

CSAC Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, November 8, 2022

In Attendance: Pat, Christina, Kim, Laurie, Kate

Welcome and Introductions – Pat, Christina, Laurie

Approval of Minutes – Laurie, Christina

Approval of Agenda – Laurie, Christina

Prayer – Pat

Treasurer's Report – No activity to report since the October meeting report.

Principal's Report

- **Umbrella Project:** Hosted an assembly which celebrated students from each class as selected by teachers, those that demonstrated the umbrella skill. For November, mindfulness is the new theme. Dr. Jen has recorded videos to support learning for this skill.
- **Live Announcements:** This tradition has continued for the 2022-23 school year of student recorded prayers and territorial land acknowledgments. Students appear to enjoy this.
- **Anti-Bullying Week:** Also known as Friendship Week. There will be a guest speaker, Sara Westbrook of UPower who will engage the students during two-45-minute presentations directed to two cohorts based on grades. The cost of the speaker will be shared with St. Dominic school and is estimated at \$450. She has presented to other schools within the board with positive feedback.
- **CUPE:** Excited to have Educational Support staff back at St. Isidore.
- **Pastoral:** There will be a Remembrance Day celebration on Friday at 10:30 a.m. Parents are welcome to join.
- **Mount Mary:** Planning for a one-day virtual retreat is underway for the grade 8 students.
- **School Improvement Plan:** The staff group is meeting for a deep dive into curriculum gaps supported by their numeracy consultants. The math curriculum was from 2005 and updated in 2021.
- **Trauma Informed Approach to Schools:** There are five core strategies to the trauma informed approach to create a supportive culture for students. The five strategies include:
 - Establishing connection, predictability, flexibility, delighting in students and co-regulation.
- **School Mental Health Ontario:** Opportunity to apply to participate in group offering input on student mental health in Ontario. Information on the group was shared via newswire and the deadline to apply was November 6, 2022. More details can be found at this website: [New opportunity for parents and caregivers to have input on student mental health in Ontario - School Mental Health Ontario \(smho-smso.ca\)](https://www.smho-smso.ca)
- The engagement offered an opportunity for caregivers to:

- Learn and share ways to engage in the school community to strengthen student mental health
- Contribute to the development of wellness-promoting activities for children and youth
- Increase knowledge about mental health and signs of mental health problems
- Learn about mental health supports and services available for children
- Develop and share identity-affirming ways to support wellness.

Christmas Angel Tree

- St. Isadore will collect cash (and toy) donations to be directed to the Waterloo Knights of Columbus Christmas Angel Tree, 25th anniversary. The school campaign will run from November 21 – December 7th with the possibility of an extension. St. Isadore families who wish to make a contribution, are encouraged to do so early and to consider cash donations which the Knights of Columbus can direct to gap areas (often pre-teen and adolescent children) though toy donations are also welcome.

2022/23 St. Isidore Events and Fundraiser Discussion

- Fundraiser discussions for this year: Discussion related to what was seen as successful in the previous year. Students appeared to enjoy a rotation of activities and movement to different teachers. Discussion that classrooms could be “mixed” or children could sign up for specific activities. February/early spring was seen as a realistic timeframe for this event. Funds raised could again be directed to experiential learning opportunities distributed with equity considerations. Examples could include a virtual class trip, guest speaker etc.

Future Meetings:

- December 6th
- February 7th
- April 4th
- June 6th

Questions:

- Door Decorating in December. Confirmed this is on the list for themed days in December.
- EQAO – St. Isidore did not participate in this last year so there are no results available for the school. Screening tools have not been available online. Pat will explore this further.

Adjournment - ~7:10pm