

Children of St. Martha Elementary School Council

MEETING MINUTES

In Person (School Library) and Remote Meeting via Google Meet, January 18th, 2023 at 6:00

Attendees: Lindsay Spadavecchia, Jennifer O'Neill, Jessica Herbst, Shannon Collier, Sandra Cormican, Tricia Doherty, Janet Clamp

1. Call to Order, Land Acknowledgement, Opening Prayer
2. Review of agenda – no additions
3. Approval of Minutes for previous meeting – November 16th, 2022 (separate document)
Jennifer O'Neill moves to approve minutes from the November 16th meeting, Jessica Herbst seconds, approved by all, motion passed.
4. Reports
 - a. Principal's Report (see Appendix A)
 - b. Teacher's Report (*see Appendix B*)
 - c. Associate Principal Report - Religious Education Report and Faith Plan Presentation
 - d. Trustee's Report (Dec. 21st, 2022: [Holy Spirit Catholic Schools Board Meeting Brief](#))
 - e. School Council 2022-2023 Financial Report (*see Appendix C*)
 - not included is profit from Purdy's (cheque to still be received) \$414.10
5. Old Business
 - a. Fundraisers Update
Purdy's and coffee fundraisers completed. Council still in deficit from turkey dinner cost. Will supplement deficit with spring fundraiser. Options may include another round of Purdy's and/or coffee and another Read-a-Thon
 - b. \$1000 School Council Engagement Grant – must be spent in 2022-2023 school year
 - will look into options on how to spend the money and discuss with others
 - b. Bingo Night Update – November 25th was cancelled; movie night to be held on February 10th
 - c. School Council Chairs/Board of Trustee Meeting – November 28th, 2022. Next meeting to be held in March.
6. New Business
 - a. Sponsorship ask from Catholic Central High School for their musical (see Appendix D)
 - due to the current deficit, CSM school council will not provide sponsorship for the musical this year. Lindsay will email Anthony to let him know.
7. Adjourn – next meeting will be Wednesday, March 22nd, 2023

Thank you:

1. On behalf of our students and staff, we would like to thank our school council for all the work they did planning, organizing, and serving our entire school with a special Turkey dinner prior to Christmas holidays.
2. Thank you to our Christmas Concert Committee & all CSM staff for all the time and effort they put into once again offering a beautiful Christmas concert for our school community.

Staff Retirements:

Mrs. Esther Rodzinyak: after 36 years of service with Holy Spirit Catholic School Division, Esther decided to retire at the end of December. We wish her many blessings on her upcoming adventures.

Ms. Christina Fox: put forth her notice of retirement and has returned until the end of the school year. For over 20 years, Ms. Fox has blessed many schools throughout Holy Spirit Catholic School Division as a First Nation, Metis and Inuit Support Worker and Elder. **June 12th**

Special Gatherings to honour both of these wonderful ladies will be held in the spring of 2023.

Staff Update:

1. Mrs. Tracy Platt has accepted the offer as our new Library Clerk. Mrs. Platt was working as an Educational Assistant at our school prior to Christmas. In addition to working part time in the library, she will also be supporting literacy/numeracy intervention for students (as part of the Learning Disruption fund).
2. Mrs. Avery Sinclair has accepted a full time Educational Assistant (from part time).
3. We currently have a job posting for a 14 hour Education Assistant.

School Based Surveys:

Parent Survey & Feedback:

There will be two opportunities for parents to provide input for our future planning at The Children of St. Martha Elementary. The first piece of data collection will be, from Alberta Education, in the form of an annual survey that is sent to parents of students in grade 4-12 (across the Province).

This survey allows parents the opportunity to answer questions based on your experiences with our school. The Annual Assurance Survey will be sent to CSM grades 4-6 parents and is an annual check-up on the education system. The direct link to our CSM data can be found on our school website:

https://csm.holyspirit.ab.ca/resources_publications/reports_plans

We will also, once again, be planning an evening for all parents to openly share thoughts and ideas in the form of round table discussions. From there, we will take all of the feedback shared, compile it and include this information as part of our ongoing future planning process. Included in the round table evening, will be an opportunity for our community to ask questions or provide feedback on our new SPACES assessment platform.

Student Surveys:

Students in grade 4-6 also complete surveys that are administered at the school.

January/February: Our School Survey (formerly Tell Them from ME) & AB Government Assurance Survey

-Round table meeting for learning about spaces February /March -

Appendix B – January 2023 Teacher Report provided by Mrs. Sandra Cormican

1. Happy New Year! We hope that everyone had a restful and enjoyable Christmas break.

2. Class Updates:

- ELP - Both the morning and afternoon Early Learning classes put on a small Christmas concert on December 15, 2022. There was a good turnout for both performances. The children were proud and excited to perform in front of their families.
- Kindergarten - The Kindergarten children enjoyed participating in a variety of Christmas-themed play activities and watching the movie Polar Express together. They also enjoyed having 3 pajama days in December!
- Mrs. Maier & Ms. Wallace - Both Grade 1/2 classes joined together before the Christmas break to participate in some STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics) activities. A couple of the activities included building the biggest snowman and building a frozen fortress. These activities were challenging and fun!
- Mr. Huff - The Grade 2/3 had a great experience with Scientists in Schools. They learned about sound through a variety of activities/experiments, including building their own instruments!
- Mrs. Snopek & Mr. Comchi - The Grade 3/4 students finished writing their personal narratives and are starting their information writing projects. Both classes will be going to the Galt Museum in early February for the programs "Race for Resources" and "Blackfoot Voices."
- Mrs. Wilson - The Grade 5s organized a very successful food drive using the "Reverse Advent" format. They collected 2 1/2 red bins full of food which was picked up by the Lethbridge Food Bank. They would like to thank all who contributed. Prior to starting the food drive, the Grade 5 class visited the Lethbridge Food Bank which taught them how to serve like Jesus. This project and the field trip were both meaningful and wonderful experiences for the students. On January 19th, 2023, the Grade 5s will be taking a virtual field trip to the Canadian Museum of History. They will also be participating in a virtual presentation by Scientists in Schools on January 26th focusing on circuits and electricity.
- Ms. Boras - The Grade 6 students will be participating in "The Great Canadian Mail Race." This involves each student writing a letter to any other Grade 6 class in Canada. The first class to receive a reply wins the race!

3. Special Events/Activities:

- Mrs. Scott-Perry and all staff would like to say a big thank-you to all who came out to the Christmas concert. Both performances were well attended.
- Mrs. MacIntosh's Kindergarten class had entered the City of Lethbridge's snow plow naming contest and some of their suggestions won! The winning entries were: CAPTAIN FLURRY, SUPER KOONSKOYI (goons-goy means snow in Blackfoot), MEAN JEAN THE SNOWPLOW MACHINE, and WOW THE PLOW. On Friday, January 13, 2023, Mayor Hyggen, Councillor Schmidt-Rempel and some members of the Transportation Department, along with "Mean Jean the Snow Plow Machine," came to visit our school. The Transportation Department explained the parts of the snow plow and what it does. They also gave a demonstration of how it works.
- The big reveal for our "Read with Us" book study was on Monday, January 16, 2023 during a whole school assembly. Students watched a video about the animals and life in the Arctic. They also got a

special treat! Excitement and anticipation for the book study was created by the revealing of clues the week before. The students had fun making predictions of what they thought the book will be. Each student in the school received a copy of the book "The Very, Very Far North" by Dan Bar-el, along with a reading guide, to take home. Families are encouraged to find time to read the book together at home. At school, students can submit answers to trivia questions to win prizes and a variety of activities related to the book will be provided to the teachers to choose from to do in class.

- Both the boys and girls' basketball teams have started practicing! The girls' team will be practicing Mondays and Wednesdays after school, while the boys will be practicing Tuesdays and Thursdays after school. Both teams will play games against other Holy Catholic Schools. Thank-you to Ms. Boras, Mrs. Collier, Mr. Comchi, and Ms. Wallace for coaching these teams and providing this wonderful experience for the students.

- Our school will once again be participating in the Blankets of Hope program this February. This is the 5th year in a row that we are getting 250 free blankets. We will have a letter writing day (date to be announced) where all children will participate in writing a note of kindness to attach to one of the blankets. The blankets will then be given to Streets Alive to be distributed to people in need in our community.

Appendix C – January 2023 School Council Financial Report

School Council Categories at CSM, as of January 16, 2023

School Council School Activities Fundraising						Opening Balance
						1827.28
	Expense	GST Paid	GST Rebate	Net Proceeds	Amount	Total
CSM School Council Ipad (with case)	620.06	29.53	20.08		599.98	1227.3
School Council Meeting Minutes, Oct 17/22, CSM Read With US Program	500				500	727.3
Cupper's Coffee Co. Inc. - cheque	615					112.3
Winter Fundraiser				820		932.3
Prime Catering- CSM Turkey Diner, Dec. 14/2022	2535.75	120.75	82.11			-1521.34
Doantion for Turkey Diner				200		-1321.34
Total of all School Council Categories						-1321.34

I would like to financially support this year's Musical Theatre production of *The Addams Family* at Catholic Central. I have circled my preference from the list below:

Business Card Advertiser - \$50.00

¼ Page Advertiser - \$100.00

½ page Advertiser - \$150.00

Full page advertiser - \$200.00

Inside Front Cover (full page) - \$300.00

Name of Individual(s) or Business _____

Patron Donation Amount _____

_____ I have enclosed my cheque.

_____ I prefer to make my donation on School Cash Online.

_____ Please invoice me.

_____ I have enclosed a proof for the advertisement. (Proofs may also be sent by email to Danielle Christensen at christensend@holyspirit.ab.ca)

_____ Please create an advertisement for me and fax or email the proof to _____

Cheques for **advertising** should be made payable to CCHS.

Mailing Address: CCHS Musical Theatre
405-18 Street South
Lethbridge, AB
T1J 3E5

For all inquiries, please contact Danielle Christensen (Producer) at christensend@holyspirit.ab.ca or (403)327-4596

Deadline for donations and advertisements: February 17, 2023