



# IONA Catholic Secondary School

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## Minutes of Iona Catholic Secondary School Council Meeting

Thursday, January 9, 2025, at 6:30 pm

Iona Learning Commons

In Attendance: Vita Emmanuel (Chair), Oswald Emmanuel, Kirsten Madsen, Lois Keating, Connie Kim, Niamh Ryan, Viviane Bomfim, Michelle Scott, Courtney Sousa, Erica Gualtieri, Joe Costa, Laura Di Gennaro (VP), Carl Cini (P).

Regrets: Nelia Toste (Teacher Rep),

1. Grade 10 Courses Selection for Grade 9s Presentation by Guidance
  2. Opening Prayer, Land Acknowledgement
  3. Welcome and Introductions
  4. Review and Approval of Meeting Agenda – O. Emmanuel, V. Emmanuel
  5. Review and Approval of Minutes from September 26, 2024, meeting – N. Ryan, L. Keating
  6. Chairs Report
    - Central Committee for Catholic School Council Chairs Executive meeting minutes provide information to local School councils. Minutes can be found at <https://www3.dpcdsb.org/parents/getting-involved/cccsc/cccsc-meetings>
  7. Treasurer's Report
    - Current balance – 935.73
  8. Teacher Report
- Chaplaincy:**
- Virtue of the month student nominations; winners receive a chaplaincy t-shirt

### Athletics:

- Boys varsity basketball
- Junior and senior girls volleyball
- Varsity co-ed swimming team

### Clubs:

- Student council ran various events the week before Christmas break ... door decorating, cookie decorating, pajama day, bake sale
- Wellness club is releasing their first Podcast on January 21
- Wellness club sharing exam/CPT strategies as part of their Wellness Wednesdays
- Winter dance held for RAISE program students

### Misc:

- Grad sweaters sold to raise money for COMPASS foodbank
- Dance show on Friday, January 11
- Drama program ran Anastasia before Christmas break
- Two snack and study sessions running before exams; January 16 and January 21
- Course selection is now open; students are encouraged to speak to their teachers and/or guidance for level recommendations. Closes February 17.

### 8. Principal's Report

- In case of Inclement Weather Iona is in Zone 1. If buses are cancelled, school will be open. Students can find work available on their class LMS for consolidation and review. Teachers will not be available as they will be supervising the students that did make it to school.
- If there is a school closure due to weather. Students will be able to access work available on LMS for consolidation and review. Teachers will make themselves as available as possible.
- Exam Period - Jan 22 to Jan 27 - 8:10 - 10:30
- Exam Contingency Day - Jan 28. If buses are cancelled during the exam period, the exams are cancelled for all students for that day and moved to the Exam Contingency Day.
- Bussing during exams - Busses will run on regular hours - students may leave after exams - bus students who remain will be in study hall in cafeteria
- Exam preparation is taking place in classes, students can access our presentations on website and there will be 2 Study & Snack sessions.
- Exam Moratorium - Jan 15 - no homework, evaluations requiring study at home, only co curriculars are to help with mental health and exam prep.
- Exam Review Day - January 29
- PD Day - January 30
- Semester 2 begins on January 31 - new classes, new teachers.
- University Apps due by January 15, 2024
- College Apps due by February 1, 2024
- Course Selection - All grades - through My Blueprint - Deadline is February 17 - Guidance available for assistance if needed.
- February is Black History Month - activities, assemblies, announcements, social media all month long - focus on celebrating black culture and accomplishments.
- Professional Activity Day - Feb 14
- Ash Wednesday - March 5 - Liturgy in cafeteria
- March Break - March 10 - 15

- Parent Interviews for Semester 2 – Tentatively March 27
- Currently registering Grade 8 students for Grade 9 – school visits, feeders in for Anastasia – keep talking us up in community
- Outcome of Instagram parent email on November 28. The iona.confessions account was taken down within hours of sending the email. Students had been bringing in reports and screen shots from the account. Attempts were made to shut down the account prior to involving all parents. Every attempt seemed to cause an escalation by the owner of the account. We then involved parents to get students to not engage with it. Council made aware that our success will be short lived as new accounts come up on various platforms at any time. Every school has these kinds of accounts.
- Parents shared how much their children enjoyed our Semi Formal event in November. Student Council did a great job organizing.
- Academic Awards for the 2023-2024 school year were distributed at a breakfast on November 28.
- Please follow us on Twitter @IonaCatholic, on Instagram @ionacatholicmississauga and on YouTube at Iona CSS

#### **Meeting Dates**

April 24, 2025 – includes Budget Consultation Information Webcast from the Board  
May 22, 2025

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting of the Iona Catholic Secondary Council was adjourned.