



ST. FRANCIS JUNIOR HIGH

November School Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 15, 2021 6:00 – 7:00pm
School Canteen

Attendees: Devon Dempsey, Darren Miller, Bob Spitzig, Laurie Catonio, Rena Walker, Brenda Hungrywolf, Cathy Metzler, Tricia Doherty, Roisin Gibb

1. **Meeting called to order** at 6:02pm followed by Opening Prayer led by Devon.
2. **Land Acknowledgement**
3. **Approval of Minutes** – No previous minutes
4. **Introduction of Chairperson & Report** - Laurie Catonio was introduced as the new Chairperson. She provided an introduction to herself and experience in this role. The SFJH School Council Mission Statement is old and needs to be reviewed. Council may want to consider reviewing Council Bylaws as it is about 20 years old.

ACTION ITEM: Members to review Mission Statement at next meeting. Council bylaws attached.

“As a School Council, we support the Mission Statement of St. Francis Junior High School which states that we are a Catholic Faith community dedicated to educating and fostering the growth of responsible citizens who are life long learners encouraged to live and celebrate our faith”.

5. **Treasurer Report** – No report. Devon stated Council has about \$3500.00 left from the beginning of the year but should have some school fee deposits. Uncertain of other expenses beyond awards money already paid out.
6. **Introduction of New Trustee & Report - Divisional News** - Bob Spitzig is the new SFJH School Liaison from the Board of Trustees. After the recent municipal election, there are 3 returning Board Members and 7 new members. The board has met and had a conference already with a lot of information being presented.

Bob commented that the Board is aware of the ongoing bussing issues and working with Southland Transportation to help solve them. There are a lot of new requirements bus drivers must meet and so there is a shortage. Insurance premiums have also increased and the Board is trying to be compensated by the government for those significant increases.

Discussion of school door times followed due to busses arriving early. Doors of the school will be opened at 7:30 am for bus students who are arriving early to the school. Administrators/Teachers will be there to supervise. Staff are expected to be to school 15 mins before and 15 mins after so administrators will cover gaps. The Complex Needs bus is arriving 30-60 minutes late each day. School is aware of this and working to help correct this.

See Board Meeting Briefs for October 27, 2021 attached.

ACTION ITEM: Devon will communicate with staff about door open times.

7. Principal Report - SFJH News (Devon Dempsey/Darren Miller)

- a) **Meeting Dates:** November 15, December 13, January 17, February 14, March 21, April 11, May 16, June 20 – Council agreed to not have a meeting on Feb 14. Meeting dates need to go on the website
- b) **Faith Plan** – Darren provided a Faith Plan update (see attached powerpoint). Staff are being supported to journey together in faith.
- c) **Athletics Update** – Darren reported that cross country went well but no trip to Medicine Hat due to being asked not to travel. Two students won Cities. Volleyball finished last week with Jr Girls getting a Silver in Cities, Sr Girls getting a Silver in Cities as well. Basketball started this week.

There is a noticeable lack of development of athletes due to COVID so great to see kids participating again.

Shout out to all the coaches who make athletics possible. Live stream was a great bonus for parents/family/friends. No parents in the stands did help athletes to focus. Spectators for basketball to be determined November 16th in meeting with other schools.

- d) **Musical Update** - cast has been posted and rehearsals are in full swing
- e) **Interventions Update - LLI & WIN** – Literacy and Numeracy Interventions are paying off. SFJH is the first Junior High in the division to move to a fully inclusive model. There has been noticeable need for reading/numeracy interventions after COVID. Every student will have intervention/enrichment time. Grade 7 started first during Literacy time. Grade 8 and 9 have WIN time.

A member with a child with exceptionalities commented that they were concerned about full inclusion but are loving it for their child.
- f) **Homestay Update** – There is a need for homes for 1 male and 1 female student. If interested in this opportunity contact Wendy Urquhart at (403) 331-4458.
- g) **Upcoming Dates** – Important dates provided: See attachment. Member requested office hours to be explained to parents at large as this is not widely understood. Parents are advised to contact the teacher to book meetings as needed. Member asked if daily announcements can be posted the day before as students may miss them in the morning or not have accurate information.
- h) **AERR - Annual Education Results Report** – All schools complete this accountability survey. Report of findings given early to council to review for next meeting.
- i) **CIP - Continuous Improvement Plan** – Members review for next meeting
- j) **PAT information:**
As it stands, PATs will be written in both January and June
 - 1. January 11: ELA Part A
 - 2. January 14: FLA Part A

3. January 21: FLA Part B
4. January 24: Math
5. January 25: Social
6. January 26: Science
7. January 27: ELA

ACTION ITEMS:

1. **Devon to put meeting dates on the website**
2. **Devon/Darren to share thank you to all the coaches on behalf of School Council**
3. **Council members to review the Annual Education Results and Continuous Improvement Plan for next meeting**
4. **Devon to post teacher office hours on the website and in the newsletter**
5. **Devon to post daily announcements the day before**

8. New Business

- a) **Request for Funds** - on behalf of the library with request letter. A discussion of where the library typically receives funding – chocolate fundraiser but was missed this year by mistake.

MOTION by Rena: SFJH School Council will give \$750.00 to the school library to purchase books aimed at diversity. Motion seconded by Brenda. All in favor. **Motion Passed.**

Discussion about the role of Council to fundraise for needed items. Fundraising has not happened in recent years outside of the school chocolate fundraiser which raised about \$30,000 earmarked for items. Council will consider if fundraising is necessary if given a wish list from the school.

ACTION ITEM: Devon/Darren/Jackie to collect a wish list from school staff to present to Council for consideration

b) Executive Roles

Chair: Laurie Catonio

Vice Chair: Michelle Fedorowich

Secretary: **vacant** (Acting Secretary: Susanna Gonsalvez)

Treasurer: Tokunbo Walter-Enudi

9. New Business Arising from the Meeting – Clothing Store – Member inquired into school swag opportunities before Christmas.

ACTION ITEM: Devon/Darren to look into opening school clothing store before Christmas.

10. Closing Prayer

11. Meeting Adjourned at 7:12 pm

Date of Next Meeting: December 13, 2021