

St. Edmund Campion Secondary School

“Named, Called, Chosen”

**Catholic School Council Meeting**

**Monday, November 18th, 2024**

**6:35 p.m. to 8:25 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

* Mr. Patterson played a recording of a student giving the Land Acknowledgement.
* Mr. Patterson led Council in the Prayer of Hope.

2. Welcome

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

3. Agenda and minutes of last meeting.

* Naveen Koka moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Ron Cooper.
* Steve Birnie moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Anne Proscia

4. Student Report

* Kamaya Mahajan and Osaretin Ibinoba from Student Council were present to give the report.
* A number of activities took place during the day on Hallowe’en. It was a Civvies Day and many students wore costumes; there was a costume contest held. There was also a photo booth, pumpkin decorating and a game where students had to guess the amount of candies in a jar.
* Not many activities are planned for November, but there will be a number of Christmas activities. These include creating cards for seniors, candygrams, a photo booth and possibly karaoke.

5. Co-chair’s report

* Both co-chairs, Melinda Pryce and Anne Proscia, attended the CCCSC meeting on November 14th.

6. Teacher’s Report

* Andrea Pearl provided the report virtually.
* The girls varsity basketball team will play in the finals on November 21st.
* Both the girls and boys flag football teams lost in the semi-finals.
* The tennis and track and field teams attended the Region of Peel Secondary School Athletic Association (ROPSSAA) competitions.
* The boys volleyball has finished their season.
* Boys basketball and girls volleyball have started. Boys hockey will be starting soon.
* Intramural soccer has started and intramural volleyball will be starting soon.
* The portal for submitting university applications will open shortly. The school will be holding a workshop on the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP).
* Students are encouraged to regularly check their Guidance Google Classroom for updates on post-secondary related information.
* Guidance will be giving grade 9 to 11 students presentations on course selection in December. Students will be making their choices during visits taking place prior to March break. Parents still have to approve course selections.
* The Dramatic Arts and Dance clubs did a ceremony on Remembrance Day.
* Academic awards were presented on November 12th.
* There will be a presentation on the new Information and Communication Technology Specialist High Skills Major (ICT SHSM)on November 19th. Students can get information from their Guidance counsellor.
* The week of November 18 to 22 is Anti-bullying week.
* The school has a number of clubs running and interested students should check the school Instagram page of see Ms. Pearl.
* Midterm marks for the first semester will be sent to student email accounts on November 19th.
* Students needing academic support should utilize resources like TVO’s Mathify ([TVO Learn Mathify | Free 1:1 Online Math Tutoring](https://mathify.tvolearn.com/)) and Homework Help ([TVO Learn Mathify | Free 1:1 Online Math Tutoring](https://mathify.tvolearn.com/)) as well as the school’s Peer Mentoring program.

7. Treasurer’s report

* Ms. Locicero advised the Parent Engagement Grant funds have been received.
* She did not have the updated Council bank balance but would email this out to the members.

8. Parish Report

* Steve Birnie reported on parish fundraising activities.
* Guardian Angels Church will be holding a bake sale on November 23rd and 24th, and a Christmas Concert and dinner on December 7th.
* The Valentine’s dinner and dance will be on February 1st.

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.
* The last meeting was very good and provided an opportunity to give feedback to the Minister of Education

10. Principal’s Report

* Ms. Locicero noted that the school introduced more ‘a la carte’ fees, a ‘pay as you go’ approach where fees are paid for events and activities that students participate in.
* She noted that the Activity Fee has always been optional and the number of students opting out has increased. The fee has dropped from $75 to $45, and is the same for every school.
* The fee funds activities such as retreats.
* New fees now include $10 for club membership, and the sports fees have increased.
* For a student to receive a yearbook they must pay the $36 fee. In the past the school subsidized some of the yearbooks because not all students paid the Activity Fee. They have also identified a publishing company charging a lower fee.
* The school’s horticulture teacher and his class will run a poinsettia sale drive. A portion of proceeds will go towards Christmas baskets of food for families in need in the school community.
* Student Price Cards (SPC) are now available, and almost 200 have already been sold.
* The Krispy Kreme fundraiser will take place on December 6th.
* Ms. Proscia and Regina Ukwuoma have looked into the possibility of Council holding a pizza fundraiser through Domino’s Pizza. Many school councils in the community have had success with this activity.
* The Peace Garden outside the chapel has been painted.
* On May 5th St. Edmund Campion, along with St. Roch and Cardinal Leger Secondary Schools, will host a presentation by Paul Davis on Social Media Safety ([Social Networking Safety](https://socialnetworkingsafety.net/)). The cost of the presentation, about $1,400 plus HST, will be paid via the three schools’ Parent Engagement Grants.
* A free presentation on the same topic is provided by Garth Buckley of EveryMind Mental Health Services ([EveryMind | MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES. FOR YOU. WITH YOU.](https://everymind.ca/)) He also covers gaming and other aspects of the internet. This will be delivered to students in February.
* Mr. Cooper suggested a presentation discussing issues with illegal street drugs being contaminated with fentanyl.
* Ms. Locicero noted that any speakers that are brought in have to be on a board approved list and have done a criminal record check in the last six months.

11. Administration Report

Kathy McMullin

* A voluntary survey of students was held, with 1,085 participating. Ms. McMullin delivered a presentation going over the results.
* The goal was to identify Disproportionality and Disparity, so that they can be mitigated by increasing a sense of belonging among students.
* Action items for the school include increasing staff awareness of oppressions, and providing greater support when students are impacted by oppression and/or injustice. The school’s goal is to increase inclusion.
* Student focus groups will be held to get their feedback on the topic.
* Representation among teachers can be a challenge as they have to be Roman Catholic but students do not. This is not true for support staff.
* The school has posted large posters in the stairwells about Unlearning biases, Kindness, Accepting who you are, Indigenous awareness and Canadian Diversity. They have been created by a company called Unlearn ([unlearn - Provoking thought to inspire positive change](https://www.unlearn.com/)).

Sheena Agius

* Math planning initiatives for Grade 9 students are underway to support them as math is destreamed.
* The Ministry of Education has issued a mandate on math, seeking to build confidence. Student math knowledge is good but the application of that knowledge is the challenge.
* 56.6% of Campion students were above the provincial Education Quality and Accountability (EQAO) standard, which is better than the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB) and provincial averages.
* The provincial goal is 70%.
* There is a grade 9 bridge course for grade 8 students needing extra support. There is an after school support program for grade 9 boys.
* Cocoa and Cram is ongoing led by subject teachers.
* Midterm report cards issued to student emails on November 19th will be available for 14 days.
* Examinations and Culminating Performance Tasks (CPT) are coming up. CPTs will take place between November 25th and December 21st. Exams will run from January 22nd to 28th.

Gary DeCouto

* Grade 10s will be writing the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT). Students must achieve a mark of 75% or better in order to graduate.
* The test is written in their grade 10 English class. The test is taken over two back to back days with each writing being an hour long.
* Writing of the test for students taking English in first semester began November 5th and will run until December 3rd.
* Those taking English in second semester will write between March 18th and April 15th.
* Historically, only 44% of students who failed on their first writing passed on their rewrite. Many of those students are on Individualized Education Plans.
* Support is being provided through workshops and virtual sessions on writing being held in the library.
* The school Semi-Formal for grade 11 students took place on November 14th at Millenium Gardens. 183 students attended. The even featured a buffet dinner, a candy station and a 260 photo booth.

Jason Arseneault

* Grad photos will be taken between November 25th and December 6th. Students can book their slot online.
* A letter about etiquette when driving in and around the school has been sent home.

12. Next meeting

* The next Council meeting will be on Monday, February 24th, 2025. Another meeting will take place in May.

13. Closing

* The meeting concluded at 8:25 PM, moved by Mr. Koka and seconded by Mr. Birnie.