

Minutes of the April 7, 2022
Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) Meeting

via Zoom
Thursday, April 7, 2022
165A D'Youville Street
Time: 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

In attendance: Julie O'Hearn - St. Charles Elementary
Kristin Hall – St. Francis
Natasha Folino – Principal, St. Francis
Amanda Demore – St. Charles Elementary (Vice-Chair)
Kelly Baird – St. Anne
Shannon Gouchie – St. Charles College and Holy Trinity
Tina Timpano – Principal, Holy Trinity
Maureen O'Hare-Nebre – Marymount Academy
Paola Stefanuto – St. Benedict (Chair)
Laura Kuzenko – Principal, St. Benedict Catholic Secondary School

SCDSB: Michael Bellmore – Chair of the Board
Joanne Bénard – Director of Education
Rossella Bagnato – Superintendent of School Effectiveness
Joel Agowissa – Indigenous Support Worker

1. Prayer and welcome

Participants were welcomed to the meeting. R. Bagnato led the Committee in the land acknowledgement and P. Stefanuto followed with a prayer.

2. School Board Update

M. Bellmore (Board Chair) provided a Board update which included the following:

M. Bellmore thanked the members of PIC for their tremendous support and hard work as we all work through the constraints of the pandemic. He indicated how he and the Board of Trustees are extremely grateful for our parents/guardians, our students and our staff.

a. High efficiency Air Filter Initiative

In addition to upgraded mechanical ventilation systems, and other strategies including running our ventilation systems 2 hours before school and 2 hours after school, by the end of April all classrooms in our system will have standalone HEPA filter units in them.

b. A Budget update was provided

Key dates:

- Budget Procedures Manual detailing process completed and posted online (Feb 2022)
- Consultation (March and April) to identify priorities
- Estimates prepared by departments (April)
- Budget presentations and discussion of priorities with trustees (May)
- Budget prepared and shared with Audit Committee (May)
- Board approval (June)
- Submission to the Ministry (June)

22-23Funding (GSN) Highlights:

Vision: Leaders in Learning and Faith.

Mission: To realize each student's potential within our inclusive Catholic learning community by nurturing and developing their mind, body and spirit.

COVID-19 Learning Recovery Fund

It is to be used to temporarily support the hiring of additional staffing to address the following: learning recovery and the implementation of the first year of fully de-streamed Grade 9; the delivery of remote learning; supports for special education; and maintaining enhanced cleaning standards.

Student Mental Health Investment

The funding will continue to support student mental health for school or school-based mental health staffing, programs, and initiatives.

Local Special Education Priorities

This allocation may be used to address local priorities such as retraining of additional education, professional, and para-professional staff and the implementation of evidence-based programs and interventions.

Parent Reaching Out Grant

Supports boards to work with their Parent Involvement Committees.

Well-Being and Mental Health Bundle

Funding to support the board in meeting local needs and priorities that promote and support well-being and inclusive education including strengthening positive school climates.

Broadband Network Operations

This funding is to help meet the increasing network demand for digital learning in the classroom and increased network capacity.

Summary of additional funding to support student learning announced to date

Name	Amount (\$)
De-streaming Implementation Supports	25,100
Early Intervention in Math for Students with Spec Ed Needs	110,400
Entrepreneurship Education Pilot Projects	10,000
Health Resources, Training and Supports	5,300
Keeping Students in School	51,000
Learn and Work Bursary Program	20,000
Math Strategy	189,500
Skilled Trades Bursary Program	11,000
Special Education Additional Qualifications Subsidy Educators	8,100
Summer Learning Special Education Supports	89,300
Tutoring Supports	538,100

c. Tutoring Program details:

The Ministry of education has provided boards with funding for this spring and next year to support tutoring programs in schools with a focus on literacy and numeracy. This will include:

- Tutors in the Classroom to hire university/college students or recently graduated students. They will work in the classroom under the direction of the teacher during the school day to support literacy and numeracy.
- After School tutors to hire our own teaching staff to provide after school tutoring with a focus on students' needs in literacy and numeracy.
- Summer school to support the offering of various summer school programs.

3. Presentation by Rossella Bagnato – Student Voice Matters – Collection of identity - based demographic data through a student census

Ms. Bagnato provided an overview of the census data collection process (please see attached slides).

4. Presentation by Joel Agowissa

J. Agowissa provided a powerful and very informative session that highlighted the history of Turtle Island and brought forward the Indigenous perspective through his teachings. The session provided a perspective on the impact of colonialism and helped us gain a deeper understanding of our shared history. In this White Buffalo Circle Joel also shared how the history of Turtle Island along with the story of the White Buffalo prophecy have influenced the work he is doing in our schools.

5. Parent Series Update

The sessions have been very well-done. To date the following sessions have been offered: Cyber Bullying & Internet safety; Transitioning to Secondary School; and A focus on Literacy.

Upcoming sessions include:

- A focus on Math – April 13
- Small consistent actions make a difference – May 03
- Mental Health and Well-Being – May 18

Materials from these sessions can be found on [Learning Support Hub for Students and Families](#)

6. Next Meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday May 12 from 6:00 to 7:30 at the CEC located at 165A D'Youville Street (a light supper will be provided). Our focus will be on sharing effective practices for parent and student engagement.