

St. Edmund Campion Secondary School

“Named, Called, Chosen”

**Catholic School Council Meeting**

**Monday, February 24th, 2025**

**6:35 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

***“We would like to acknowledge that this is the sacred territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit, and we thank them for being stewards of this land.”***

1. Opening Prayer

* David Patterson led Council in a prayer for Black History Month.
* Mr. Patterson played a recording of a student giving the Land Acknowledgement

2. Welcome

* Principal Maria Locicero welcomed everyone to the second meeting of the 2024-25 school year.

3. Minutes of last meeting.

* Naveen Koka moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Melinda Pryce.

4. Student Report

* Kimaya Mahajan from Student Council presented the report.
* A number of activities took place in the week before Christmas. There was a Spirit Day, a photo booth and karaoke
* Students created Christmas cards for seniors during the lead up to the holidays.
* Valentine’s Day activities were unfortunately cancelled due to a snow day on February 13th, though candygrams were still delivered.
* There will still be activities on Anti-bullying Day on February 26th. It will be a Spirit Day where students can wear spirit wear, and the band will play.
* March is Kindness Month. Events are to be announced.
* St. Edmund Campion will participate in the Relay for Life on May 28th. Fundraising will start soon. Finance, logistics and entertainment leads have been identified. Orientation for grade 11 and 12 students that are leading the activity will take place at the University of Guelph, focusing on how to run events.
* There will be a Krispy Kreme doughnut sale fundraiser on April 24th.

5. Co-chair’s report

* Anne Proscia circulated the program for Guardian Angels parish’s Valentine’s dance, which took place on February 1st. The church raised over $19 thousand.
* She said she had heard positive feedback for grade 8 orientation night.
* Council discussed when would be a good date for the Domino’s Pizza fundraiser. A tentative date of April 30th was decided upon.

6. Teacher’s Report

* Andrea Pearl provided the report.
* Final report cards for the first semester were sent out via students’ Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB) email on February 7th.
* Second semester parent-teacher interviews will take place on March 20th.
* Ms. Pearl noted the academic supports available to students, including the student-led Peer Mentoring and Homework Help.
* Ms. Pearl said she has a contact at the City of Brampton youth hub who could be of assistance to students seeking part time work. Interested students should see Mrs. Pearl and prepare a resume in advance, which can be reviewed by the youth hub. A liaison from the city already conducted an after-school workshop.
* Mr. Cooper asked for more information on guides to creating a resume. Ms. Pearl said through My Blueprint it can be sent for review.
* Grade 9 to eleven students have been visited by Guidance in their homeroom classes to discuss course selection for next school year. Students with questions should see their guidance counsellor.
* Table tennis and boys’ hockey has started.
* The swim team will be going to the Region of Peel Secondary School Athletic Association (ROPSSAA) competition next week.
* Beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending during Holy Week, the school is taking donations for Regeneration ([Regeneration Outreach Community | Brampton, ON](https://regenbrampton.com/))
* On March 2nd an event for Teen Mental Health Day will be held at the Susan Fennell Sportsplex.
* On that same day there will be an event for Black History Month held at 71 West Drive, the headquarters for the Black Youth School Success Initiative (BYSSI).

7. Treasurer’s report

* Council has a total of $961.83 in the bank, which includes the $500 Parent Engagement Grant.

8. Parish Report

* Steve Birnie reported on parish fundraising activities.
* Father Ravibabu Kakumanu will be leading a pilgrimage to Medjugorje, Croatia, Hungary, Austria, Czechia and Poland from May 25th to June 6th.
* This is one of the activities tied to the Catholic Church’s 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope, the theme of which is being Pilgrims of Hope.

9. OAPCE Report

* Mr Cooper encouraged all parents to subscribe to the Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE) website ([OAPCE-Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education – OAPCE-Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education](https://oapce.org/)) an information sheet about OAPCE has been attached to the agenda for tonight’s meeting.
* Parents are encouraged to check out the [January Parents4Parents Press](https://oapce.org/wp-content/uploads/January-2025-Newsletter.pdf) newsletter, which is full of updates on OAPCE's work among other resources.
* OAPCE is surveying parents across the province to help advocate for parents in Catholic education and provide feedback to the Ministry of Education. Parents can participate by completing [the survey form](https://oapce.org/oapce-task-force/).
* On  Saturday, May 24, 2025 OAPCE will be holding a conference in Niagara Falls at St. Michael's High School.
* The last meeting was on February 13th, and the guest speaker was Dr. Josephine Lombardi who also spoken on being Pilgrims of Hope, the significance of the Jubilee Year of Hope and how to participate.

10. Principal’s Report

* Ms. Locicero mentioned that, while black shoes have always been a required part of the school uniform, more schools have been showing leniency on this.
* Some non-compliance has been observed at St. Edmund Campion, most notably when students wear shoes that are not completely black.
* The school is looking to change this starting in September. Shoes will have to be close-toed with a heel, so sandals and Crocs will not be acceptable. But black will no longer be the required colour.
* As part of a DPCDSB initiative, incoming grade 9s will receive Chromebooks they will use for the duration of high school. If they are broken they will be repaired, but if the damage is caused by the user there may be a fee.
* Ms. Locicero noted that the Student Price Card has been the school’s best performing fundraiser, having raised over $1,000. Other school fundraisers have been the poinsettia sale and Krispy Kreme doughnut sale. The school is considering flower-related fundraising for Easter.
* February 26th is Pink Shirt Day, also called Anti-bullying Day. Events to commemorate this will be held in the matrix.
* Council’s next meeting will be on April 24th. This is also the evening of the DPCDSB budget meeting, which is being streamed.
* On May 5th St. Edmund Campion will partner with Cardinal Leger Catholic Secondary School (CSS) and St. Roch CSS to host a parent engagement night featuring Paul Davis ([Social Networking Safety](https://socialnetworkingsafety.net/) ) who will speak about social media and online safety. Students are also welcome to attend.
* Mrs. Ukwuoma asked if there will be a March Break trip this year. Ms. Locicero said the school did not plan one due to lack of interest.

11. Administration Report

Sheena Agius

* Ms. Agius discussed upcoming grad activities.
* The grad assembly was held last week. It will be a big graduating class this year.
* Prom will be held on June 12th at 5:30 PM at the Millenium Gardens in Mississauga.
* The grad Mass will be held at Guardian Angels Parish church on June 11th in the morning. The remainder of the day there will be activities at the school.
* The graduation ceremony will be on June 25th at 10 AM at the CAA Centre.
* The grad hoodies are being designed and, when available, can be bought via School Cash Online.
* A grad Google Classroom has been created. Students are encouraged to join and to monitor it regularly as updates will be posted there. So far 256 students have joined.
* The next step will be payment of the grad fee and sizing for gowns.
* The Ministry of Education is focusing on math this year as it has been destreamed.
* The school held a joint meeting with St. Roch and Cardinal Leger to review first semester Education Quality and Accountability (EQAO) results and compare strategies. The goal is to move up those that are close to the provincial standard.
* The math teachers will work on identifying individualized learning needs and assisting those with such needs.

Jason Arseneault

* Mr. Arsenault noted that a letter about etiquette when driving in and around the school was sent.
* The school has noted that the recent heavy snowfall has resulted in increased obstructions on the school roadways. The school has talk to their contractor about snow clean up.
* The school has also inquired about a design review for the parking lots and roadways.

Kathy McMullin

* Gary DeCouto was unable to attend so Ms. McMullin passed along the following update on his behalf:
* Results for students who wrote the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) in the first semester were sent out the beginning of February.
* Those taking English in second semester will write between March 18th and April 11th.
* 48 students did not pass, and the DPCDSB wants the school to devise a plan to assist them. A workshop was held in the fall and another one will be held.
* Ms. McMullin encouraged parents and students to keep checking the school’s Instagram page for updates on Black History Month, both information and events. The theme for Black History Month is a 365 degree view: looking back, looking around and looking ahead.
* The morning announcements have highlighted the impact of Black Canadians on Canadian history. They have also featured Black music.
* Staff have attended professional development sessions, and can sign their class up for virtual workshops.
* On February 7th, Nadine Williams, a poet, author and arts educator spoke at the school and delivered her poem, “End to N.”
* Christopher Thompson spoke on February 18th and delivered a confidence and advocacy workshop.
* Students went on a field trip to the Etobicoke School of Arts (<https://www.esainfo.ca/>) on February 11th.
* On February 21st the Black Student Alliance (BSA) gave a dance presentation in the cafeteria, created in collaboration with Stomp and Dance.
* In partnership with the school’s dance students they will perform at the Rose Theatre on February 27th at 12:30 PM, as part of an all-day event.
* The deadline for ordering pies (meat, chicken or vegetarian) and puff puffs is February 26th, via School Cash Online.
* Some students will be attending the DPCDSB’s Catholic Education Centre (CEC) on February 28th to deliver a spoken word performance and have an opportunity for networking.
* During lunch periods on April 24th there will be an engagement event in the school cafeteria featuring Black professionals, entrepreneurs and community members.
* The school is planning to have a Cultural Civvies Day in May.

12. Next meeting

* The next Council meeting will be on Thursday, April 24th, 2025.

13. Closing

* The meeting concluded at 8:00 PM.