

GEORGES VANIER CATHOLIC SCHOOL
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY CULTURE AND CARING ACTION TEAM MEETING
[CCCCAT]

Thursday, May 30th, 2024 @ 3:45pm
Conference Room

M I N U T E S

Attendees: Daniel Birkenbergs (Principal), Stefania Iannizzi (Teacher), Andrew Laporte (Teacher), Samanta Parsaud (Public Health Nurse), Nadia Pizzani (Teacher)

Regrets: Marta Baltazar (Teacher), Michael Burns (Parent), Sandra Salvino (Parent), Nicole Sunseri (CYW)

1. Welcome & Introductions

- Daniel Birkenbergs welcomed team and began with a prayer and land acknowledgement
- Daniel invited round table introductions and welcomed all participants to the team
- Daniel thanked individuals for their active participation and invited round-table introductions

2. Review of Purpose for Committee and Objectives

- Daniel Birkenbergs set context for committee; required under Safe Schools legislation
- Team to meet 3 times over the course of the school year
- Catholic values and faith at centre of committee; team to focus on safety, security, care and well-being of students
- Committee to determine areas of focus and discuss initiatives and action plans to address identified needs
- Committee to function as advisory to school administration; whole-school, solution-focused approach to identified needs
- For context, Daniel briefly reviewed the context for the school in terms of what initiatives are in place and how the school will enhance the school plan moving forward

3. Goals for 2023-2024: Final Report

- Daniel provided an update for the team as to the progress related to the school goals chosen by the CCCCCAT in November
- Progress Report:
 - Faith Focus: In-school half-day retreat during Lent for all grades across the school focused on our Faith, the theme of the year through the Catholic Church and the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations (OCSGE)
 - Held March 8th, 2024
 - Mass in the morning; followed station rotations based on themes above

- Community & Belonging Focus: Opportunities to enhance students' feelings of a "welcoming and caring" community at Georges Vanier School
 - Engagement of active Student Council under the leadership of A. Laporte to centre student voice
 - Initiatives already occurring within the school in this regard (e.g., Anti-Bullying lesson from ROP, Anti-Bullying Week initiatives, Virtues/OCSGE assemblies, BRAVE workshops)
 - Continuation of virtuous Vikings initiative
 - School will continue to capitalize on various opportunities to build community and prevent bullying through various activities throughout the school year
 - Incidents of student conflict and concerning behaviours are being continually addressed by school administration and support staff
- Health & Wellness Focus: Mental Health & Well-being
 - Excellent work done by our Mental Health Team led by N. Pizzani this year
 - Secured Gold certification as an OPHEA Healthy School
 - Involves continuation of programs such as PALS and school-wide "Play Day"
 - Several initiatives focused on Mental Health and Well-being
 - Mental Health & Well-being Spirit Week
 - Mental Health Champions
 - Wellness Grant

4. Open Discussion

- S. Parsaud (via Peel Public Health) will be departing PPH at the end of June 2024; CCCCA Team expressed thanks to her for her contributions to our school
- S. Parsaud also recognized S. Iannizzi & N. Pizzani for their contributions to our school
- Looking ahead to 2024-2025, potential areas of focus include:
 - Teaching students the art of appropriate conversation
 - Increased focus on anti-vaping within the school
 - Continuation of initiatives from this school year and seek further engagement from other staff to support initiatives

Next Meeting

- *2024-2025 School Year [exact date/time TBC]*