



## Divine Mercy School Council Meeting – Minutes

February 26, 2024, 5:30 pm | Meeting called to order by Nuno Tome

### Staff/School Representatives:

Nuno Tome (Principal)

Daniela Letterio (Teacher Representative)

Pamela Leermakers (Community Representative)

### Parent Representatives:

Angela Trewartha	Jonathan Walker	Jessica Clayton
Vivian Correa-Pinto	Lisa Bitonti-Bengert	Michael Weglinski
Tashani Parker	Karen Chan	Bruno Rosa
Pearl Mofunanya	Adriana Paniconi	
Elaine Dantas	Katrina Vieira Reis	

### Parent Regrets:

Tannice Ashman	Paula Mendonça	Johnson Lai
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1. Welcome, Land Acknowledgement, Opening Prayer - Mr. Tome
  - Approval by Pamela Leermakers and Daniela Litterio
2. Approval of last meeting minutes
  - Approval by Pamela Leermakers and Jonathan Walker
3. Co-Chair's Report (A. Trewartha & T. Ashman)
  - Started second pizza session this past week- similar numbers of enrollment as the last
  - Will estimate the total for the year
    - Total for the year approximately \$16,000
  - Big box of cards fundraiser
    - Start date finalized: start next week (trying to take advantage of March break and easter)
    - Deadline for ordering: after easter
    - Process for ordering
      - Every family gets one box to sell and can order more
      - Another school had folks order the box online (instead of giving the boxes to students)- the latter is the better option

- The company wants to send 1 card home as a sample
  - There are 4 different kinds of cards
- The pizza letter sent home included where the funds raised will be used
- Subway orders to be submitted by February 29, 2024
  - Approximately 70 families have ordered thus far

#### 4. Principal's Report (N. Tome)

## Faith

- Confessions Feb 28 Gr 2, March 6 Gr 7
- Brother Alfonse – visits continue – Feb 29 Jr/Int visit
- Rosary – Feb 26
- Lenten Mass – March 21
- Stations of the Cross – March 28
- Lent – Pray, Fast, Almsgiving - Food Drive & Partnership with Eden Food Bank
- Easter Egg Hunt – NMNS April 2
- 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – April 17<sup>th</sup>
  - For grade 2 confessions- parents can come with their children
  - Brother Alfonse- Visits every second Thursday
  - Rosary- a great group of volunteers come in 1xmonth
  - Lente mass- happening with staff
  - Ms. Simmons' class is putting up the Stations of the Cross together- similar to last year, students will walk through- parents are invited to join and walk on their own
  - Eden Food Bank- This Friday, one of their chefs is going to come in and show how the items are being used- making soup with the grade 8 class
  - Easter egg hunt- for needs moderate class- will happen in the library
  - 25th-anniversary invitations sent out to dignitaries, past and current staff, and the community
    - Approximately 300 invitees
    - Mme Krosel is putting a school choir together- the expectation is that they are present for mass at 6 pm and participate in singing
    - Evening will consist of mass at church, speakers at the school (trustee, politician, councillor, etc.), then people can meet up with others in the gym, and band playing from Gonzaga

# Equity

- Black History Month –
- Collaboration w/ Flight Unit -
- Illability Trip – Feb 23 – Gr 4-8
- April 8<sup>th</sup> – Indigenous PD with Staff
  - Black History Month activities are happening in the classroom
  - Collaboration with Flight Unit
    - The assembly wasn't as well received by the younger kids. We had excellent PD with staff and workshops with students. We just finished the last workshop with equity and well-being leads- they're now going to come up with a campaign (will deliver it over the next 4 months) and developed a new model for the school for 25 years; it's been living, loving, learning;
      - The new model will have 10 statements and what they believe we should strive for as a community
  - The Illabilities trip was excellent

# Wellbeing

- Jr/Int Basketball
- JaysCare & Girls Club & Singing, Puppet, Primary Hockey Clubs, – New clubs coming up after March Break
- Flightunit- "We are" campaign
- Riverwood Feb 28, Sugarbush March 25, Silver Creek Mar 1, Safety Village March 4, Raptors 905 March 27
- Sex Trafficking Presentation -
  - Intermediate basketball starting- JR just finishing
  - Jayscare- starting with needs moderate class
  - Singing, puppet- grade 1-3
  - Hockey club- grades 1-4
  - FDK- Riverwood
  - Silvercreek- Newcomers to Canada within the last 4 years from grades 1-3 go for free
  - Raptors 905: grades 5-8 and needs moderate class

- Sex trafficking presentation- another letter going out next week

## Achievement

- Celebrate LANGUAGE
- Math PLC – Gr 2 & 5 teachers –
- Math PD Gr 1-8 PD – This coming Wednesday
- French Immersion PD – March 21 upcoming before / after
- Math Resources – PD - FEB 28 – All Classroom Teachers
- EQAO prep coming up late April
- Learning Symposium – May 9<sup>th</sup> CEW

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gr 1A FI</li> <li>• Gr 1B FI</li> <li>• Gr 1/2 A</li> <li>• Gr 1/2 B</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gr 2 FI</li> <li>• Gr 2/3 FI</li> <li>• Gr 3 FI</li> <li>• Gr 3</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gr 3/4</li> <li>• Gr 4</li> <li>• Gr 5/6 A</li> <li>• Gr 5/6 B</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gr 6/7</li> <li>• Gr 7/8</li> </ul>

- New language curriculum
- Learning Symposium- families can come to the school

### 5. Treasurer's Report (V. Pinto)– (see appendix 1 for updated report as of April 7, 2024)

Divine Mercy School Council Financial Report for: **January 2024**

**Opening Bank Balance** \$ **16,160.50**

	Transaction Info	Transaction Amount	Notes
<b>Deposits</b>			
<b>Deposits</b>			
	Pizza (Session 2)	\$ 1,543.50	
<b>Total Deposits</b>		<b>\$ 1,543.50</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>			
	Pizza expenses	\$ 4,941.51	
	Pizza retreat	\$ 676.02	
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$ 5,617.53</b>	
<b>Closing Bank Balance</b>		<b>\$ 12,086.47</b>	
<b>Committed Payments Not Cleared</b>			
<b>Total Not Cleared Payments</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	
<b>Adjusted Bank Balance</b>		<b>\$ 12,086.47</b>	

Working Budget for 2023/2024 School Year  
Current Update - January 31, 2024

Opening Bank Balance - September 1, 2023	\$ 12,012.45
Outstanding Commitments	
Outdoor improvement	\$ (4,718.21)
2023-2024 Agendas	\$ (1,932.30)
Available Bank Balance - After commitments	\$ 5,361.94

EXPENSES	2022/2023 Budget	2022/2023 Actual Spend	2023/2024 Budget	Actual Spend	Notes
Agendas	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,932.30	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,932.30	
Speakers	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,203.50	\$ 2,000.00		
Bank Charges/Service Fees/Online Charge Fees	\$ 250.00		\$ 250.00		
Benevolent Fund	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00		
Fun Day (End of Year Celebration)	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00		
Graduation Expenses	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,277.97	\$ 1,000.00		
Je Lis French Reading Program	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,163.61	\$ 1,200.00		
Gym Replenishment/Outdoor equipment	\$ 500.00		\$ 500.00		
Sacramental Support (Gr 2/7), Grade 4 FI Celebration	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 407.13	\$ 500.00		
Scientists in the School (one per homeroom)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 3,000.00		
ShareLife	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -		
School Wide Activity Support (ie. retreats)	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,159.61	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 1,232.66	
Equity and Wellbeing			\$ 4,000.00	\$ 2,800.00	
Transportation Support (bus and taxi expense for school related activities)		\$ 237.30	\$ 500.00		
Outdoor improvement				\$ 4,718.21	
<b>Total - Existing commitments</b>	<b>\$ 17,750.00</b>	<b>\$ 14,381.42</b>	<b>\$ 19,150.00</b>	<b>\$ 10,683.17</b>	
Additional Wish List					
Boys and Girls Nights	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,503.44	\$ 1,500.00		
Clubs	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 475.14	\$ 500.00		
<b>Total - Wishlist</b>	<b>\$ 3,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,978.58</b>	<b>\$ 2,000.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 20,750.00</b>	<b>\$ 16,360.00</b>	<b>\$ 21,150.00</b>	<b>\$ 10,683.17</b>	

INCOME	Estimated	Actual	Notes
Bank balance carry over from previous school year		\$ 12,012.45	
Pizza - Session 1	\$ 7,691.60	\$ 8,576.49	
Pizza - Session 2	\$ 7,691.60	\$ 1,543.50	
Parent engagement funding	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	
Lunch Lady		\$ 137.20	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 15,883.20</b>	<b>\$ 10,757.19</b>	
<b>2023-2024 Budget Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>\$ (5,266.80)</b>	<b>\$ 74.02</b>	
<b>BANK BALANCE AFTER INCOME AND EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$ 12,086.47</b>	<i>does not include remaining pizza term expenses</i>
<b>BANK BALANCE AFTER INCOME, EXPENSES AND ISSUED PAYMENTS</b>		<b>\$ 12,086.47</b>	
Estimated Y/E bank balance if existing commitments fully executed	\$ 2,095.14		
Estimated Y/E bank balance if existing commitments & wish list fully executed	\$ 95.14		

- Nothing much changed in expenses
- Item added- pizza purchases for retreats
- First session of school-wide pizza orders: revenue of approximately \$8,500
  - Expect to have a similar amount for session 2- the actual listed is the amount that has come in
- Subway funds
  - The price point is to cover meals, not a fundraiser
- Teachers asking for Scientists in the school \$280 per classroom- 17 classrooms
  - Raised \$600 for Sharelife from pancake day, and grade 8's will sell popcorn to get up to the \$1,000 mark
    - Last year, we had a grant to cover part of the cost, so now we are asking to shift the amount...
    - **Motion put forward by the Principal:** Instead of putting \$1000 to Sharelife from the budget, can we use this amount for scientists in the school? Sharelife will still

receive \$1,000; it's just being funded by funds raised from Pancake Day and the popcorn that will be sold

- **Motion approved- Votes:** Lisa Bitonti-Bengert, Karen Chan, Daniela Letterio, Pamela Leermakers, Jonathan Walker, Pearl Mofunanya, Adriana Paniconi, Tashani Parker

Pizza Income 2023-2024						
	Session #1 18 Weeks		Session #2 18 Weeks		Session #3 ?? Weeks	
	Income	Expenses	Income	Expenses	Income	Expenses
	\$13,538.70	\$2,467.92	\$1,543.50			
	\$5,159.70	\$2,439.68				
	\$80.00	\$ 2,452.11				
		\$2,489.40				
	-\$352.80					
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$18,425.60</b>	<b>\$9,849.11</b>	<b>\$1,543.50</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$8,576.49</b>		<b>\$1,543.50</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>	
YTD Net Income @ 01/31/2024	\$ 10,119.99					

- Pizza income- only two sessions this year 3 this year

#### 6. OAPCE Report (P. Mofunanya)

- OAPCE's 85<sup>th</sup> Conference - Join us at Monsignor Percy Johnson Catholic High School Etobicoke on April 13<sup>th</sup> 9am to 3pm with Holy Mass led by Archbishop Leo at St. Benedict's Parish at 3pm. Open to all our parents.
  - someone will take notes as Pearl is on vacation
- Parents 4 Parents Insight explored the benefits and drawbacks of using ChatGPT and AI Tech and what it means for our kids as digital citizens.
  - Benefits included personalized learning and assistance, and challenges included responsible use, privacy, and possible biases.
  - Spoke about how to use privacy and biases that are built into the technology
  - Parents are encouraged to explore and look at different prompts to see how they will help vs. shying away from using it
  - **ACTION:** Pearl will share information on Chat GPT- see appendix 2
- OAPCE Book Nook – spotlight Adam Grant's "Hidden Potential" as a good read to help foster character skills and child-centred education.
  - showcases books that parents feel are helpful
- Beyond the Bell Podcast created by the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board- an education podcast specifically for Catholic students with a specific focus on those things "you didn't know that you needed to know."
  - Topics range from what makes Catholic education so special, to vaping, technology, and even emergency preparedness. All age groups are represented through the podcast episodes currently available through

the first two seasons. There really is something for everyone. You can stream or download podcast episodes wherever you normally get your podcasts, or they can be found on the [Beyond the Bell website](#).

- Updated resources for parents of students with special needs – [LINK](#).
- Helping Your Child to choose a path that includes [Math Tool Kit LINK](#)
  - an online tool kit that is a comprehensive, user-friendly, and inspiring source of information for Ontario teens and parents who are exploring choices for high school math courses, [Financial Literacy Modules for Grade 9-12 LINK](#) and the Math Storytime app for ages 5-7

#### 7. Parish Report/Pastoral Update (E. Dantas)

- First communion for grade 1's on February 28
- Confirmation on Wednesday, March 6, from 4-7 pm for Grade 7's
- Legion of Mary statue visitation program pointing out how it helps the family pray together and grow closer
- Stations of the cross as a family prayer in the church
- The Adoration Chapel is like an oasis for tired parents who need a break or a family who wants to visit quickly. It's close, well-located and free. Plus, most importantly, Jesus is there.

#### 8. New Business

- EQAO dates? Not confirmed as yet
- Interest in having an in-person meeting in May 2024- have a potluck
  - Yes, most people agree to do in-person
- This is the last year Adriana as part of the Parent Council
- Reminder Annual offence declaration for completion- review e-mail shared on February 12, 2024

#### 9. Closing/Adjournment

- **Next meeting: Monday, May 13, 2024 at 5:30 pm**
  - **TBC if it will be in-person with potluck**

## Appendix 1

### Working Budget for 2023/2024 School Year Current Update - February 29, 2024

Opening Bank Balance - September 1, 2023 \$ 12,012.45

#### Outstanding Commitments

Outdoor improvement \$ (4,718.21)  
2023-2024 Agendas \$ (1,932.30)

Available Bank Balance - After commitments \$ 5,361.94

EXPENSES	2022/2023 Budget	2022/2023 Actual Spend	2023/2024 Budget	Actual Spend	Notes
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Speakers	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,203.50	\$ 2,000.00		
Bank Charges/Service Fees/Online Charge Fees	\$ 250.00		\$ 250.00	\$ 22.50	
Benevolent Fund	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00		
Fun Day (End of Year Celebration)	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00		
Graduation Expenses	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,277.97	\$ 1,000.00		
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ShareLife	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	
School Wide Activity Support (ie. retreats)	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,159.61	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 1,232.66	
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<b>Total - Existing commitments</b>	<b>\$ 17,750.00</b>	<b>\$ 14,381.42</b>	<b>\$ 19,150.00</b>	<b>\$ 10,705.67</b>	
<b>Additional Wish List</b>					
Boys and Girls Nights	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,503.44	\$ 1,500.00		
Clubs	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 475.14	\$ 500.00		
<b>Total - Wishlist</b>	<b>\$ 3,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,978.58</b>	<b>\$ 2,000.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 20,750.00</b>	<b>\$ 16,360.00</b>	<b>\$ 21,150.00</b>	<b>\$ 10,705.67</b>	

INCOME	Estimated	Actual	Notes
Bank balance carry over from previous school year		\$ 12,012.45	
Pizza - Session 1	\$ 7,691.60	\$ 7,331.79	
Pizza - Session 2	\$ 7,691.60	\$ 17,822.36	
Parent engagement funding	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	
Lunch Lady		\$ 137.20	
Subway Subs		\$ 3,186.65	
<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$ 15,883.20</b>	<b>\$ 28,978.00</b>	
<b>2023-2024 Budget Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>\$ (5,266.80)</b>	<b>\$ 18,272.33</b>	
<b>BANK BALANCE AFTER INCOME AND EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$ 30,284.78</b>	does not include remaining pizza term expenses + uncleared transactions
<b>BANK BALANCE AFTER INCOME, EXPENSES AND ISSUED PAYMENTS</b>		<b>\$ 30,284.78</b>	
Estimated Y/E bank balance if existing commitments fully executed	\$ 2,095.14		
Estimated Y/E bank balance if existing commitments & wish list fully executed	\$ 95.14		



**Divine Mercy School Council Financial Report for:**

**February 2024**

**Opening Bank Balance** **\$ 12,086.47**

	Transaction Info	Transaction Amount	Notes
<b>Deposits</b>			
<b>Deposits</b>			
	Pizza (Session 2)	\$ 17,684.10	
	Subway Subs	\$ 3,333.65	
<b>Total Deposits</b>		<b>\$ 21,017.75</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>			
	Pizza expenses	\$ 1,244.70	
	Pizza expenses (Session 2)	\$ 1,272.94	
	Service Charges	\$ 22.50	
	Subway Subs (Direct Deposit)	\$ 147.00	
	Pizza (Direct Deposits) (Session 2)	\$ 132.30	
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$ 2,819.44</b>	
<b>Closing Bank Balance</b>		<b>\$ 30,284.78</b>	
<b>Committed Payments Not Cleared</b>			
	St. Josephs Workshop	\$ (322.50)	
	The Flight Power Foundation	\$ (1,200.00)	
<b>Total Not Cleared Payments</b>		<b>\$ (1,522.50)</b>	
<b>Adjusted Bank Balance</b>		<b>\$ 28,762.28</b>	

**Lunch Fundraising 2023-2024**

	Pizza Session #1 18 Weeks		Pizza Session #2 18 Weeks		Subway Session #1	
	Income	Expenses	Income	Expenses	Income	Expenses
	\$13,538.70	\$2,467.92	\$1,543.50	\$1,405.24	\$3,333.65	\$147.00
	\$5,159.70	\$2,439.68	\$17,684.10			
	\$80.00	\$2,452.11				
		\$2,489.40				
	-\$352.80	\$1,244.70				
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$18,425.60</b>	<b>\$11,093.81</b>	<b>\$19,227.60</b>	<b>\$1,405.24</b>	<b>\$3,333.65</b>	<b>\$147.00</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$7,331.79</b>		<b>\$17,822.36</b>		<b>\$3,186.65</b>	

**YTD Net Income @ 01/31/2024 \$28,340.80**

## Appendix 2

### **OAPCE Parents 4 Parents Insight presentation on ChatGPT and AI Tech Notes**

Summary notes from the ChatGPT/AI meeting:

- You can download the free version to start or just use the web version- <https://chatgpt.com/>
- Work with your kids on interacting with A.I. models, and how to coax a helpful response out of one. Explore and play with it. Use it as a great afterschool project or weekend family activity.

Build familiarity as we have to understand, 'I need this to produce an outline about X, Y and Z' and we (kids and parents) have to think very carefully about it," so it builds critical thinking and persistence as well. If you do not get the results needed ,the prompts can be revised until satisfied with the end result.

Use prompts like

- "Act as if" \*\* insert a specific role or situation. E.g., "Act if you're explaining cell structure to a first grader."
- Tone – specify as needed like “formal, informative etc.
- Keywords- state keywords to be included.
- Audience – tailor to target audience.
- Objective – specify as needed E.g., use “inform”, “entertain” or “persuade”.
- Limitations – specify word or character count as needed.

A.I. can help as an afterschool and homework tool letting students refine their thinking, learn and practice what was taught in class as today’s students will graduate into a world full of generative A.I. programs. They’ll need to know their way around these tools — their strengths and weaknesses, their hallmarks, and blind spots — to embrace and work alongside them. As good digital citizens, they’ll need hands-on experience to understand how this type of A.I. works, what types of bias it contains, and how it can be misused and weaponized.

Cons/Solutions

- Because generative AI is meant to model natural language, it uses a first-person point of view ("I") as it is meant to be conversational and this element can be initially [confusing for kids](#). Solution – practice.
- False. Mature and Biased information. Solution – Always fact check and work on refining prompts.