



École St. Mary School
School Council Meeting
January 15th, 2025 – 6:00pm
ESM Library

Mission Statement: To support and enhance student learning in our school community.

1. Opening Prayer
 - Land Acknowledgement
2. Call to Order
 - Welcome and Introductions
 - Attendance: Kiera Bouchard (Staff), Justin Harper (Staff), Camille Rose (Teacher Rep), Linda Ellefson (Trustee Liaison), Gerriane Timmerman, Brody Prete, Andrea Koester, Malorie Enns, Wendy Hurley
 - Sent Regrets - Heather Wirzba
 - Approval of Agenda
 - *Motion Gerriane, second Malorie, All in Favor*
 - Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
 - *Motion Wendy, second Andrea, All in Favor*
3. Reports
 - Division Report - Linda Ellefson (Trustee Liaison) –
https://www.holyspirit.ab.ca/board_administration/board_of_trustees/board_meetings
 - The main item is the Boundary review. The committee will have two meetings for parents, the first is at FLVT Jan 29, 7pm – 9pm. The second will be at CCH East Jan 30, 7pm-9pm, there will be childcare available. Everyone should come to see how this could impact all the schools. The new school on the west side will be opening September 2026.
 - School Report – Kiera Bouchard (Principal)

School Report – School Council Meeting Wednesday, January 15th, 2025



Mission: Christ-centered learning community where students are cherished to achieve their potential. **Love is spoken here.**

1. School Update

- a. Indoor/outdoor recess markers -18 with a 15-minute recess, -15 is the marker for a 30-minute recess. Icy conditions matter. The school's going is to try to get them outside as much as possible. Before school if it's cold they'll let them in early. Now with the lighting from the city they can still be outside when it's dark.
- b. Air conditioning units are on the roof.

2. Staffing Update~ Tobi Dossou (French Moniteur,) Mme Cutney (4CI)

3. School Activities ~Volleyball has finished, After School Skating, Basketball has begun, Leadership Club, Photography within Leadership, Go Girls, Game On, Craftmas Activity Night, Iswag bringing Lacrosse, Assemblies, House Team Activities, Intramurals, BBBS, Worry Woos

4. School Operations Update ~ AEAM Presentation

- a. Staying consistent in most areas.
- b. School survey was up in citizenship.
- c. Social/emotional
- d. Results have been posted on the website.
- e. PAT results acceptable but we're 9.2% below the prov. Average.
- f. Overall showed a decline in social studies. FLA ESM performed well above the prov. Average.
- g. Results are from the diversity of learners. Teach students where they're at but then they have to do a standardized test.
- h. Education quality above average.
- i. WCRS
- j. Access to supports and services
- k. Parent involvement

5. Spaces ~ Reminder to please check your child's Spaces

6. Grade 6 Camp Fundraising ~ Hot Dog Sale (TBC) Spring Fundraiser, Bake Sale (TBC)

7. Turkey Dinner- Thank you for helping to fund it, thank you for volunteering

8. Coming Up January, February: School Surveys, Alberta Assurance Measure Surveys, Grade 4 parents' reminder, Jan. 28th Family Bingo Night, Feb. 5th Global Play Day, Feb. 13th Celebrate Valentine's Day



(Red/Pink/White Day), Family Day Week Feb 17-21st, March 5th Ash Wednesday,

9. Safer Communities~ Digital Awareness, Feb. 4th, 6:00-7:30pm

10. School Wish List~ Sign Update have quotes from \$800 - \$2800, Basketball Back Boards quote is \$80,000 checking to see if aluminum is an upgrade or if the wooden ones are better, Ukuleles we have 25 which is too few (\$750 to replace, string repair, purchase), Art Supplies

11. Early Years Assessments~ Government mandated testing for kindergarten to grade 3 students, Jan. 13th- Jan. 31st. Messaging has been sent home

12. Reregistration~ Check your email and re-register please! Helps planning, and class sizes.

13. DREC ~Faith Update

- a. Advent season
- b. Mass celebrations
- c. Faith plan for the year
- d. Update moving forward: Retreat was scheduled end of January moved to march. Opportunities partnering with CCH for student volunteering hours to help plan and organize. AJ barrows assumption coming to help
- e. Faith plan consultation Feb 4, 9am – 12pm, final year. Jubilee year began dec 24 @ 7pm. Pilgrims of hope. Connections. June 14 jubilee of sports and athletics.
- f. Ash Wednesday mass is March 5 @ 9:30am ESM
- g. Shrove Tuesday March 4th. We do have pancake mix donations. CCH welcomes us again to use the kitchen. 800 pancakes. Potential to have all supplies donated this year. Will be sending out email for volunteers.

14. Other

- Treasurers Report – Wendy Hurley (Treasurer)
 - i. Deposits made were school fees of \$2,006.94, \$186.46 from the Subway school lunch and \$5,025.73 from the Carnival and Silent Auction. We're still waiting on the deposit for the Boston Pizza school lunch.
 - ii. Expenses incurred were the bank fees and the contribution to the turkey dinner of \$744.03.
 - iii. After commitments to year end field trips and camps we have \$11,922.13.



- School Council Report – Brody Prete (Council Chair)
 - i. Brody attended a meeting of chairs and principals in December. Topics discussed were school council boundaries, parent engagement to surveys, school engagement grant, each council rep shared important activities their council engaged in regarding FNMI. Brody shared the smudge ceremony. The key takeaway is the importance of cultural diversity, and Kiera is amazing with how much effort and care she shares with our school. Some schools are only starting to do some of these things now. They discussed ideas on how to spend the grant money.

Motion to accept School Report by Gerriane, Andrea second, All in Favor

4. Old Business

- Review of Action Items from Previous Meeting
 - i. Fundraising – Cuppers now set up.
 - ii. Retirement gifts, Budget of \$150 APPROVED-On order? Justin will order tomorrow; they should be here by February.
 - iii. School Council fund - Blanket exercise, Books (Anxious Generation or multilanguage children's book *up to 30+ different languages available), new flags. We have \$1538 in grant money that we need to spend. Ideas from other schools. Kiera proposed May for the blanket exercise. They'll reach out to people to see. There is a minimum age requirement so children from our school wouldn't be able to come.
- Ongoing Projects/Updates
 - None
- Carnival recap.
- Gym upgrades (\$2000), School sign (\$2000). Brody checking with Cougar Club to see if he can apply for a COL grant to renovate the gym up to \$50,000.

5. New Business

- Discussion of New Initiatives (School Wish List).
 - iPads - \$1,200 (for 2, \$600/iPad)
 - T-Shirts for next year - \$3,500
 - School Sign - \$2,500
 - Ukuleles (new and maintenance) - \$750
 - Art supplies & science kits - \$500
 - Skating helmets - \$500
 - Lego for club – Maybe put it out to families and check if anyone has any to donate.



Motion by Gerriane to contribute the money suggested above for the purchase of the items on the school wish list (a total of \$8,950), Second by Brody, All in favor.

- Hot Lunch – January 23, Boston Pizza
 - Next hot lunch: March 27 Gerriane will sort out a vendor.
- 6. Guest Speaker/Presentation
 - Blanket Exercise, potential dates? May
- 7. Closing Remarks
 - Samaritan Stars
 - Kiera awarded a star to school council for their generosity.
 - Linda awarded a star to council as a thank you for welcoming her as part of our team.
 - Next Meeting Date – March 5th, 2025 @ 6:00pm
- 8. Closing Prayer
 - Lead by Justin
- 9. Adjournment - 7:53pm