

**CSPC Meeting Minutes – October, 2019**  
**Meeting Date: October 16, 2019**  
**Time: 7pm – 9pm**  
**Location: St. Gregory School Staff Room**

**Meeting Attendees:**

|                        |
|------------------------|
| Sebastian Spio-Garbrah |
| Phil Vokins            |
| Joe Pannozzo           |
| Christina Prete        |
| Jessica Ferrari        |
| Kristina Beintner      |
| Daniela Del Rosso      |
| Kathy Fenech           |
| Marj Bridger           |
| Christina Sachanowicz  |
| Diana Morrone          |
| Maria Skinner          |
| Lisa Tarasca           |
| Jennifer Pyz           |
| Monika Boszormenyiova  |
| Vanessa Thomas         |
| Ryan Vlasschaert       |
| Lisa DiBattista        |
| Ivana Chuvalo Fran     |
| Elsa Berardi           |
| Andrew Beintner        |
| Marcia Boule           |
| Susan Rowlison         |

**CSPC Member Regrets:**

Stefanie Martino  
Celia Goncalves

**Meeting called by Chair Sebastian Spio-Garbrah**

**Opening Prayer led by Principal Mr. Pannozzo**

**Item: Parent/Teacher Interviews, led by Mr. Pannozzo**

Mr. Pannozzo offered two separate schedules for Parent/Teacher interviews at St. Gregory:

1. Thursday evening from 6 pm to 8:30 pm and Friday morning from 9 am to 11 am.
2. Tuesday evening from 6 pm to 8:30 pm and Thursday from 6 pm to 8:30 pm.

Mr. Pannozzo stated that option 2 is preferred by the teachers. Council members voted and **agreed to option 2**, Tuesday and Thursday, from 6pm to 8:30pm

**Item: Questions for CSPC Members, led by Kristina Beintner**

Beintner reminds council members and meeting attendees to, if possible, address any urgent questions/inquiries for CSPC members prior to the council meetings – feel free to contact council members, sub-committee members, or Mr. Pannozzo for assistance at any time. Mr. Pannozzo's door is always open to help any members of the school community, and he prefers for urgent issues not to have to wait until the monthly council meetings.

**Item: Fundraising Subcommittee Update, led by Kristina Beintner**

Big Box of Cards Fundraiser has begun and marks the first fundraiser of the year. Dance-a-thon has been booked for February 7, and will have a Valentine's day theme – more details to follow. Any further fundraisers have yet to be confirmed, but the fundraising subcommittee is considering a 50/50 draw, Easter-gram, and a Food Truck Night/BBQ for the 2019/2020 school year. The Fundraising Subcommittee is meeting on November 5 at 7:30pm – all are welcome (please see Daniela Del Rosso, Kathy Fenech, or Kristina Beintner for further details if you would like to attend)

**Item: Discussion about Community Events for 2019/2020**

Possible Community Events for 2019/2020 include Family Skate (Christina Sachanowicz is taking this on), Bingo and Christmas Movie.

**Item: The Sewing Studio, led by Maria Skinner**

Maria Skinner proposes that a program with The Sewing Studio be added to the 2019/2020 budget as a Tier 2 item

Co-founder of The Sewing Studio, Roland Acheampong, presented to the CSPC on school-wide sewing programs focusing on mentorship, confidence, inclusion, and equity:

- The Sewing Studio comes to the school with 15-30 sewing machines, fabric, etc.
- From Kindergarten to Grade 8
- Each student completes a fun, personalized project from start to finish
- Push-button-start sewing machines are all inclusive, and can accommodate children with disabilities
- Highly skilled sewers and mentors (former athletes, coaches, medical professionals, personal trainers, etc) coach children, working on a 1-to-5 ratio with the students
- Focus on self-regulation, building confidence, mentoring, and mindfulness

- \$15 per student plus HST, one day workshop
- Only company in Canada that offers this.
- At the end of the program, they will donate a sewing machine to the school - \$1000 value

**Item: Artist in the Classroom, led by Jennifer Pyz**

Jennifer Pyz proposes that Lisa Di Battista from Sparks Creativity be selected as the exclusive Artist in the Classroom for the 2019/2020 school year.

Lisa Di Battista from Sparks Creativity presents to the CSPC on her role as Artist in the Classroom:

- Offers 15 different workshops, all curriculum approved
- Registered graphic designer and creative director
- Art projects in the classroom include print making, clay, painting
- Focus on engaging the children and teaching the principles of art
- Lisa will honour last year's price if CSPC commits to her program by October 31

**Item: EMF Safety Levels and Children, led by Phil Vokins**

Concerned parent, Michelle LaBorde, presents to CSPC on EMF Safety Levels of the new 5G cellular industrial towers in the St. Gregory Parish front yard, 50 meters from the school.

LaBorde claims that the towers do not meet City of Toronto protocol, and residents were not consulted in the implementation of these towers. LaBorde's goal is to disseminate information so that parents can be informed on the potential hazards of 5G technology. Constant WIFI levels in the school are also of concern to LaBorde. LaBorde shared a PowerPoint presentation on the potential safety hazards of 5G and ways to reduce the potential harmful impact of this technology.

Phil Vokins speaks to the opposing view that 5G technology has little or no health implications. Vokins states much of the formal research suggests that 5G is either not harmful or the research is inconclusive. However, Vokins points out that he has empathy with Ms. LaBorde's position and would also rather the towers are not in close proximity to the school, especially in the light of the apparent break in protocol and lack of resident consultation. Phil Vokins declares that he has a conflict of interest in this issue as he works for Intel and he will withdraw his vote on this matter going forward.

Chair Sebastian Spio-Garbrah suggests that concerned parents have an off-council conversation about this issue. Chair states it would be very difficult for the CSPC to take a formal stance on this issue considering the opposing views for and against the health hazards of 5G technology.

**Conclusion:** concerned parents will arrange to have an off-council conversation/ meeting with respect to this issue.

**Item: CSPC Vote on 2019/2020 Budget**

CSPC Voted line-by-line on 2019/2020 budget items. See following chart for overview.

| Budget Item                       | CSPC Voted In Favour | Notes  |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Scientist in the School           | √                    |  |
| Artist in the Classroom           | see note             | Mr. Pannozzo states that he strongly supports and recommends Lisa DiBattista as “Artist in the Classroom” for St. Gregory. CSPC debates between allocating current budget to The Sewing Studio or Artist in the classroom. Council member Vanessa Thomas notes that Ontario Arts Council Grants are available and should be looked into in order to support Artist in the Classroom program. CSPC votes and passes motion to have Artist in the Classroom moved from Tier 1 budget allocation to Tier 2, to make way for funding The Sewing Studio as a Tier 1 item. CSPC understanding is not that “Artist in the Classroom” is cancelled, but rather allocated as Tier 2; program will commence if/when funds are available. |
| Artucate Event                    | √                    |  |
| The Sewing Studio                 | √                    | CSPC debated on a soft roll-out of this program (Mr. Pannozzo proposed starting the program with grades 1, 3, 5, and then adding grades 2, 4, 6 as a Tier 2 item) vs. implementing this program in all classes. CSPC votes and passes motion to have this program implemented in every class - Kindergarten to Grade 8   |
| Drama and Presentations           | √                    |  |
| Robotics Club                     | √                    |  |
| Chess Club                        | √                    |  |
| Teacher Allocations               | √                    |  |
| Buses/Transportation              | √                    |  |
| Classroom Literacy                | √                    |  |
| Parent participation (Math Night) | √                    |  |
| BRICK Awards                      | √                    |  |

|                                    |          |  |
|------------------------------------|----------|--|
| Sacramental Lunch or Reception     | ✓        |  |
| Shrove Tuesday                     | ✓        |  |
| Graduation Ceremonies (SK)         | ✓        |  |
| Graduation Ceremonies (Grade 8)    | ✓        |  |
| Graduation Awards                  | ✓        |  |
| Teacher Appreciation Lunch         | ✓        |  |
| Student Financial Assistance       | ✓        |  |
| Community Events                   | see note | CSPC voted in favour of the Community Events budget allocated as a Tier 2 item |
| School website (hosting)           | ✓        |  |
| Swim Team                          | ✓        |  |
| Health Action Team (HAT)           | ✓        |  |
| CPR/First Aid Training             | ✓        |  |
| Council expenses                   | ✓        | CSPC votes in favour of cutting council expenses from \$1000 to \$500          |
| Paypal Fees                        | ✓        |  |
| Banking Fees                       | ✓        |  |
| IT Items                           | ✓        |  |
| Music program                      | ✓        |  |
| Science Class Materials            | ✓        |  |
| Sound System (Gym)                 | ✓        |  |
| Phys Ed Equipment (replace/repair) | ✓        |  |
| Front Yard Naturalization          | ✓        |  |

**Item: Other Business – Parent Social, with Marcia Boule**

Parent Social started two years ago as a social engagement for new parents to the school.

This year, Marcia has arranged for Parent Social to be potentially held at a pub near Dixie and Eglinton, she has lined up a band for free, she has make-up artists lined up for the event. Marcia is looking for approval to run the parent social.

Proposed dates: Marcia is asking CSPC for best dates for Parent Social. January 10 or 24 has been decided to be best. Marcie will update final date at next meeting.

**Goodnight and meeting closed by Chair Sebastian Spio-Garbrah**

