



**St. Francis Junior High School
School Council Regular Meeting
November 13, 2024 – 6:00 pm
Library (Room 116)**

1. Call to order – 6 pm – Charmaine Uys
 - a.) Opening Prayer – Jackie Kraemer
 - b.) Land Acknowledgement – Jackie Kraemer

2. Welcome and Introductions:
Jackie Kraemer (Staff), Michael Racz (Staff), Tricia Doherty (Trustee Liaison), Charmaine Uys, Gerriane Timmerman, Malorie Enns, Roisin Gibb, Tokunbo Walter-Enudi.

3. Approval of minutes from the September 2024 meeting – Motion Tokunbo, Gerriane Second, All in favor.

4. Old Business: None

5. New Business
 - a. All Saints Parish requesting a donation for a program – Jackie Kraemer. Tricia suggested adding “no tuition” when placing ads so people new to the area are aware we’re publicly funded.
 - *Motion to donate up to \$200 towards a banner ad in the All-Saints Parish booklets by Roisin, Tokunbo Second, All in Favor.*

 - b. By-laws – clarification of how many times in a year the board is expected to meet – Charmaine Uys. Tricia mentioned that it should be changed from Bylaws to Operating Procedures. It would also be beneficial if the Chair for each year would review the operating procedures to ensure everything is up to date and reflects current expectations.
 - *Motion by Gerriane to change School Council Bylaws to School Council Operating Procedures, add the suggestion for a yearly*



review by the Council Chair, and add for School Council to meet a minimum of Five times a year. Tokunbo Second, All in Favor.

6. Trustee's Report –

https://www.holyspirit.ab.ca/board_administration/board_of_trustees/board_meetings

- New Superintendent Chantel Axani. Her Installment Mass was held on November 2nd at Assumption parish at 5pm and was Presided by the Bishop. She officially started November 7th. Chantel has been busy meeting with schools and admin and learning the needs of the school division.
- Our Trustees will be attending their fall meetings in Edmonton this month.
- On December 2nd they will host the Council of School Council Chairs, emails will be sent out to Chairs and Vice Chairs soon, if neither can attend it is recommended someone from each school council should still attend to make sure they're all represented.
- The trustees will be making new boundary recommendations for the new year. They will be looking at setting up meetings with parish committees or ward committees, made up of Principals, School Council Chairs, the Superintendent, Parishes, etc. The trustees will consider if this might be a better means of interaction rather than attending school council meetings. As of right now it will be status quo, so please continue inviting the Trustee to Council meetings.
- Roisin and Tricia were chosen as members of the 8th edition of Team Lethbridge, consisting of 19 organizations and met in Edmonton for three days this month to advocate on behalf of our city and region with the provincial government. Both Roisin and Tricia had many meetings with many different ministers, parliamentary secretaries, etc. They had a reception with NDP the second night. Roisin brought up the need for a modernization for St. Francis. Tricia talked about FMNI graduation rates with The Minister and the Jordan's Principle Grant.



- Holy spirit stars, reminder to submit any accomplishments for our students. Recently they've included five to six admin staff for completing their master's degrees in leadership.
- GrACE (Grateful Advocates for Catholic Education) is an advocacy group that works across the province. They have a new website and Gracealberta.org. If you want more info check out the link and sign up for the newsletter.
- Tricia and Roisin had a great opportunity to make the Premier aware of St. Francis' need to be modernized. They've also met with Lethbridge West UCP Candidate John Middleton-Hope, and he has mentioned prioritizing St. Francis' modernization as well. The Alberta Government prefers site-ready builds. They could provide us with planning money to figure out whether it should be a new building or renovations.

7. Treasurer's Report

Opening balance as of Sept 1, 2024 - \$811.39

Closing balance as of Oct 31, 2024 - \$795.39

No funds deposited during this time.

Total debit for this period was \$16 which consists of fees for statement printing and monthly maintenance fees.

8. Principal's Report

1. Staffing Update:

- a. Pia Virgillo accepted the temp .5 position
- b. New Superintendent Chantel Axani

2. Enrollment update

- a. 616 students
- b. 192 students declared EAL
- c. 92 Declared FNMI

3. Performing Arts of St. Francis

- a. Newsies - Auditions are completed and Practices are underway.



4. Athletics

- a. Volleyball success- thank you to our dedicated coaches.
- b. Many staff coaches and community volunteers
- c. Basketball has started - tryouts today.
- d. New basketball uniforms for all teams. Blue and White set. The goal is to try to replace the uniforms every 5 years going forward.
- e. New Track and field singlets will be ordered this year, and there will be new volleyball uniforms for next year.

5. Office Hours/ Parent Teacher Interviews

- a. Office Hours posted on our website - call the office to book in.
- b. next one is March 25, 2025

6. New York Trip - April 17- 21.

7. School Council engagement money \$388.76

- a. proposal -[The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood Is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness \\$120 for 3 copies](#) by Jonathan Haidt. After discussion, Council members suggested we purchase 3 copies in English, and maybe purchase buy more copies but in different languages.
- b. Other ideas? Nutrition session with a dietitian - a practical guide for parents
*They considered a Money matters subscription but with the funds would only be able to purchase around 30 licenses. The engagement money wouldn't work for this purchase because we can't pay for licenses for everyone. The school might set up a workshop for parents to work with their children using the licenses.



8. The AEAM Report will be presented at our next meeting with hopes of having a bigger turnout. PAT results, acceptable standard is way up. The standard of excellence is slightly down but overall, it's positive.

9. Dance Chaperones - November 28th, 2024

a. [Sign Up Sheet](#)

10. Thank you for the awards donation!

11. Questions:

- a. Malorie experienced an error when trying to fill out the survey in the newsletter. She needed permission to access the form. Jackie will update the survey permission and resend the survey again.
- b. The chocolate proceeds were only \$18,000. school purchased enough chocolate to earn approximately \$23-25,000 based on how many boxes of chocolate they purchase. Although disappointing there were a few changes to the original system that could've caused issues. There are still chocolate boxes the school will continue to sell at events. There were suspensions for kids who were asking for tips and not handling the fundraising appropriately. The school will be sending out notices for outstanding chocolate box money.
- c. There were conflicts with the meetings dates set for this year. The updated dates for the remainder of the meetings for this school year are:
 - i. January 14th, 2025 @6:00pm
 - ii. March 4th, 2025 @6:00pm
 - iii. May 14th, 2025 @6:00pm

9. Closing Prayer – Jackie Kraemer

10. Adjournment – 7:01pm