



ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Lighting the Way ~ Rejoicing in Our Journey

MINUTES

CATHOLIC FAITH ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, September 25, 2017 – 5:00 p.m.

Catholic Education Centre

- Chair: Laura Callaghan, Superintendent of Education
- Trustee: Brenda Rumble
- Present: Rob Cicchelli – Principal, St. Patrick Secondary School
Marcia Vermey – French Immersion Parent, UCC
Terri Sinasac – Vice Principal, St. Anne Catholic School, Blenheim
Michelle MacLean – French Immersion Parent, St. Anne Catholic School, Blenheim
Margaret Palmer – System Chaplaincy Leader
Mary Jo Cocarell – OECTA representative & Teacher, Sacred Heart, Sarnia
Joseph Palko – Chaplain, St. Patrick’s Catholic High School
Dino Petrucci – Teacher, St. Patrick’s Catholic High School
Joan Martell – SEA Technology Support Teacher
Fr. Ray Lawhead – Episcopal Vicar, Kent Deanery
Kim Gaiswinkler – Teacher & Faith Ambassador, St. Ursula Catholic School
Raymond Girard – Teacher, Ursuline College Chatham
Thomas Dula – Chaplain, Ursuline College Chatham
Rob Kardas- Guest to CFAC- Parent Rep for Symposium team
Fayth Kardas- Guest to CFAC –Student Rep for Symposium team
- Regrets: Luana Sfalcin – Principal, St. John Fisher Catholic School
Melissa Fernandes - OECTA Representative & Teacher, UCC, Chatham
- Recording Secretary: Kim Fitzmorris

1. Welcome & Opening Prayer

Laura Callaghan, chair of the meeting, called the regular CFAC meeting to order at 5:00 pm.
Introductions were made.
Renewing the Promise Pre-Symposium prayer opened our meeting

2. *Approval of Minutes*

Motion: *(Mary Jo Cocarell, Joan Martell)* **That the Minutes for the Catholic Faith Advisory Committee Meeting of Monday, April 24, 2017 be approved.**

3. *Approval of Agenda*

Motion: *(Joan Martell, Margaret Palmer)* **That the Agenda for the Catholic Faith Advisory Committee Meeting of Monday, September 25, 2017 be approved as presented.**

4. *Upcoming CFAC Meetings*

Dates for the year were shared. Members were invited to sign up for prayer for the following meetings. Thomas offered to be responsible for prayer for our next meeting- November 6.

5. *Lighting the Way Award*

Criteria and Nomination form reviewed.

Some things to change

- north/south division needs to be lessened
- include a point about nominating any member of our St. Clair family
- include a point about 2 awards - choose a member from each geographic location
- communication plan to include: school council, board meeting, various newsletters, Todd Lozon's usual venues, website, lobby, Principals/VPs, Faith Ambassadors, secretaries
- reminder around Christmas time to nominate in Newsletter from Director so it goes directly into everyone's email
- letters of support/references can be attached

6. *Consecration of St. Patrick to Chris the King (J.Palko)*

On November 26th, at 3:00 pm Feast of Christ the King, St. Patrick's will be consecrated to Christ the King at St. Patrick's School

Publicly celebrating that Jesus leads our school. Recommitting Faith theory of action: Mass, Rite of Consecration, Blessing of School

Consecration prayer for elementary students leading up?

7. *Symposium Results and Insights Discussion*

What are the important parts of our conversation that we want to preserve and take forward into the Symposium?

- Significant that there are so many Catholic groups coming together and we are united
- Challenges should be seen as a good thing because they are keeping us moving and asking questions - challenges are invitations - by coming together we are looking at the gifts/treasure of the schools and how we can make them even better

- Importance of having strong staff faith practice that can work with students to be faith leaders even if their peer group is not as engaged
- How do we continue to look for creative ways to engage our students, staff, families (whole community) in today's world?
- Follow teachers because they are witnesses of the faith; faith is caught not taught

What are some entrenched or fixed perspectives that we most need to recognize, understand or change?

How do we speak to our uniqueness, our ability to live our faith, without sensationalizing it? We need to be able to name it with confidence. We do these things because of our faith.

Big difference between our Catholic system is that it's about an environment, not a religion course- our student's faith is a part of every aspect of their life

Our school is part of the entire Catholic church- we work together within the Catholic Church

When it comes to a person's family of faith, sometimes the school is the Church.

When we talk about who we are and we do it with humility, we can discern who Publicly funded Catholic education- we are assuming this is the best model- are we in a better spot now that we are publicly funded?

What 1 or 2 possibilities for change might best support Catholic education moving forward?

We have to see the Catholic school system as a mission ground, having many people to inspire and be inspired by.

Mindset – doesn't have to be an either or- inclusivity or distinct/unique

We either have to be inclusive or we have to be distinct- it is not either or BUT AND- proclaiming our distinction/uniqueness- we are proclaiming Christ – Christ centered

One thing that didn't come out in this document- fewer priests/nuns

We should rally more clergy support to the school- provide opportunity to evangelize within the school- that's where the students are

Deacons within the schools is very positive

When asked what has to be changed, doesn't have to be a negative but rather embrace/improve upon what we already have

The Catholic Faith Advisory Committee Meeting of Monday, September 25, 2017 adjourned at 6:53 pm.

Deferred to November meeting

8. *CFAC Actions for 2017-2018 Year*

9. *Strategic Plan Update*

10. *Year of Life Update*

11. Good News Stories

12. Subcommittee Self-Evaluation and Reports

13. Closing Prayer: All; led by Margaret Palmer

14. Adjournment

The Catholic Faith Advisory Committee Meeting of Monday, September 25, 2017 adjourned.