

St. Alphonsa Parent Council

Meeting Minutes 01/29/2025

Participants Invited	Attended	Apologies		Participants Invited	Attended	Apologies
Melissa Pouw	x			Tania Picardo	x	
Jacqueline Crowley	x			Lina Asfour	x	
Karen Rasmussen		x		Susie Dagraca	x	
Lauralee Schelborn	x			Kelly Raposo	x	
Sandra Isovski		x		Lavina Viegas	x	
Amit Shenoy	x			Tracy Fernandes	x	
Marijana Neves	x			Sheldon Bernard	x	
Claudia Biasutto	x					
Gwyndeline Vishnu-Pink	x					
Simonne Konda		X				

Time: 6:00PM to 7:30PM (EST)

Date: Wednesday, January 29, 2025

Venue: Virtual

1. **Record of Discussion**

A. Routine Matters

- **Call to Order and Attendance:** Lauralee Schelborn
- **Opening Prayer:** Tania Picardo
- **Land Acknowledgement:** Tania Picardo
- **Approval of Agenda:** Approved by Kelly and Lina
- **Approval of November 20, 2024, council meeting minutes:** Approved by Kelly and Lina

B. Standing Items

Chair's Report (Lauralee Schelborn)/Treasurer's Report (Amit Shenoy)

- Spreadsheet "St. Alphonsa Treasurer Report" was reviewed by Amit Shenoy.
- Spreadsheet "Parent Council Budget 2024-2025" was reviewed by Amit Shenoy.
- Points of discussion:
- Given that meeting is not until April 24, some events in May like Steam night we will need to think how we want to spend it.

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C. Domino's Pizza Night – Wednesday December 18th, 2024

- Our first Domino's pizza night of this school year raised \$400! Thanks to the success of this event, we will be able to hold another. Suggesting we run it one evening during Catholic Education Week (May 4-9th), to coincide with a school hosted activity.

D. Information/Updates

Principal's Report (Melissa Pouw)

- Rubber Ducky Day – such a huge success – math and literacy activities, DP initiative, visitors from the board
- Lunches – Mary Brown's vs. Ham/Hot – will survey the students to see preference after two weeks
- Term 1 reports and interviews – booking through app – Feb 13 (after school) and 14th (morning – PD Day)
- Hosting York TCs, Humber DECEs
- Confessions – great experience for our students (\$75 x 2 honorium to priests)
- December Movie trips – some vendor troubles – won't return to same theatre in the future
- Christmas Market – great event for our students
- Christmas Parent Night – success and great turn out
- Upcoming ECO Events – Bird Watching, Sweater Day, Great Gulp, Big Crunch, Winter Walk
- Swim to Survive – Grade 3 and 7 – Susan Fennel pool
- March Break – March 10-14
- April 11 Mass at school
- Current teams/clubs: Basketball – Juniors, Guitar Club, Primary Dance, Intramurals Gr 6-8, STEAM/Maker – gr 4-8
- Board Device Refresh Plan
- Next Council Meeting reminder - April 24 – Thursday (not Wednesday) Meeting for Board Budget
- New Team Jerseys needed

Parish Report (Tania Picardo)

- **Presentation of the Lord**

On Sunday, February 2nd, at all the Sunday Masses, we will be celebrating the Feast Day of the Presentation of the Lord. Families can purchase candles for the celebration in the gathering space at \$5 per box of 2. Parishioners will need to bring their candles to mass on Sunday, February 2nd and the candles will be blessed and lit during the Profession of Faith.

- **First Communion and Confirmation Dates**

There are still a few spots open for those students who have been attending classes and need to be registered for First Holy Communion or Confirmation. Spaces are filling up quickly. Please visit Eventbrite to book your Sacrament.

- **Volunteers Needed**

- If you are interested in becoming more involved in the parish and volunteering in one of the many ministries, please contact the parish office or speak to Fr. James or other parishers involved in the mass.

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Community Report (Claudia Biasutto)

- “Harlem Globetrotters 2025 World Tour” on Saturday, February 1st at Paramount Fine Foods Center in Mississauga.
For Tickets <https://www.visitmississauga.ca/event/harlem-globetrotters-2025-world-tour-presented-by-jersey-mikes-subs/>
- “Black History Month Celebration: The story of Gloria Baylis Brought to Life”. On February 7 6PM at Cyril Clark Lecture Hall in Brampton.
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/black-history-month-celebration-the-story-of-gloria-baylis-brought-to-life-tickets-1138542694849>
- “Raptors 905 vs. Cleveland Charge” Wednesday, February 12 at the Paramount Fine Foods Center.
For tickets <https://www.ticketmaster.ca/raptors-905-tickets/artist/2163974>
- “Gruffalo’s Child” play on Monday, February 17 at Mississauga Living Arts Center. Play adaptation of the children’s book.
For Tickets <https://www.visitmississauga.ca/event/the-gruffalos-child/>

Ontario Association Of Parents In Catholic Education (OAPCE) Reports (Simonne)

- **January Parents4Parents Press:** Check out the [January Parents4Parents Press](#) newsletter. It is full of updates on OAPCE's work, important news items within our parent communities, wonderful resources, uplifting faith messages, and interesting Catholic trivia. If you haven't yet, you may request that your school send it out to parents/guardians.
- **OAPCE Parent Survey:** OAPCE is surveying parents across the province to help advocate for parents in Catholic education and provide feedback to the Ministry of Education. Please encourage all parents in your school communities to participate and complete [the survey form](#).
- **Upcoming Virtual Meeting:** We will have our first OAPCE meeting (virtual) of the year on **Thursday, Feb. 13 @ 7:00 pm**. The speaker is Dr. Josephine Lombardi, who will present “Pilgrims of Hope: A Walk Through of the Making of a Jubilee Year and all the graces associated with participating in this special Jubilee Year of Hope.” You can register for this now at: <https://oapce.org/virtual-meeting-req-registration/>
- New President – will be introduced at the virtual meeting on February 13.

E. New Business

Shrove Tuesday – Tuesday March 4, 2025

- As per St. Alphonsa Council tradition, the parent council will be providing the staff and students a pancake breakfast on Shrove Tuesday. With the help of volunteers and some students, we will be handing out a pancake with butter and syrup to all. This breakfast is free of charge to the school, however, we will be asking for voluntary donations to ShareLife through school cash online.
- Parents who do not wish for their child to receive a pancake will be asked to contact the school teacher.
- As with the last 2 years, we will be using Sunset Grill as our vendor. The cost of the pancakes are \$1 each plus tax. This will include the pancake, butter, syrup, cutlery, napkins and plates. We will be purchasing for 360 students, 35 staff plus the volunteers.

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- Serving utensils and pitchers will be purchased to add to our council supplies and will have extra plates and cutlery on hand in case we are short.
- I'm looking for 10 volunteers to help the morning of Shrove Tuesday. If we do not have 10 from council and you know of other parents who might want to assist, please let me know and I can reach out to them. Time needed to help will be from 9:15 until about 10:30 / 11:00. This includes serving, having breakfast ourselves and a quick cleanup.
- There is a What's App group set up for this event so please let me know if you are volunteering and I will add you. If you have older children in school (grade 6 and up) and think they would be able to assist in serving the pancakes, please let me know as well so I can take them into account when setting up. The kids who helped last year did a fantastic job!
- The plan is to have 5 carts set up – 2 adults plus some students per cart. This way we get through serving quickly and while the pancakes are still warm!
- Mock-ups for SCO as well as a flyer to the parents will be ready for review in the next couple of weeks. Suggested date to open SCO to parents Tuesday February 18, giving 2 weeks for parents to donate as well as to advise teachers if their child will not be participating in pancakes.
- 10 volunteers helping out – Kelly, Susie, Kelly, Claudia, Simonne, Elena, Lauralee, Lina, Ethan, Angelina, Marianna, Lavina, and Tracy.
- **Motion to Approval:** Lauralee Schelborn and Claudia Biasutto

Popcorn Initiative

- Next Tuesday, February 4 is the next round of the popcorn.
- Popcorn initiative to run for 3 waves until end of April then it is follow by ice-cream sandwiches.
- We had 1st round had 26 boxes ess orders 2nd round – 22 boxes compared to 26 1st round.
- **Motion to Approval:** Lauralee Schelborn and Claudia Biasutto

Valentine's Day Dance

- Repeat of Mardi Gras
- Thursday all day
- Cupcakes or cookies
- Left over chips and will get more plus decoration
- Music – kids will deal with the music
- Rent lights
- **Motion to Approval:** Lauralee Schelborn and Claudia Biasutto

Any other Business

- Graduation date is set for June 25.
- Confirmation dates at the church are June 10, June 11 and June 12.

F. Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned – Motion: Amit Shenoy Approved: Lina Asfour and Gwyndeline Vishnu-Pink

G. Future Meetings

Future council meetings

St. Alphonsa Parent Council Meeting Minutes 01/29/2025

- April 24, 2025
- June 4, 2025 – final meeting

Important Dates:

- DPCDSB Board Budget Meeting – April 24, 2025