St. Francis Xavier Secondary School

Catholic School Council (CSC) Minutes of General Meeting

Thursday, January 11, 2024

**Meeting called to order @ 6:30 pm**

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| **Attendees** | **Present** |
| Principal Ferdinando Tantalo | Yes |
| VP Derek McWilliam | Yes |
| Chaplain: Betty-Ann Pickett | Yes |
| Teacher Representative | No |
| Student Reps (SAC): Irene Theratil and Richa Ganatra | Yes |
| Claudia Molina – Leupolt - Chair | No |
| Shafqat Shan – Treasurer | Yes |
| Nina Guha – Co-Secretary | No |
| Caroline Roach – Co-Secretary | Yes |
| Renata Kupresak – OAPCE Rep | Yes |
| Julie Sadhu – Parish Rep | Yes |
| Debleena Chowdhury – Parent Rep | No |
| Karen Canlas, Parent | Yes-Online |
| Suzanne Nunes, Parent | Yes-Online |
| Diane Paterson, Parent | Yes-Online |

**Trustees:**

Thomas Thomas – Present – in person

Stefano Pascucci – Not present

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order by Shafqat Shan followed by the Opening prayer by Ms. Betty-Ann Pickett and Land Acknowledgement by Shafqat Shan.

**Motion of Approval**

Motion to Approve minutes from November 2, 2023 CSC meeting.

* Approved by: Julie Sadhu and Caroline Roach

Motion to Approve Agenda for January 4, 2024 CSC meeting.

* Approved by: Julie Sadhu and Caroline Roach

**Trustee Report by Trustee Thomas Thomas:**

* Director’s report – released on the website
* The Deficit was $50.7 million this is due to the Long Term Debt. (LTD) The revised estimate is now at $36.5 million for DPCDSB. The budget challenges continue to be enrolment decline and the fully paid LTD plan.
* The Trustee Team sent a letter to the Minister, Stephen Lecce, to balance the budget. They have agreed to sell couple of properties to help balance the Budget.
* St. Gertrude – proposed on the last Board meeting to move the Primary Years Programme (first stage of the IB program for Grade 3-12) of St. James Catholic Global Learning Center to St. Gertrude. The Primary Years Programme (PYP) is the first stage of the International Baccalaureate programme. St. Gertrude will be discussed in February 2024 at the Board Meeting.
* Jan 18 – Human Trafficking presentation – ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING PRESENTATION WITH MATT RICHARDSON: TECHNOLOGY, SOCIAL MEDIA AND ONLINE SAFETY – Click on Link for more information and to join:

[https://www.dpcdsb.org/Documents/January%2018%20CCCSC%20Parent%20Engagement%20Presentation%20Anti%20Human%20Trafficking.pdf](about:blank)

**Student Council (SAC) Report by: Irene Theratil and Richa Ganatra**

Events planning:

* Dec 21 – Free Therapy Dogs Sessions
* Winter Spirit Week – Pep Rally, Snow ball dance (successful) open to all grades mainly GR9-10 participated. Proceeds donated to SFX Fund Raiser. Had a lot of sponsors.
* Dec 12 - Holiday Show Screening – during lunches in the cafeteria
* Dec 13 - Winter gingerbread decorating – Council Member donated the Ginger bread houses.
* Dec 14 and 15 - Christmas Market – Very popular and successful – students who had their own businesses (17 vendors) showcased their wares.
* Winter Candy Grams (Cookie or Candy Cane) – students were eager to participate all proceeds went to charity.
* Jan 24 – Mental Health Awareness Day – Bell Let’s talk – posting graphics, raffle
* Feb 6-9 - Business Club – Café night – all proceeds going to Sick Kids
* There are 29 SAC Students in the Committee

**Chaplain’s Report by Chaplain Betty-Ann Pickett**

* Dec 1 – Spirit Week – Breakfast was served by Chaplaincy for St. Francis Xavier Feast Day. Advent masses were conducted next.
* Gr 12 Retreat focussed on – Compassion and Trauma – Regeneration Kitchen where children were allowed to prepare food.
* DPCDSB – provides retreats for all grades and help to nurture good values and morals for all students
* Community Fundraiser – SAC and various fundraising through the school and through clubs contributed around $7,000 during Christmastime for families that need help within the school. 30 families were helped from within the school community.

**Teacher’s Report: By Principal F. Tantalo**

* No update at the moment - Looking for a new Teacher Rep

**Parish Representative – Julie Sadhu**

* St. Francis Xavier Church is celebrating their Silver Jubilee Celebration
* Church is under renovation so masses are held in the hall

**OAPCE Representative – Renata Kupresak**

* DEC 11 – OAPCE held the Meeting for all of Peel
* Parents are the first educators in faith
* 85th Anniversary of OAPCE – revamp of logo and website – annual Conference Apr 12 and 13, 2024. Minister of Education and Archbishop Leo will attend
* Feedback from parents welcome and all are encouraged to attend the Conference

**Treasurer – Shafqat Shan**

Current Balance at $1213.14. Same as before.

**Chair’s Report: Ms. Claudia Molina-Leupolt**

* Nothing to report

**Principal’s Report: Mr. Ferdinando Tantalo and Mr. Derek McWilliams**

* Welcome to Mr. Derek McWilliams the new VP that took on Mr. Christopher Vincent’s Role. Mr. Vincent recently moved to another school as Principal within DPCDSB.
* Mr. Ferdinand Tantalo introduced the new VP, Mr. Derek McWilliams to everyone.
* Mr. Derek McWilliams has been at St. Paul’s Secondary School for the past 5 yrs. He gave us a brief overview of St. Pauls SS. It is a small community that has an IB program, SHSM and Regional Remote programs. He greatly values the importance of relationships and relationship building. He appreciates SFX SS provides its students with a rich hub of learning throughout the school and looks forward to working with everyone.
* **HVAC Upgrade Update -** Mr. Ferdinand Tantalo will provide an update on the status.
  + **Status Quo from the last meeting:** It remains that only 36 Heat pumps were replaced out of the 156 Heat pumps that needed to be replaced since the Summer of 2023 due to logistics issues and supply chain issues. They are prioritizing rooms where the HVAC is not performing at optimal capacity. Mr. Thomas Thomas was present and acknowledged that the HVAC upgrade was a problem.
* **Exams – Jan 24 – Jan 29, 2024**
  + A Survey was sent to students that are bussed because they will not be picked up at 11 am any more during the exam week. They will be bussed at the regular school time due to the substantial cost, shortened exam timing will not be accommodated.
  + Vacations – The Principal, Teachers and School was firm on vacations during CPT and final exam days. Communications went out early to remind them of CPT due dates and exam dates.
  + Monday, Jan 22 - Credit Rescue Day – by invitation only. This day is used to give additional support to students that might need to complete tasks to earn credits for course completion before the exams or before they graduate.
* **Year Books:** 
  + 2022-2023 Year books will be received in January 2024. These will be distributed in February 2024.
  + 2023- 2024 Year books will be received in 2024 and tentatively distributed in June 2024 or early September 2024
  + 2024-2025 - Next academic year - books will be for sale on School Cash Online. Activity fee will be reduced to $45 and not include the yearbook.
* **Selecting course for next year** – more information to follow in the Second week of February, 2024. Last day to chose course is Feb 6, 2024. Payment of $45 for the registration. Fee for IB program will also be due at that time.
* **Shoutout to student in Gr. 11 IB program – DAVE GREWAL** – who came second in the World Robotics Olympiad in Panama. He will be participating in the NASA competition in Housten, Texas in the Fall.
* **Activity Fees** – are going down to $45. There may be fundraising activities that might have to be done through the CSC to help the Principal get additional funding for activities.
* **Backpacks** - Looking at keeping backpacks in the lockers. Mr. Tantalo to consult with SAC to find out pros and cons of students keeping bags in lockers during the school day.
* **Breakfast program and Cafeteria** – available to students every morning. Cafeteria was a slow start and they now offer special deals by the cafeteria staff. Expectation is $5 menu item. Will look for feedback from students.
* **SFX SS** has received a lot of interest for the IB program – 350 applicants from Gr 8 applied to the program. 1900 is the Cap. For the entire school.
* Ms. Ray from the Library – will post on the **Instagram** going forward
* **Disney trip** got cancelled.
* The **Quebec Ottawa trip** is approved now by the Board. It will be under $1000 for all Grades.

**Tentative Future Meeting Dates (5 per year)**:

Thursday, February 8, 2024 at 6:30 pm

Thursday, April 4, 2024 at 6:30 pm

**Motion to adjourn the meeting**

* Approved by Caroline Roach and Shafqat Shan

**Meeting adjourned @ 8:05 pm**