

Minutes of the June 9, 2022
Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) Meeting

Thursday, June 9, 2022
165A D'Youville Street
Time: 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

In attendance: Natasha Folino – Principal, St. Francis
Paola Stefanuto – St. Benedict (Chair)
Laura Kuzenko – Principal, St. Benedict Catholic Secondary School
Ellen Balfe – Bishop ACCSS
Susan Traverse-Wong – Immaculate Conception
Beverly Belanger – Vice-Principal, St. Charles College

SCDSB: Michael Bellmore – Chair of the Board
Joanne Bénard – Director of Education
Peter Prochilo – Superintendent of School Effectiveness

1. Land Acknowledgement

M. Bellmore shared the land acknowledgement.

2. Prayer and welcome

P. Stefanuto led the committee in prayer and welcome.

3. Board Update

M. Bellmore provided an update. The update included highlights of the system enhancements, summer capital projects and the 2022-2023 budget (please refer to the attached PowerPoint slides).

4. Attendance and Engagement Overview

P. Prochilo provided an overview on the Board's attendance and engagement strategy (please refer to the attached PowerPoint slides).

5. Engaging in discussion

The participants engaged in a sharing opportunity focused on 3 questions.

- a) What is an accomplishment that your Catholic School Council is proud of from this past school year?

We are proud of:

- The St. Benedict school all girls tackle football team. Proud of the high level of parent engagement. The Catholic School Council came together to organize this very successful event. It was great to be back in the school helping.
- Bishop Alexander Carter is proud to re-introduce activities such as sports and to provide a "normal" array of opportunities. Great to be back, delivery of snack programs, transition activities and to be re-engaged.
- Immaculate Conception is proud to have sports programs return, graduation and other opportunities such as snack program.
- St. Francis is proud to be working on re-vamping the library area. They have been meeting regularly and planning together for this transformation.

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.

- St. Charles College is very proud of Cards Cruch Cancer, raising over 20 thousand during the event. They also had a wonderful event at Christmas where they supported 50 families.
- b) Looking forward to 2022-23, how can we increase parent engagement in our schools?
- Let's bring back the Carousel event for parents.
 - Invite parents into the school for an open house at the end of September. Due to Covid-19, many parents have not been in the school and do not know the staff. This meet and greet would be an excellent opportunity to enhance parent engagement.
 - Create a parent's corner on the website or in the school newsletter to share the Catholic Schools Council news and keep everyone informed. Also create a frequently asked questions section.
 - Create a buddy system for new parents coming to the school.
 - Promote the Catholic Parent Council at all events like kindergarten night, promotion events and assemblies.
 - Invite parents to liturgies.
- c) Looking forward to 2022-23, how can we re-engage our students in our schools?
- Return to sports and other activities during and after school.
 - Help our students with transitions.
 - Hold an open house BBQ to visit the school including visits to the classrooms.
 - Make sure all students connect with a caring adult. Do they have some they can reach out to?
 - Maximize school supports. Ensure both parents and students know what supports are available.
 - Provide students with leadership opportunities, such as student senate, mentorship programs, reading buddies, bus monitors, etc.
 - Promote outdoor education.

6. Reminders

A reminder about the Catholic School Council election process was provided (see PowerPoint attached).

7. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held in October 2022, following the election of Catholic School Council Chairs.