

Father Lacombe School Council MINUTES



Date: November 21, 2023

Father Lacombe School - Food Studies Room

In Attendance: Maria Wagner (principle), Donna Tugwood (Trustee), Jarilee Wilson (teacher), Claudine Bruning (Chair), Cecelia Mena-Metro (Vice-Chair), Laurel Paulson (Fundraising Lead), Kelsey Rockwell (Secretary), Leigh Makar (Communications). Parents: Vivian, Miranda, Melanie. Regrets: Kristie, Jenna

1. Welcome & Prayer

Thank you everyone for coming!

Maria welcomes the group and reads a prayer

2. Introductions

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion for approval of minutes by Laurel, seconded by Mel, all in favor, approved

4. Approval of Agenda

Motion to rearrange schedule to move #8 Trustee Report to #5 spot. Move #12 to #6 spot. Motion made by Vivian to approve agenda as amended. Seconded by Laurel. All in favor.

5. Trustee Report (Donna Tugwood)

Please see attached

[W 2023 SC trustee report , 2023 Nov 21.docx](#)

6. New Business

a. Teacher appreciation PD days (Vivian)

- Vivian proposes to launch teacher appreciation lunches on the days they have PD

-There are some allergies to be considerate of

-Vivian is heading the project so she will create a google doc to track who volunteers for what day

-Question: Is the school council going to help fund the lunches? It will be lunch by lunch decision, and will be approved by council first, should compensation be sought

-Approx 12-15 teachers each lunch

***action: Vivian creates a google doc for PD lunch days**

b. Vending Machines

Cecilia puts out a question to the group asking what happened to the vending machine that used to be in the school, and would there be a chance to bring it back?

-Laurel researched the vending machines in the area and found a 3rd party company to get some information from and with maintenance and utility bills etc it's just not a feasible option. Also, it's a nightmare for the front office staff who must deal with snacks getting stuck and the machine eating money. There also is no free outlet space in the main areas to have it plugged-in in an accessible spot.

-Someone suggested maybe a student run canteen. Some ideas to try and keep Jr High students on campus and not spending their money at the convenience stores

7. Old Business (6:33pm)

a. ASCE grant proposals

i. ASCA workshops

Many workshops offered by ASCA

[Event Calendar: Alberta School Councils' Association](#)

ii. Family Engagement

Last year, we had a few requests for a family friendly engagement night.

Question: can children attend, or is it parents only?

***action: Claudine looks through grant rules to answer that question**

III) school council team building Question: can we combo these suggestions to do a workshop and team building in one night?

***action: Laurel will email ASCA to ask what sort of presentation they could put together for us and when they are available.**

***Council is to brainstorm ideas for supper or team building activity and let Laurel, Claudine or Cecelia know so we can plan for mid January.**

8. Admin Report (Maria)

- **AERR and data**

Maria goes over the Annual Education Results Report for 2022-2023. Overall Father Lacombe is Above average in almost all areas! Well done! Once the Report is finalized copies will be made available.

- **Playground update:**

The rules of the grants state that the project needs to be bid on, so Maria has 6 companies competing for the job.

- **SWIS Worker Support**

-We have a new worker coming to aid students once or twice a month. Gracie is a SWIS (Settlement Worker In Schools). She's here to help interpret and welcome new families to the school. We are very excited for the help she'll bring!

9. Teacher Report (Jarilee)

- **Halloween Dance Grades 7-9**

-Jr highs enjoyed their dance last month for grades 7-9

- **Volleyball Wins!**

- Volleyball had their wind up and they got to go to Red Deer PolyTech to watch volleyball

- **Rosary Walks in Saints groups**

- **Staff Retreat**

- A lot of learning and fun

- **Remembrance Celebration**

- The Remembrance Day celebration was successful**

- **Basketball**

- Basketball is next to start for grades 7-9

- Also a dad from the school volunteered to coach grades 3-6 with some skill building during lunchtime or afterschool. More info to come.

- **Christmas Fun**

- December 22 nd the whole school will alternate playing in the Christmas Olympics

- There will be a giving tree this year where we can help support Santa's Anonymous

- This year's Christmas concert will be on Dec 13th at St Stephen's Catholic Church. Watch for details.

- **Catholic Education Sunday (Nov 12)**

- **Fundraising Request: STEM**

- Mrs. Wilson proposed to council some help in purchasing STEM coding robots for the gr 5/6 class. Her budget request would be \$3,000. Robots would be reusable for many years to come for upcoming classes.

Question: Can parents help you apply for STEM grants? Yes, that would be absolutely appreciated!

*action: Council will assess where we are financially after fundraisers thus far are totaled and deposited. Mid December we will have our first statements in.

We cannot fundraise to add to the playground grant pot

10. Chair Report (Claudine)

A. Operating Procedures

Claudine and Cecilia updated the operating procedures. Claudine noted the changes to the document. Claudine amended the document and provided printed copy

Claudine motioned to implement the new document, Cecilia seconded, all in favor. To be signed by Claudine (chair), Kelsey (secretary) and Maria (principal)

*Claudine to have a copy to School Council tab for all parents to see

-Communications. Please send all communications deadline dates to Leigh by the Friday after council meetings so that it can be distributed to Carol in time

Please communicate any fundraising or event ideas through Laurel (fundraising lead) or Claudine (chair). Any event info should be communicated to Leigh for advertising. This is in effort to be more efficient with our meeting time, as well as not overwhelm the office.

B) Goals of School Council

Our goal within the operating procedures is to help families feel they belong. Have diversity within

council. A suggestion was made to hold a potluck in the new year

C) Family Engagement Ideas

Council was asked if we wanted to have a movie night before Christmas. No, it's just too busy so we'll table the idea until the new year

D) School support volunteers.

Parents were wondering if it would be helpful to have parent volunteers to help teachers with tasks in the classroom. Should we contact the teachers directly, or have a sign up of sorts?

***action: Maria will ask the teachers this Friday to see if that's something they would like and how they would like parents to sign up to work.**

E) COSC Meeting

Claudine and Maria attended. Claudine found it very interesting. Claudine asked if Maria could get a hold of the slideshow on roles of STAR board

***action: Maria will ask Charlie if she can have a copy of the slideshow**

11. Fundraising Committee Report

A. Fundraising Director

Since last meeting, our Fundraising Lead has stepped down. Laurel Paulson has stepped up. Claudine motions to have Laurel appointed to Fundraising Lead. Seconded by Cecelia. All in Favor. Carried.

Thank you Laurel!

B) Goals of Fundraising

See request by Jarilee above.

C) Fundraising communications.

Contact Laurel to communicate ideas (laureling@hotmail.com)

Event advertising will go through Leigh.

Monthly Newsletter will be created by Leigh and going out the last week of the month for the month to follow. Will include all dates and event advertising.

***Action: Have any event advertising in to Leigh by Friday if you want it in the School Council Newsletter for December**

D) Calendar of social/fundraising events

Poinsettia Sales: Sale is underway!

Tabled events planning until next meeting

E. Hot Lunch

a. Treat pop-up

-Popcorn sale (Cecelia and Leigh)

\$300 raised in pop up popcorn sale lead by Cecilia and Leigh

\$180 raised through RiceKrispie sale

-Leigh brought up the idea to serve hot chocolate and a cookie to the kids before Christmas break. It was suggested that instead of council footing the bill, that she approaches businesses for donations

***action: Leigh and Cecilia go to businesses to ask donations**

-Next popup popcorn sale will be December 15th

12. Treasurer Report:

October 6 statement end: \$2691.09

13. Closing Comments:

Thank you again for everyone for putting in so much time and energy to get things rolling! You are appreciated!

14. Meeting Adjourned 8:54pm



Nov. 21, 2023 Trustee Report for School Council Meetings Trustee Donna Tugwood

Grateful Advocates for Catholic Education:

<https://www.starcatholic.ab.ca/download/320570>

ACSTA's theme of "Walking Together in Catholic Education."

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/GrACE4cathed>

Twitter

https://twitter.com/grace4cathed?s=21&t=SjiBXz_PDB76uxJhpVrJpg

Instagram grace_advocate_for_catholic_ed

https://www.instagram.com/invites/contact/?i=b59u9ol7lodt&utm_content=pigze1u

Board Priorities for 2023-2027

<https://www.starcatholic.ab.ca/download/414083>

October Board Meeting Highlights

October regular meeting of the 2023 School year was held on the 18th at 1:30pm.

The board reviewed materials and discussed plans for Catholic Education Sunday which was held on Nov. 12th in Lacombe and various other dates in other wards in the division. Unfortunately I was unable to attend as I was still sick with COVID. My thanks to our amazing principal Maria and to Elaine for all of their help with this event

The board was also reminded of our tradition of laying a wreath in Lacombe for Remembrance Day. Due to Covid I was unable to attend but we did purchase a wreath and it was laid by a friend of Catholic Education Florence Lang.

The Board in Sept completed both the board self evaluation and Superintendent evaluation. The reports were both approved at this meeting.

Other Events

All Board trustees and our Superintendent attended the Alberta Catholic School Trustee Association AGM convention in Edmonton from Nov. 17-19. Our Trustee from Leduc Dawn Miller, was elected Vice President and Kelly Whalen was elected President. It was a very spiritual event as well as covering a great deal of association business. The Honourable Demetrios Nicolaides Minister of Education spoke to our members and expressed his support for Catholic Education, saying that his young children attend Catholic Schools. Archbishop Smith lead us in Worship Celebrating Mass together before finishing our 2023 AGM.

All Board trustees and our Superintendent attended the Alberta School Board AGM convention also

in Edmonton from November 19-21. This was a very busy three days. A great deal of business was covered as well as elections. Marilyn Dennis and Shali Busiak were both re-elected as President and Vice President. The Honourable Demetrios Nicolaides Minister of Education spoke to our members, he has a strong dedication to our education system. The Honourable Danielle Smith, Premier of Alberta also spoke to our members and stressed the important role locally-elected school boards have in supporting student success.

The Board held its annual retreat on Oct 23 and completed our Positive Path Forward for the 23/24 year.

Dec. 5, we are looking forward to a meeting with the Minister of Education to discuss transportation for our Lacombe students and all of STAR students.

Our next board meeting will be on **Nov. 29, 2023.**

<https://www.starcatholci.ab.ca/division/school-board/board-meetings>

Donna Tugwood

Board chair

St. Thomas Aquinas Roman Catholic Schools

Trustee - Lacombe Ward

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