Life, Pink Days, Jump Rope for Heart and more.
 - The board has sent out a request for feedback from all stakeholders in order to ensure the process is followed correctly-feedback is due by June 1’18
 - There was a regular HCDSB meeting on May 1st at which it was that schools could continue their fundraising as originally planned until the Sanctity of Life Motion stakeholder feedback process is complete. Parents and students can fill out feedback form on the Board website by June 1.

Principal’s Report by Josie Halycz:

- It was announced that our current Vice Principal Karen Boelhouwer would be leaving HT at the end of the school year and going to Corpus Christi. We thanked Karen for her great contribution and reminded her that she will be missed. Patrick Busby, will be coming from Dufferin/Peel Catholic Board as our new VP.
- Mrs. Halycz congratulated Inis Muhametaj, as the recipient of the Student Award of Excellence.
- Council was also shown copies of the yearbook and agendas that the student activity fees cover. If parents cannot afford, the “HT Cares” fund supports so that all students can receive.
- New Mentor program: 50 grade 10 student mentors, and 40 grade 11 trailblazers have been selected leaders for our incoming grade 9’s next year. Of the 90 selected, 73 are attending the leadership camp Tawingo from May 23-25.
- Last night STA hosted a meeting regarding drug abuse and addiction. Jim Harkins, who is a counselor from FAST spoke. With the legalization of cannabis along with edibles,

this is a growing concern. It was suggested to council to have Jim come to HT next year to speak to both students and council.

- The week of May 9th is Catholic Education week and the theme is “Renewing the Promise”. Students will be involved in putting together a time capsule with memories since HT opened.

Other important dates:

- May 3rd: grade 7’s from our family of schools will tour the school with grade 9 student leaders, and will receive white “HT family” T-shirts
- June 1st: 330 incoming grade 8’s will attend the “Now You are a Titan” evening, and will receive black “HT family” T-shirts. The mentors and trailblazers will plan out how the evening will unfold. There will be parent engagement workshop component and guest speaker Miguel will present.

Vice Principal’s Report by Karen Boelhouwer

- Student senate applications are due on line by May 3rd. We have 3 students who are part of the school government at the board level and represent HT to the board as student trustees, that will be graduating, so they will need to be replaced through the application process. (*Footnote: The new students trustees attended the May 15th Board meeting*).

Treasurer’s report - Marguerite Murad reported

- Council was advised that the funds remaining from our PRO Grant will be used for Parent involvement on our June 1st grade 8 evening. All other funds have been directed as decided during the previous meeting to support the mentors camp, teams and robotics and more.

Parish Updates:

1. Mary Mother of God
 - a. A reminder that the youth lead mass includes grade 8’s
 - b. The band is seeking out new members
 - c. Registration for the Youth Rally on May 26th is open
 - d. Youth Conquest challenge is seeking out volunteers and participants
 - e. Tax receipts for donations are ready
2. St. Michael’s-
 - a. Baby bottle drive is on between mother’s day and father’s day to support SHIFRA homes
 - b. Knights of Columbus breakfast is scheduled for Sun May 6th
 - c. Catholic Women’s League held a bake sale
3. Holy Trinity Croatia-
 - a. First Communions took place 2 weeks ago
 - b. Confirmations took place in February
4. St. Joseph’s Ukrainian
 - a. Pergoies for sale and the café are open every Thursday

New Business:

- Next year: Public speaker regarding cannabis and all of the changes to the laws, to take place earlier in the school year
- To determine if we have a pot luck dinner ,go out or order in for our last meeting on June 5th

Closing prayer led by Cheryl Fletcher

Meeting adjourned: 8:20 p.m.

Next meeting Tues June 5th – 7:00 p.m. in library

Please visit Holy Trinity's website for other important dates – here's the link:

<http://www.holytrinityoakville.ca/important-dates-2017-2018/>