



IONA Catholic Secondary School

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Minutes of Iona Catholic Secondary School Council Meeting

Wednesday, April 24, 2024, at 7:00 pm

Iona Learning Commons

In Attendance: Justyna Czerepak (Chair), Oswald Emmanuel, Kirsten Madsen, Lois Keating, Fabio Seabra, Marianna Seabra, Nelia Toste (Teacher Rep), Laura Di Gennaro (VP), Carl Cini (P).

Regrets: Nelen Visconti-Avila, Vita Emmanuel,

1. Opening Prayer
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. PUBLIC BUDGET INFORMATION WEBCAST from 6:30 – 7:30.
<https://www3.dpcdsb.org/news/news-archives/2024-2025-budget>
4. Review and Approval of Meeting Agenda
5. Review and Approval of Minutes from January 11, 2024 meeting
6. Chairs Report
 - Central Committee for Catholic School Council Chairs Meeting on March 7.
 - Board focuses on Math Attitudes. Data shows a lack of confidence in Math which has an impact on results.
 - 35 priority elementary schools provided with math facilitators. Some secondary schools are also designated as Math priority schools. Iona is not one of them.
 - Noticing the destreamed grade 9 math is contributing to a gap that is impacting grade 10 academic math results.
 - Parent Engagement event regarding vaping and marijuana use is being organized.
 - 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>
7. Treasurer's Report
 - Current balance – 935.73

8. Teacher Report

STUDENT COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

- Match-o-Matics for Valentine's Day
- Student trustee election was held; we had two students run from Iona.
- Pep rally to kick off Relay for Life (May 29)

ATHLETICS:

- Spring teams include varsity girls' soccer, junior and senior boys' soccer, badminton, baseball, girls' softball, ultimate frisbee, track and field, and cricket.

CLUBS:

- BSA activities for Black History Month included bake sales, morning reflections, fun fact Fridays, dance lessons and conferences held at other schools.
- Asia Club; joined with BSA in the month of February to run joint activities; henna after school, movie after school and dance lesson
- Engineering and Design club working on fixing our athletic wall display and set for Little Mermaid
- Eco Club hosted sweater day to raise awareness of the effects of climate change, lights out to raise awareness of the importance of energy conservation.
- Wellness club activities include after school volleyball tournament, Motivational Mondays on the morning announcements, snack and chats after school; pink shirt day for Anti-bullying.
- GREAT group ... Girls Respectfully Empowering and Achieving Together
- Chess club, yoga club,

CHAPLAINCY:

- Ash Wednesday and Holy Thursday liturgies
- Rosaries and rosary bracelet making for Dr. Simone to be sent to countries that he serves.
- Days of Service at Vita Centre - Charity that assists vulnerable families in Peel.
- Ordinandi Youth Event - Stories about discerning vocations
- Salesian Leadership Retreat - Building Catholic youth leadership.
- Fast/Break Event - 24-hour Lenten fast from food and replaced with Scripture, reflection, and prayer
- Canadian Food for Children/Dr. Simone's Food Drive
- Currently planning for Catholic Education Week

OTHER:

- Staff and students were treated to pancakes on Shrove Tuesday
- April 2 paid civvies day for World Autism Day
- Rock your Socks for Down Syndrome Day
- Some of our drama students took part in the National Theatre School, Drama Fest in March; wrote and performed piece on technology addiction.
- Coffee House on May 2
- Earth Week activities included yard clean up, movie in the cafeteria, and blue/green shirt day.

9. Principal's Report

- Midterm Report Cards were distributed electronically on April 22. Moving forward all report cards will be sent electronically to students' board email. Students encouraged to show their parents.
- Iona Drama Program is preparing to perform the Little Mermaid musical during the first week of June. 4 matinee shows for feeder schools, 4 evening shows for parents and friends. Collaboration with our music program providing live score, Visual Arts who are transforming our theatre to an undersea set and the engineering club who are building the sets.
- Foundations is being performed by the Iona Dance Program at Meadowvale Theatre on Monday, May 27. Tickets on sale through School Cash Online.
- May 5-10 is Catholic Education Week and Mental Health Awareness Week. Chaplaincy and Wellness preparing activities and events. See social media for further details.
- Our Technology Plan includes removing desktops from the library and making Chromebooks available for students to borrow. Considerations are being made to replace desktops in the classroom. Sustainability and affordability are major concerns.
- All students require 40 hours of Community Service to graduate. Encourage all students and parents to have them completed before grade 12. Community Service hours must be verified by a supervisor. Students who need support can meet with their guidance counselor.
- Impact of social media and cell phone use on child development and education discussed. Our Board is included in the lawsuit by school boards against social media companies.
- As we prepare for creating schedules for students for the 2024-2025 school year, parents are encouraged to pay the Students Activity Fee of \$45 through school cash online.
- Currently registering students for all grades – keep talking us up in community.
- Please follow us on Twitter @IonaCatholic, on Instagram @ionacatholicmississauga and on YouTube at Iona CSS

Meeting Dates

May 23, 2024

Adjournment

The meeting of the Iona Catholic Secondary Council was adjourned.