

St. Edmund Campion Secondary School

“Named, Called, Chosen”

**Catholic School Council Meeting**

**Monday, September 23rd, 2024**

**6:35 p.m. to 8:20 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 gave the Land Acknowledgement.
* Mr. Patterson led Council in prayer commemorating the National Week of Truth and Reconciliation.

2. Welcome

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

3. Introductions

* Everyone present was invited to introduce themselves.

4. Agenda and minutes of last meeting.

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

4. Elections

* Ms. Locicero advised there are seven roles to be filled: the two co-chairs, Secretary, Treasurer, Parish pepresentative, Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE) representative and Community representative.
* Anne Proscia and Melinda Pryce were acclaimed as co-chairs.
* Naveen Koka was acclaimed as Treasurer.
* Steve Birnie was acclaimed as Parish representative.
* Steve Birnie was acclaimed as Secretary.
* Ron Cooper was acclaimed as OAPCE representative.

5. Student Report

* Kamaya Mahajan, the student Prime Minister, gave the student report.
* She encouraged student involvement in clubs such as the Peer Mentoring Club, which provides support for students in grades 9 to 11.

6. Teacher’s Report

* Andrea Pearl provided the report.
* The school’s Club Fair was held in the matrix the previous week.
* The boys and girls flag football teams have started. Both won their respective games on September 23rd. The boys team won a tournament last week.
* Other sports that have started up include tennis, boys senior and junior volleyball, junior girls basketball and track & field.
* Girls; softball will start in the spring.
* Intramural volleyball, basketball and soccer will start once the seasons end.
* Students should always pay attention to morning announcements to find out about sports teams and club activities.
* The weight room is available to all students and is overseen by teaching staff.

7. Principal’s Report

* Principal Maria Locicero reported that the school had the biggest turnout ever for ‘Get Ready’ (for incoming grade 9s) the week before the start of school.
* On Friday September 20th there was an event for the grade 9s as well.
* The post-secondary fair will be on October 9th from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. Students from other Brampton northwest schools are welcome.
* Guidance counsellors have begun visiting grade 12 classes to discuss post-secondary education.
* The semi-formal for grade 11 students will be on November 14th at Millenium Gardens.
* Grade 8 night will be on November 21st.
* Homework help from senior students is available virtually after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The sessions are supervised by a teacher and all teachers have permission forms.
* Mrs. Locicero asked for ideas on speakers to bring in using the Parent Engagement Grant. The session will once again be joint with Cardinal Leger Secondary School. St. Roch Secondary School and Notre Dame Secondary School.
* Mrs. Pearl suggested Skills For Life (S4L), an organization that speaks to youth about self-esteem, mental health, social media, budgeting and financial literacy and basketball. A Campion graduate is on the board of directors. This would be a presentation more for students than parents.
* Michelle Bravo said she knows someone who can speak about drug awareness related to fentanyl.
* Mrs. Locicero asked if there had been any feedback on the Ontario Ministry of Education’s ban on cellphone use in class. No parents on Council indicated they had heard any negative feedback.
* Spirit Wear t-shirts were given to grades 9s on September 20th. The first Spirit Day will be September 24th.
* Mrs. Locicero noted that the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board is moving away from Civvies Days, but there may be one that coincides with Hallowe’en.
* Yearbooks are no longer funded by the school activity fee. Students will have to pay $20 for them in the spring.
* School Administration and the Board as a whole are working on having more diverse representation on staff.
* Teachers are part of a book club called ‘We Belong’ that promotes belonging and learning how to create a welcoming, inclusive environment.
* An information session on Individualized Education Plans (IAP) is coming. It will take place online.
* November 6th is Take Our Kids to Work Day, when grade 9 students go to work with a parent or guardian. Grade 8s from the feeder schools will be at Campion that day.

7. Treasurer’s Report

* Mrs. Locicero provided an update.
* There is currently $61.83 in Council’s account.
* No used uniform sales were held due to the change in uniforms prior to last year.
* The office is still taking donations of used uniforms that conform with the new pants colour, to be distributed to families in need.
* The school will hold a Krispy Kreme fundraiser to collect funds to pay for competitions such as Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA Ontario) and Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA Canada). This will begin October 4th.
* Mrs. Locicero asked for ideas about other fundraising Council could do.
* Mrs. Locicero also asked if any Council members could assist with fundraising activities that might take place from 11 AM to 1 PM and several members said yes.
* Mr. Koka suggested a samosa sale, and a plant sale in the spring.
* Mrs. Locicero suggested a poinsettia sale around Christmas, and noted that payment for any fundraising could be done through School Cash Online.
* Mr. Cooper suggested selling boxes of cards for assorted events, which many elementary schools have done in the past.
* Regina Ukwuoma suggested coordinating a fundraiser with Domino’s Pizza, which elementary schools have also often done. She and Mrs. Proscia will look into this.

8. Administration Report

Sheena Agius

* Grade 9 students will write the Education Quality and Accountability (EQAO) math test at the end of January if they are taking math in first semester, and in June for those taking math in second semester.
* The test will be worth 10% of their final grade. There will be no final math exam, but the Culminating Performance Task (CPT) will be worth 20% of the final grade.
* Parent-Teacher interviews will take place October 17th from 5:30 to 8:00 PM. Scheduling must be done once again using the Online Booking Tool.
* Mid-term report cards will go out the week of November 18th to 22nd.
* Mid-term results for grade 12 students will be updated to Ontario College Application Services (OCAS) on November 15th and to the Ontario Universities’ Application Centre (OUAC) on November 19th.
* November 18th is the deadline for a grade 12 student to drop a course so that it doesn’t show on their transcript.

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 will be written in their grade 10 English class. The test is taken over two back to back days with each writing being an hour long.
* Those taking English in first semester will write between November 5th and December 3rd, and those taking English in second semester will write between March 18th and April 15th.
* The test can be rewritten in grade 11 if 75% is not attained. If the student is still unsuccessful they would take a course during grade 12.
* First semester reports on OSSLT success will go out at the end of January and second semester reports will go out at the end of May.
* OSSLT resources are available on the school website.
* The school has introduced a new Specialty High Skills Major (SHSM), Information and Communications Technology (ICT). This program will be available to grade 11s. There is a co-op component, and would be good for students taking media in grade 11.
* Mr. Cooper said there should be more promotion of this among students.

Jason Arseneault

* There have been changes to the Ontario Secondary School Diploma requirements.
* Student results on the EQAO math test will be worth 10% of their final grade.
* For students starting secondary school in 2024, there will be 17 compulsory credits in order to graduate, instead of 18. One must be a technology course taken in grade 9 or 10.
* For students starting secondary school in 2025 there will be a Financial Literacy requirement.
* E-learning is available through PRISM ([PRISM](https://ontario.prismsis.com/)), which allows students to sign up for any school board’s courses.
* The grade 12 Prom will be on June 12th and graduation will be on June 25th.
* Students can get a parking pass from Mr. Arseneault. They must have their license and insurance with them.
* Parking lot flow has seemed a bit better this year, but still could improve. A letter from the Board on this topic will be sent out via School Messenger.

Kathy McMullin

* St. Edmund Campion continues to be an urban priority school. That means they receive funding for one and a half extra child and youth workers and one extra social worker. Normally schools have one of each.
* The school is looking into how to increase the voice of students.
* The school is also striving to provide students with less home support greater access to post-secondary opportunities.
* Support is being given to staff on how to work with students with learning disabilities.
* The overall goal is increased student achievement and engagement.
* The week of September 23rd to 27th is National Truth and Reconciliation Week. And September 30th is Orange Shirt Day. Morning announcements will have a focus on this topic.
* Teachers have been given information to assist with answering questions, including videos and other material.
* Since the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation (September 30th) falls on a Saturday, Friday September 29th will be Orange Shirt Day. Students will receive a pen or lanyard provided by Board-affiliated Indigenous communities.
* The Land Acknowledgement will be discussed during staff meetings on the next Professional Activity Day.
* Because newer subdevelopments in the school’s catchment area now have sidewalks completed, the number of schools that Student Transportation of Peel Region (STOPR) is making available to St. Edmund Campion have been cut back from 10 to 5.
* STOPR guidelines are that students may take a bus if they live 3.9 km or more from the school.

9. Next meeting

* Future Council meetings are scheduled for the following dates:
* Monday, November 18th, 2024 and Monday, February 24th, 2025. Another meeting will take place in Math with a guest speaker (tentative).

10. Closing

* The meeting concluded at 8:20 PM, moved by Mr. Koka and seconded by Mr. Birnie.