



Mother Teresa Junior High School

More Than Just a High School

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Governing Board

Meeting Held in the School Library

February 10th, 2015 @ 6:30

Present: Parents; Mary Cataldo (chair), Johanne Dion, Chantal Pelletier (co-chair) and Orazio De Rosa, Frank Tennerillo

Teachers; Richard Pellino, Irene Politis, Natalie Potier, Angelo Virone, Lia Maggiorino

Support Staff; **Professional;** Domenic Di Stefano

Student Representative: Michael Capuano

Absent: Robert Bomba (PC Rep.), Valerio Gazzola

Principal: Dena Chronopoulos

Vice-Principal:

Community Member: Natasha Lupin (parent)

1. **Call to order & verification of quorum:** The meeting was called to order at 6:40 Mary Cataldo, Chair

2. **Addition to agenda-** 9a) CPR course

3. **Acceptance and adoption of agenda**

Motion No. 126 moved by Johanne Dion and by Natalie Potier

All in favor

4. **Approval of Minutes- December 8th , 2014**

Motion No. 127 moved by Johanne Dion and seconded by Natalie Potier

Motion passed

2 Absentions

5. **Reports:**

5.1 Chairperson's Report: Mary Cataldo

Attended the SWL Foundation Gala in January, it was a wonderful evening and well organized. Jennifer Maccarone, Chair, addressed the guests and gave an impactful speech. Everyone enjoyed the evening.

5.2 Principal's Report:

Policies/Programs

Lockdown Practice-February 16th, 2015:

Our practice lockdown with students will occur on Monday February 16th, at 9:10am. We will be sending home a letter to inform our parent community and we will also be informing our students next week through class.

The purpose of this practice is to familiarize our students with emergency safety procedures should we find ourselves in lockdown situation. This practice is in follow up to our staff practice lockdown in January. Teacher

Black History Month- Music With Meaning:

To recognize and celebrate cultural diversity within our school, we have invited the musical troupe **Music with Meaning** back to our school to emphasize the history, achievements and celebration of visible minorities in our society who have generated change through action, lecture, music and dance. The date scheduled for this presentation is February 26th for all students.

ART Grant through Culture a L'Ecole

Ms. Catherine Aznar has submitted a grant to beautify our school through the many artistic talents of our students for the upcoming school year. The request is upwards \$10,000. If accepted, Ms. Aznar plans on organizing many art projects ranging from murals, paintings, designs to be on display throughout the school. We should be receiving confirmation shortly.

Pedagogy:

Programs for 2015-2016

We have organized an array of in-school workshops for February 13th (pedagogical day) to discuss the alignment of programs within both Junior Schools, as well as to begin having the discussion of transitioning programs into the Senior School with the input from teachers in the Senior School. The purpose of these sessions is to not only build on our programs for next year but to also continue to encourage dialogue between schools and buildings so that our students are better prepared and supported for the upcoming school year.

Students with special needs and at-risk support: Advanced 5, Chromebooks, Word Q

Our students will be receiving training with the new Chromebooks we have purchased and we recently received. Training will also be extended to our students who have an IEP and need training assistance with the programs installed in their computers. The ESD team from the

school board has been working closely with our school to make sure that the support systems already in place, are being used optimally with each student who uses assistive technology.

Mother Teresa Junior HS is still working closely with applying the Advanced 5 program within our Focus classes, so that our school in Laval will be the Pilot school to showcase our work to other schools within our board and with other school boards as well.

Term 2 Report Cards and Parent-Teacher Interviews:

Term 2 ends on February 11th and students will be receiving their report cards on February 26th. Their evaluations for this term count for 20% of their school year final mark. We have organized a second opportunity to meet with our staff on February 26th, between 6:00pm and 9:00pm that evening. To offer a better opportunity to review portfolios in department classrooms, we will be setting up two locales to meet with teachers and staff. Once again, most teachers will be in the cafeteria, and some teachers will be located in their respective classrooms.

Athletics:

Girls Volleyball League-Update:

Our girls have done tremendously well this year, and have shown leadership and athletic skills throughout the season. They have come to the end of their season and both Mr. Giannias and Mr. Ricci along with everyone at our school are extremely proud of what they accomplished this year. We plan on continuing to support our girls in getting involved in many more sports teams this year and in the years to come.

SWLSB Futsal House League Tournament-February 27th:

We will be hosting the next SWLSB Futsal Soccer Tournament at our school on February 9th. This initiative involves many elementary schools from the school board who get together to play friendly house-league games with their peers from other schools. Mr. Giannias has been heading this initiative and is very proud to say that it has once again, been a tremendous success.

Grade 6 Inter-board Soccer Tournament hosted by Leadership and ALP:

Mr. Gazzola and his team of ALP and Leadership students have been working hard over the past few months to organize our upcoming inter-board grade 6 soccer tournaments to be held on February 27th, all day. Seven elementary schools from our school board and, new this year, several schools from our sister board, Commission Scolaire de Laval, have registered for this yearly event. It is the first year that we have opened the doors to our colleagues from the French sector and we are looking forward to a friendly competition of Futsal, with many competitions, medals and a much fun.

Green Cafeteria Initiative:

Green initiative for the Caf (similar to Centropolis eating area) Reusable plates, cutlery. Dishwashing center (Fundraiser needed?) Possible compost and recycling separation center (TBD)

Hiring of students WOTP? Outside contractor? To monitor the central cleaning/composting station (?) student volunteers/ parents volunteers? Teacher volunteers? Organize schedule.

Begun discussions with Christian from food services downstairs , replacing equipment and costs associated.

Involve students in operations/will help develop better understanding of waste, being responsible for utensils, etc.

Can be a pilot project (start in the Junior School) to then bring to the entire board. Eventual cost savings will be realized.

Quebec Gov will have environmental funds available for these initiatives (parent/ teachers involvement required to help realize this initiative) .

5.3 PPO: Johanne Dion, chairperson

Breakfast for teacher appreciation is tomorrow, coffee cart and sweet table. 3 bags of coats have been collected for coat drive. Fundraiser donation of wine, make baskets of 12/15 bottles and raffle off perhaps around Easter. Ms. Chronopoulos will speak to Johanne share more information. The fundraiser can go towards the end of year party, to be discussed. Hot chocolate donated sale will be another fundraiser. Dance this Thursday, announcements are made every day for the students. Hoping for a good turnout. Comedy night on schedule, March 20th, \$35.00, advertising next week.

5.4 CPC Delegate Report-Robert Bomba- report included in package

5.5 Student Representative-Michael Capuano:

- Carnival: Taffy on a stick kids really liked this, tshirt contests, basketball and soccer games, open games room for kids during the day, movie in the auditorium
Skiing and tubing.... The students who participated had a fantastic time in spite of the cold
- The Chilling Lounge.....always packed
- The after school tutorial organized by resource for kids who are struggling with exam preparation
- Open house..... great experience for all ambassadors and students who volunteered
PPO staff appreciation week-prepared a delicious week showing their appreciation
- A presentation from the Senior School will be visiting our students on Wednesday and Thursday to showcase the different programs being offered next year.

6. Business arising from minutes:

6.1 Lockdown practice with students

Lockdown practice is scheduled for Monday start at 9:15, time frame of lockdown no more 20 minutes. Follow-up to the January lockdown.

6.2 School Fees- update

Collection of school fees is going very well, 30 delinquent accounts remain unpaid. A follow up letter will be sent end of month. Everyone is working hard to collect fees on behalf of school.

7. New business

7.1 Field trips/Fundraising

- Monday Feb. 23rd, Fundraiser Carlos N Pepe: Brigade Culinaires
Students take part in preparing and serving food during lunch time and dinner time in a restaurant. Followed by a fundraiser from 6:30 to 8:30 P.M. MTJHS & LJHS communities are invited to participate in the fundraiser dinner to benefit of the Brigades Culinaires. The profits will pay for the Brigades activities. \$20.00 (tax & tip included) would cover the meal and part of it would help raise money.
- ALP outing February 17th, Parc National de la Mauricie for the day. Departure 8 A.M and return around 4:00
- We Day- Tuesday, March 24th, 2015, Time 9:15 A.M – 2:00 P. M. 11 to 12 students will be attending. Traveling by school bus.
- Secondary 2 classes of French-Regular and Creative Minds group of MTJHS will be visiting Quebec City. Tour provider OMNITOUR, departure Thursday, March 26th, returning March 27th. The trip Cost \$225.00, includes accommodations, 1 breakfast, 2 lunches, 1 dinner, admissions to attractions and activities and applicable taxes.

Motion No. 128: for above fieldtrips and/or fundraisers. Johanne Dion motions, seconded by Natalie Potier. **All in Favor**

7.2 Informed local programs of study

Programs will be changing, received some feedback. Exam took place Feb. 7th, second exam on Feb 21st. Introduction of the Excellence Programs for the upcoming 2015/2016 required clarification for parents/ students. Measures are being put in place to address the concerns regarding the programs and provide additional information to help with the confusion regarding the programs. Immersion is still being offered. Ongoing discussions are still taking place regarding programs. Any new information will be brought back at our next meeting.

8. Correspondence-none

9. Question period-

a) CPR course

Why is the CPR St. John's Ambulance course not offered to all students in Secondary 2? While it is offered to the Leadership students. The reason is that it is part of the curriculum of the Leadership Program and the cost is covered by various fundraisers held throughout the year. However, if PPO is interested in looking into this and organizing the classes this would be an interesting initiative.

Johanne will look into the possibility of offering classes and come back to G.B. with information.

10. Date and time of next meeting : Monday, March 16th, 2015@ 6:30 in the Library

Adjournment @ 7:34 **Motion No. 129** moved by Nathalie Potier and seconded by Johanne Dion
All in favor

