

**Mother Teresa Catholic School Community Council (MTCSCC)**  
**Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 7:00pm – School Library**  
**MINUTES**

**In Attendance:** Mr. Fradette, Mr. Rock, Rachelle Phenix, Juanita Theriault, Jena Boyko, Crystal Bernier, David Sumner, Polyana Ortega, Mehwish Seghal, Lisa Frey

**Regrets:** Linnea Spiess, Amanda Day, Crystal Nataraj, Koreena Farr, Jolene Morris, Danielle Daigneau, Amanda Day, Krista Dennis

1. **Call to Order:** 7:04 pm
2. **Prayer and Introductions:** Mr. Fradette. Introductions by Rachelle.
3. **Approval of Agenda:**
  - a. **MOTION** to approve agenda: Juanita
  - b. **SECONDED** by: Polyana
4. **Adopt Minutes from June 19, 2023**
  - a. **MOTION** to approve minutes: Crystal
  - b. **SECONDED** by: Megwish
5. **Administrators Report:** Mr. Fradette, *with additional notes from meeting*

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**CSCC Meeting- Oct. 16th, 2023- Principal's Report**

1. **Christmas Family Advent Liturgy:**
  - Thursday, Dec. 14th 6:30pm The Cathedral of the Holy Family
  - Details still to be determined, *but Mme Monique Devine has kindly offered to play the music. This will involve the entire school.*
2. **Schools Win Twice Lottery:**
  - The Catholic Schools' Foundation Schools Wins Twice raffle is well underway. Tickets can be purchased online only. Details are posted on the Edsby River of News. Your support for this is greatly appreciated as Ecole St. Mother Teresa School receives half of all ticket sales from our school. The other half goes to the Foundation to support Catholic Education initiatives in our schools.
3. **Cross Country:**
  - We had a number of students participate in the annual GSCS Cross Country Championships last week and all demonstrated exemplary sportsmanship and were great ambassadors for ESMTS.
  - We had 17 top ten finishes with 75 participating students.
4. **Yearbook**
  - We are experiencing significant delays and challenges in getting the yearbook to print. Thanks for your patience. *Have probably had a dozen drafts at this point!*
  - We have been told that Lifetouch will no longer be able to provide support in publishing yearbooks. *The school is likely going to lose money this year, because did not quite sell 100 books (minimum amount that has to be sold). The new company contracted for school pictures does not offer a yearbook, so will not be an option for next year.*

## 5. Lockdown Practice

- On Thursday, Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>, we will be holding a Perimeter Lockdown Practice (*this one is fairly uneventful for the kids*). We conduct these practices throughout the year so that students are prepared in the event of an actual lockdown. *Will practice the full school lockdown in late October or November, in coordination with the police.*

## 6. Front Pit

- The front pit design is going ahead sooner than later and we recently learned that we need to get the design imprinted on the tiles prior to installation. As shared last year, we had hoped to engage the school community in a locally developed design. Unfortunately, we will not be able to do that and we need to submit a design immediately. One of our former students (*currently in high school*) is creating a formal representation of it right now. *The floor will be tile, and the bench will be carpet tile. The squares on the bench can be replaced as needed.*

## 7. Questions

- *Mehwish: Is the location of the languages on the cross (in the design) representative of anything in particular? Darren says not in particular. They are still looking to get a blessing from their Indigenous partners to be using the Cree and Michif languages in the design, and how this is represented.*
- *David asked if the school gets any money from the rentals in the gym? No, this money is central and goes to the school division. The rentals are entirely centralized. The community association can rent the gym basically for free.*

## 8. Other:

*The school perception survey is on pause and may not happen, due to challenges at the level of the Ministry of Education. They are having problems negotiating the contract with the vendor.*

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## 6. Liaison Reports

- Community Association:** Amanda Day couldn't make it to the meeting.
- Preschool:** No representative in attendance. Seb heard that there is an increased enrollment. He heard they are considering whether to add another day of classes. Juanita learned that they are having problems finding volunteers to attend our meetings and are wondering if it is possible to join remotely. Seb can arrange this if required.
- Highschool (St. Joseph's):** David said their parent council meeting was well-attended. There are about 100 extra students, up to just over 1300 students. The biggest growth was in grade 10, due to new students coming to the city etc. They are looking to grow their relationship with the Cathedral, and the K of C partnered for an event.

## 7. Old/New Business

- Meeting chair schedule/access to documents:**

Bylaws allow an interim chair. Decided to take turns chairing meetings. A sign-up sheet will be kept in the main office with Courtney.

Responsibilities will include:

- Chair MTCSCC and FOMTCS meeting.
- Creating the agenda for the meeting and providing to secretary to distribute to members.
- Communicate any outstanding items, and answer questions.

MOTION to share position of interim chair, and allow Rachelle to chair this meeting: Juanita

SECONDED by: Crystal

VOTE: All in favour

- b. **CSCC Nominations:** Will continue trying to recruit room parents, and hope to recruit new members.

MOTION to add Lisa Frey as an Officer: Rachelle

SECONDED by: Jena

VOTE: All in favour

- c. **Room Parents:**

There are still 10 openings for room parents. Courtney was going to send out the sign-up. Perhaps was distributed to teachers to share with their parents? Unsure if this occurred. Their responsibilities are to relay classroom concerns to the parent council, and to collect money for Christmas and yearend gifts for the teacher. Polyana shared that individual teachers might ask for some additional favours or small tasks. But this is to whatever time or abilities that you have. Darren will speak to Courtney tomorrow about distributing the list to parents in the school.

Polyana said that her teacher had mentioned that they will have to collect money from the class for field trips. Fundraising occurs through Healthy Hunger, and some money is available through a grant. Each class is paired with another, and they host one hot lunch and keep the funds from this. Polyana asks if we can ask parents for money? Or can we fundraise more as a class? Darren explained there are challenges with this and have to be very careful. Have completely removed school fees, because this disadvantages certain schools/students. There is some legislation around this too, because it can't be for the purposes of instruction. Polyana asked if the class can do a long john sale for the whole school, similar to the grade 8 class fundraiser. Darren says this is a possibility, but has to be coordinated within the school.

- d. **Other:**

- eCards for birthdays: Kyla Deutscher has agreed to continue sending an eCard for staff birthdays.
- Volunteer sign-up for the year: Looking to encourage more participation by sending out a volunteer sign-up sheet. Krista has worked on a draft, and will share this.
- Fall BBQ/welcome event: Pizza orders were low. The attendance overall was also low, compared to the past. Seb said that this was probably the lowest attendance they've seen. Roughly a quarter of families showed up in some classrooms. This is common in most schools. Darren explained that some schools have tried to change the format to make it more engaging. Some have made the "meet the teacher" portion more informal, with a scavenger hunt or a less formal BBQ. Might be worth exploring other formats. Will be added to the June agenda.
- Crystal is wondering if she is able to donate Scholastic books in good condition to the library. Yes, this is possible. They can also be donated to classrooms. Can drop off at the office and they will distribute them appropriately.

8. **Next Meeting:** Monday, November 20, 2023 7:00pm

9. **Adjournment:** 7:52pm