



MEETING MINUTES

Holy Cross School Council

March 26 @ 5:00 p.m. *Meeting called to order by* Angela Polischuk, Principal at pm

Attendance

Present – Angela Polischuk, Tina Timpano, Krista Orazi, Rose Scopazzi, Lindsay Melanson, Lina Reale, Katie Richardson, April Abbott, Mehan McMillan, Emily Cerilli, Paolo Nikodem, Mitch Gammon, Mia Gammon

Approval of Minutes

Approved – Paola, April

Welcome

Angela opened meeting with Land Acknowledgement and Prayer.

Territory Acknowledgment and Opening Prayer

Principal's Report

- Kindergarten Registration Night was a great success – received excellent feedback
- "How did you hear about us?" responses: social media, daycare, word of mouth
- Kindergarten Winter Fun Day for all surrounding daycares (Algonquin, Maple Tree at St. Ben's) was led by Grade 5 & 6 students
- Extracurricular activities: basketball, floor hockey, handball, choir, cooking challenge
- Brainstorming additional activities:
 - Open mic talent show (Grades 3–6)
 - Students sign up to showcase a talent
 - Schedule will be created based on sign-ups
 - Students can attend auditions during the lunch hour, even if not performing
- Field trips: Science North, Lake Laurentian Conservation Area, skiing
- Spirit North and other organizations visited the school for fun activities that foster critical thinking and teamwork
- Birdhouse building project (Grade 5)
- Miss Teen Ontario (from Marymount) gave an interactive advocacy session for Grades 3–6
- Black History Awareness Month activities
- Ash Wednesday celebration

- Water teaching session (Grades 1–2) by Indigenous Elders – will return to teach about the Medicine Wheel
- Church tours and sessions with Fr. Pat
- Stations of the Cross to be set up for Holy Week
- Easter celebration
- Upcoming Mental Health presentation for Grades 5 & 6 with Social Work and Mental Health & Addictions staff
- Play at Marymount: *Alice in Wonderland*
- Play at St. Ben's (all students invited)
- First week of May: **Pilgrims of Hope** theme
- Students will donate toiletries to Inner City Home as part of the pilgrimage
- EQAO for Grades 3 & 6
- Track and field event coming up for Grades 4–6
- Literacy Team (Lit Team):
 - Supporting SK, Grade 1, and Grade 2 teachers and students
 - Focused on guided teaching practices
 - Staff are actively using new literacy programming and resources
 - Ministry initiative teachers from the board are supporting guided instruction development

PIC Update

Carousel Event at St. Ben's – April 9th at 5:30 PM, including dinner

- Guest Speaker: Dr. Stephanie Price
- Attendees can choose two workshops
- Childcare will be provided (registration required)
- Focus is generally around mental health; a full list of workshops will be available on Edsby
- Presentation by the Diverse Student Union – exploring opportunities for partnership

Event/Activities

Updates/New:

- N/A

Book Fair Success / Financials:

- Over \$9000 (up \$1200 from last year) – scholastic dollars: \$7974 – can use for classroom materials / books etc.

2nd Book Fair – June 2025:

- June 9-13
- When you book 2 or more, you get 20% back on rewards/school purchases
- Will need volunteers to setup, likely June 6

Fun Fair / Committee:

- Potentially same week of 2nd Book Fair - June 12th (Thursday) 5-7:30pm
- June 6th is the PA day
- Will form a subcommittee: Lindsey volunteered to chair - a few volunteers from the council already interested, however a call for volunteers will be sent out closer to the date
- Meghan will look for student volunteers

Family Dance Review:

- Snacks/pop/water, plates (snacks)\$203.89
- Dj: \$300
- Pizza \$462
- Plate \$52.63

- Net deficit: \$104

Other:

- Issues identified: Parking and only one in/out access point: Survey has been completed and the Board is looking into options
 - Shade solutions for the back of the school
-
-

Next Meetings/In Closing

Next meeting: Will reconvene September or October 2025

Adjournment: meeting ended at 6:10p.m.