



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**MINUTES OF THE
SAINT PAUL HIGH SCHOOL CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING**

**Tuesday, May 9th, 2023.
Saint Paul School Library**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Saint Paul High School Catholic School Council, held on May 9th, 2023 at 6:00pm.

The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm by Chair Mary Carlesso.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Land Acknowledgement and opening prayer was led by Lou Stranges.

2. Roll Call

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP		Present	Excused	Absent
Principal/Vice-Principal	Lou Stranges- Principal	O		
Chair – Secretary	Mary Carlesso*	O		
Teacher Representative	Mauro Angrilli		E	
Student Representative	Stefan Candeloro	O		
Parish Representative	Lynne Orr	O		
OAPCE and NCPIC Representative	Alexandria Attree*	O		
PARENT/GUARDIAN MEMBERS				
Erin Clark		O		
Lisa Caruso		O		
Frank Caruso		O		
Sonia Craig			E	
Jose Evangelista		O		
Amanda Leon			E	
Robyn Pearson		O		
Kelly Catalfamo				A
Diana Scott		O		
Julie Bateman		O		

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Alex A. and Seconded by Lisa C.

THAT the SPHS Catholic School Council approve the Agenda of the SPHS Catholic School Council Meeting of May 9th, 2023.

CARRIED

4. **Approval of Minutes of the Saint Paul High School Catholic School Council Meeting of January 24th, 2023.**

Moved by Erin C. and seconded by Julie B.

THAT SPHS Catholic School Council approve the Minutes of the SPHS Catholic School Council Meeting of January 24th, 2023 as presented. Approved meeting minutes will be posted on the spchs.ca website.

CARRIED

B. REPORTS;

1)- Chair Report – Mary Carlesso

Saint Paul Catholic School Council is to help support a communication link between church, home and school. My role as Chair will be to keep you informed primarily on the Board Policies allowing you to actively participate in making recommendations.

NCDSB website, under the title “BOARD” – Governance Policies, By Laws, Administrative Operational Procedures, Protocols and Procedures = is where we find the Governance Policy Vetting.

I will forward the emails with the information as they become available.

- Employee Workplace Harassment
- Employee Workplace Violence
- Occupational Health and Safety

All feedback due by 12:00noon on May 24th, 2023 to Anna Pisano.

A huge thank you to all the parents who have committed their time and participation in attending the CSC meetings during the past school year. Greatly appreciate the dedication and support. Thank you.

2)- Student Report – Stefan Candeloro

- Student Council major fundraiser selling popcorn was a great success!
- Semi formal
- Food truck days are coming (no cafeteria services on those days)
- Beachwood Donut Day
- NC leadership symposium
- Shifting existing Student Council to the new council for 2023-2024
- New Patriot Perks raffle early June
- Preparations for Senior Prom

3)-NCPIC and SEAC Report – Alex Attree

-NCPIC :

- Faith Formation Group, Alex is Co-chair.
- Internet safety for older students
- Decodable books for Math – applicable to juniors only
- Fr. Tony presentation – very enthusiastic, spiritual, and charismatic.

- Last Thursday meeting is May 11th.

-SEAC:

- There are 2 student senates on SAEC and 1
- Meet monthly and the government is going to lessen commitment.

OAPCE: Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education – The website is filled with lots of awesome information for parents strengthening their relationship with our faith.

4) - Parish Report- Lynne Orr

Our Lady of the Scapular Parish invites staff, parents and students to participate in the life of the parish. Strengthen your relationship with Jesus. Go frequently to the sacraments, especially Reconciliation (confession) and Eucharist (at Mass). **Weekly e-bulletin :**

<https://www.ourladyofthescapular.net/bulletin-news>

Important Announcement from Father Michael

As you likely know, Manon Bilodeau our Pastoral Assistant is no longer on the staff at Our Lady of the Scapular Parish. For budgetary reasons, I will not be hiring someone to replace her. This means the work she was doing will be done by the remaining staff, Fr. Corso and myself. The increased workload on Fr. Corso and myself will require us to free up more time during the week, which will mean changes in how things are done at the parish. The changes I am proposing are as follows: 1) move the Tuesday and Thursday evening Masses to the morning to make room for evening activities and appointments; 2) Confessions will only be celebrated on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:00 PM and Saturday mornings from 9:30-10:30 AM; 3) Baptisms will only be celebrated on Sunday afternoons at 12:30 PM.

Before any final decision is made about these changes, I want to give parishioners a chance to provide feedback on them. Please contact me in person, by phone or e-mail to let me know what you think of them. I realize some people may find them distressing but it is necessary for us to be realistic about the fact our parish has limited resources (people, time and money) yet increasing demands. Any changes will take effect on June 5.

Fr. Michael Basque

From “The Lion's Den” by Fr. Daniel Corso - Jesus the Bridegroom

My dear family in Christ,

This Sunday, Jesus speaks to us in a Gospel that we typically might hear at a funeral. But have you ever heard it at a wedding? . . . As was the wedding custom, the groom busied himself by preparing living accommodations in his father's house, which would in turn be used by his bride. When the work was done, at the end of the period of separation, the groom would come to take the bride to live with him. So what's the point? God really does love you. Like a Father loves His child, like a Bridegroom loves his bride, God loves you. When our hearts become troubled, when He feels far away, when all this seems difficult to believe, remember His words. He has gone to prepare a place for us. May this Truth always comforts our troubled hearts. May God's love prompt us to return His love by attending Mass every Sunday and praying to Him every day.

God love you,

Father Daniel

Adoration

As always, Jesus is present for you to visit and spend time within the Scapular Adoration chapel.

Male and female He created them. (Gen 1:27)

What is a woman? What is a man? Are you confused or curious about gender theory, transgenderism? Are these theories in conformity with the Catholic faith? How does it relate to marriage and family life? Join Fathers Ben Weber and Stuart MacDonald for a six-week catechetical session beginning,

Wednesday, May 24, 7 -- 8:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria Hall, 3 Lyman St, St. Catharines. For more information, please call Fr Ben at 905-684-3964 or Fr. Stuart at 905-382-3826.

5) Staff Report – M. Angrilli

Sports:

The Spring sports season is up and running. Highlights include:

- April 30th first official competition for Saint Paul in St. Catharines at Henley Island, called At the Early Bird regatta, each member of the rowing team participated in one race and all athletes finished in the top 3; upcoming competitions include Mother's Day Regatta at Henley on May 14, Canadian Secondary Championships at Henley June 2-4th.
- Stefan Candeloro made it all the way to the SOSSA final in boys' badminton – a great showing!
- Other spring sports' regular seasons are coming to a close and playoffs will begin soon.
- Schedules and results can be found on the board's N.C.A.A. website (<http://www.ncaa.ca/>).

Co-curriculars:

- In late March, the Key held a bake sale; close to \$700 was raised for Autism Ontario.
- SP Cheerleaders won OFSAA at the end of March; the competition was held at Notre Dame College School in Welland.
- Ms. Deluca's Civics class organized a school-wide Easter Food Drive for Project Share raising 500lbs of food and toiletries. Mayor Jim Diodati, MPP Wayne Gates and MP Tony Baldinelli all came in to the school to congratulate the students and recognize their efforts.
- Vocal Ensemble performed beautifully at the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre on Music Monday (May 1st) receiving an excellent and superior adjudication. Music Monday is celebrated each year to honour the importance of music education in our schools. The ensemble performed for their peers from 5 other NCDSB high schools while being adjudicated by a professional vocalist.
- On Tuesday, May 16, the SP Concert Band will be competing at MusicFest Canada - a national competition held this year at the Niagara Falls Convention Center. SP were invited after receiving a high silver standing at a regional competition a few years ago. ST performs at 12:30 on Stage A. More info can be found at <https://musicfest.ca/festival/calendar/>
- The Vocal Ensemble and Concert Band will also be performing at the Music Festival Canada's Wonderland on May 25.
- Julia Dargacz won silver at the Niagara Regional Science and Engineering Fair (NRSEF) and was chosen to be part of team Niagara for the Canada-wide science fair in Edmonton which is next week. Mrs. Booth was chosen as the team delegate and will be accompanying the team.
- SPTV is back! Our Tech. Department is reviving the program. The new pilot is already posted on Instagram & Facebook. The program will be appearing every Monday morning for the next 6 weeks. Over this time, tweaks/bugs will be worked out so that the program is ready to go full force for the next school year.
- SP has hosted our feeder schools in a number of sports events including boys and girls soccer, flag football, basketball and primary play day.

Spec. Ed:

- As Semester 2 rolls on, the students of the Spec. Ed. Room continue to do amazing things in their classes. A special congratulation goes out to the Spec. Ed. students in our culinary class that have successfully created several meals and dishes (including tacos, hamburgers, nacho, eggs, etc.).
- As a result of SP's very successful Spec. Ed. Event held on April 18, it appears that our sister schools will resume hosting social events for NCDSB's secondary school Spec. Ed. Classes (as we did before Covid put a temporary halt on the events). On June 9, SP will be attending a basketball social at Notre Dame. The students are looking forward to the event!!

- As well, Mr. Keighan's Leadership Class will be planning and moderating a "fun day/paly day" for our Spec. Ed class – to be held in June.

6) Principal Report – L. Stranges

We are now officially on the downward slope to the end of the school year. Parents and students have access to Midterm Reports through the Maplewood Parent Portal starting on April 26, 2023. Parents can request hard copies of Reports by calling the main office of the school. The June Final Exam schedule is being finalized and will be distributed to families at the end of May. Families are encouraged to plan vacations after the formal exam period.

Students have made their course selections for the 2023-24 school year. Our student services department will be busy creating student schedules over the next several weeks. Summer school course options have been available and are now closed for registration. The Niagara Falls site will be at Saint Michael. Saint Paul will continue to be under construction during the summer months.

Speaking about construction, our renovation project is well under way and on schedule complete at the end of August. Our Special Education classroom has temporarily moved to our Fitness room and demolition has already started in the Special Education Room. The expected time of completion for both the music room and resource room is the end of May.

During the Easter season, the student body donated hundreds of pounds of non-perishable food items. This year's project was spearheaded by Ms. DeLuca's Gr. 10 History class. The class was responsible for initiating the project with Project Share, promotions and community outreach. All food items were picked up by Project Share on April 14th.

On April 18th – Saint Paul was host to "A Time to Shine" Formal for Special Education Classes of Niagara Catholic. Students and staff from all 8 Catholic Secondary Schools were represented along with members of Senior Administration, trustees and local politicians. A great time was had by all. This event was put on by STP Students Mackenzie Agretto and Charlotte Johnstone with the support of our Special Education Teacher Mrs. Pacilli.

Catholic Education Week started on April 30th and ended on May 5th. Again, this year, the board is connecting Mental Health Awareness Week with CEW. We had Saint Paul representation at the Culture of Life Conference on Tuesday May 2nd. The students were exposed to a presentation by Father Tony Ricard as well as participating in interactive activities. On Wednesday, May 3rd – Father Daniel led us in a school wide Mass to celebrate our theme of "We are Many, we are one". A group of our Gr. 11 students visited the sites and sounds of NYC during Catholic Education Week. The students had a chance to visit the 911 Memorial, Central Park, Radio City Music Hall. The highlight was Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral on the Thursday night.

On May 2nd, Niagara Catholic held its "Celebrating Excellence" Awards at Brock University. This year's recipient of the Saint Paul Catch the Spirit Award is graduating student Mackenzie Agretto. Throughout her 4 years at STP, Mackenzie has been an advocate for all students, but especially for students with special needs. She has spearheaded many fundraising and awareness events that have certainly made a difference in the lives of others. In addition, our very own Mr. Colin McLeod received a staff Inspiration Award on May 2nd. Mr. McLeod will be retiring at the end of June and he has certainly inspired many staff and students over his 36 years of teaching.

Graduation Activities are well under way capped off by our Graduation Ceremony on June 27th @ the Niagara Falls Convention Center. Our Graduation retreat will be at Heartland Forest on May 17th...the Grads will be participating in many interactive activities as well as a keynote address by Unstoppable Tracy. Our Grad Mass and Luncheon will be held on June 7th.

The renovation of the Special Education, Music and Resource Rooms are well under way! The special education class has now relocated to the Fitness room. Our staff and students have been very accommodating and patient during constructions. Estimated completion timelines are still on schedule.

C. OPEN DISCUSSION – Other items from Principal;

- Cafeteria update, full services have been contracted out for new school year 2023-2024. Monday to Friday from 7am – 1:30pm, nutrition policy to be followed and reasonable pricing for students.
- Saint Paul has 10 food truck days per school year, however after June 2023 the new contract with full-service cafeteria may affect this.
- Starting May 10th, the quarter 7” zipper hoodie for grades 9, 10, 11 and grad 12, can be pre-ordered at Maddalena as a new item for the fall.

Additional Items:

- **Presented By Jose E. SAVE THE DATE PLEASE**

May is the month of Our Blessed Virgin Mary and in honour of her, we have Our Lady of the Scapular “Flowers of may Procession” (Flores De Maio) on Tuesday May 30, 2023 at 5:45pm.

We have been doing this procession annually since 2011. We would like to promote this event to all parishioners to all our church ministries and to all our parish schools for our children to attend and participate. We will invite other parishes to join us too. We will ask the Knights of Columbus Honour Guards to escort Mother Mary in the procession.

The plan is to start the procession in front of Our Lady of Scapular Church, at 5:45pm, so that we have enough time to attend the 7:00pm Mass. We will be processing around the church grounds, stopping at each designated spot and pray a mystery lead by one of our church ministry and/or schools.

It is organized by the Legion of Mary with the support of other church ministries and our schools with the permission and blessings from our priests Fr. Michael Basque and Fr. Daniel Corso.

If you could also please invite family and friends to join us and participate. Your help is much appreciated.

Mother Mary needs our prayers for Peace, Joy and Love to Prosper. All these by the power of the Holy Spirit and in Jesus Name we Pray, AMEN.

Question Period:

Robyn : Q: How many students are graduating?

Lou S.: A: There are 140 eligible students, graduation ceremony taking place on June 27th.

Lynne O. Q: Summer school is at St. Mikes?

Lou S.: A: Yes, for the Phys ed. Only, all others are online eLearning.

Alex A. Q: How does that work, for example the career and civics course?

Lou S. A: Asynchronous learning, teacher sets up an hour and then student is to complete based on email, more flexible for students that are working summer jobs.

Diana S: How are marks done? Hearing in the media that marks are inflated due to covid, what is happening at our school?

Lou S.: Not heard anything at this level of education. Teachers are bringing back to level for post-secondary preparation. Saint Paul’s data over last 10 years are good, Lou signs off on all marks and does not find them inflated. Teachers provide real and fair assessment at this school.

Jose E. Q: Do we still look for guest speakers for parents?

Lou S. A: Yes we do, had 2 or 3 this year, but have to be selective as they are expensive and there is a process to be followed.

Jose E. Q: What about a chastity speaker or sex education speaker?

Lou S. A: This is part of the Phys Ed program in grade 9. Does not know of one for this topic but always open to a guest speaker suggestion.

Alex A. (added example)- Faith Formation speakers, the lowest was around \$6,000., had to cover accommodation, travel, and food, it is very expensive.

D. NEXT MEETING DATE;

- September 2023 - Saint Paul School Library.

E. Closing Prayer

The closing prayer was led by Mary Carlesso.

F. ADJOURNMENT

That the May 9th, 2023, meeting of the SPSHS Catholic School Council be adjourned. Moved by Lisa C. and seconded by Mary C.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 6:56pm.