



IONA Catholic Secondary School

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Minutes of Iona Catholic Secondary School Council Meeting Thursday, September 26, 2024, at 7:00 pm Iona Learning Commons

In Attendance: Vita Emmanuel (Co-Chair), Oswald Emmanuel, Kirsten Madsen, Lois Keating, Patricia Kajda, Niamh Ryan, Viviane Bomfim, Nelia Toste (Teacher Rep), Laura Di Gennaro (VP), Carl Cini (P).

Regrets: Justyna Czerepak (Co-Chair), Nelen Visconti-Avila, Connie Kim

1. Opening Prayer, Land Acknowledgement
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Review and Approval of Meeting Agenda – O. Emmanuel, K. Madsen
4. Review and Approval of Minutes from May 23, 2024, meeting – V. Emmanuel, L. Keating
5. 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/ccsc/ccsc-meetings>
6. Treasurer's Report
 - Current balance – 435.73
 - Last year provided \$500 in graduation awards.
7. Teacher Report
 - **Chaplaincy:**
 - Opening School mass on October 8
 - Annual food drive until November 6; donations to Compass food bank
 - **Athletics:**
 - Boys varsity flag football; win yesterday
 - Girls varsity flag football; win yesterday
 - Boys' Junior and Senior volleyball
 - Girls' Junior basketball

- Cross country
 - Tennis
 - Golf
 - Varsity boys basketball - tryouts
 - Bocce (Planning for independence)
- **Clubs:**
 - Asia Club
 - Black Student Alliance
 - Spanish Club
 - Ukrainian Club
 - Horizons Book Club
 - Choir
 - Yearbook
 - Eco Club
 - Engineering and Design
 - Wellness
- **Misc:**
 - Terry Fox activities on October 3
 - Senior sunrise

8. Principal's Report

- Enrollment - 661 students. This increase in enrollment will allow us to add staff. We are feeling the pressure in Grade 9 classes so some will be split.
- New Year New staff - 7 new teachers
- Grade assemblies at the beginning of the year focused on building community and understanding the impact our words and actions have on others. School policies and procedures are based on ensuring that a safe, caring and inclusive environment is sustained. Reviewed the Policy Memorandum from the Ministry of Education including increasing communication with parents, Vaping, PED policy and Dress Code
- Courses are evaluated with 70% term work and 30% Final Evaluation made up of a combination of culminating tasks and exams. Students are encouraged to maximize their term work by handing assignments in on time, attending, asking for help, and keeping up with their class work.
- Attendance is the key to success. All student absences must be reported by parents. Parents should ask why their child may not want to come to school or if they are avoiding something when they do not want to come to school. Communication with the school will help us to support our students.
- Parents are reminded that when they pick up at the end of the school day, they should use the Kiss and Ride in west lot. Please do not pick up in the front of the school as it blocks the buses and causes congestion.
- Parents are encouraged to pay the Student Activity Fee of \$45 through School Cash Online. The fee allows us to provide activities and opportunities for all students.

- Yearbook sales are underway. Students can preorder this year's yearbook for \$40 until Thanksgiving. The price will increase after this date. Students who purchase their books will earn a Civvies Day on October 24.
- September 30 is the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Students are encouraged to wear orange shirts with their uniform pants. Our Black Student Alliance have organized an assembly with a guest speaker.
 - *Naokwegiizhik (Tim McGregor) is Anishinaabe from Whitefish River First Nation and will be sharing with students the importance of Truth and Reconciliation week. Tim will provide an overview of the history and the impacts of colonialism leading up to the creation of residential schools in Canada. He will also share how Indigenous Peoples are revitalizing and reclaiming their languages and cultures today. Through this resurgence, everyone is called to stand in solidarity, to speak up and out against the ongoing injustices, and to move forward with a renewed commitment to Truth and Reconciliation.*
- Progress Reports will be distributed the week of October 7. Students will receive an updated mark and parents of students at risk of not getting their credit will be notified.
- Parent Interviews are on Thursday, October 17 beginning with a Meet and Greet at 6:30 in the gym and with interviews to follow.
- Our Grade 8 Open House is on November 14. All grade 7-8 students in Mississauga are invited to attend as we have a regional program. We encourage parents and students to share their Iona experiences with their friends and family.
- Thank you for the support and participation of those who attended and participated in our Council last year. We appreciate your support.
- Please follow us on Twitter @IonaCatholic, on Instagram @ionacatholicmississauga and on YouTube at Iona CSS
- Upcoming Dates

Oct 3 Terry Fox Walk, Senior Sunrise
 Week of Oct 7 Progress Reports
 Oct 8 Opening Mass
 Oct 10 Grade 9 Retreat
 Oct 11 PA Day
 Oct 17 College Fair
 Oct 17 Parent Interviews
 Oct 21 Photo Retake
 Week of Oct 27 - Grad Photo Sign Up

Nov 4 OSSLT Practice test
 Nov 6 Take our Kids to Work - Gr 9
 Nov 7 Civics/Career change over
 Nov 13 OSSLT
 Nov 14 Mid Term Reports Sent Home
 Nov 14 Open House
 Nov 21 Semi Formal
 Nov 22 PA Day
 Week of Nov 25 Grad Photos

9. Election/Assignment of Positions

- Chair - Vithiya Emmanuel
- Treasurer - Oswald Emmanuel

The positions of Co/Vice Chair, Secretary, Parish Representative for St. Christopher, OAPCE Representative are still open. Please let us know if you would like to take on one of these positions.

Meeting Dates

November 28, 2024

January 9, 2025

April 10, 2025

May 22, 2025

Adjournment

The meeting of the Iona Catholic Secondary Council was adjourned.