



**St. Francis Junior High School
School Council Regular Meeting
January 14, 2025 – 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), Tricia Doherty (Trustee Liaison), Charmaine Uys, Gerriane Timmerman, Malorie Enns, Roisin Gibb, June Beloin, Tanya Koopmans, Chantelle Motycka, Danille Lazzaretto-Green
3. Approval of minutes from the November 2024 meeting – *Motion June, Gerriane Second, All in favor.*
4. Old Business:
 - a. All Saints Parish donation
 - b. By-laws changes done
 - i. School Council Bylaws changed to School Council Operating Procedures. Have been amended as per the minutes of the last meeting.
 - ii. Yearly review by Chair
 - iii. Council to meet a min of 5 times per year
5. New Business
 - a. CCH Sponsorship request for Mamma Mia! Musical - Charmaine Uys
Motion by June to sponsor brochure for \$50, Second Roisin, All in Favor
 - b. Feedback on Holy Spirit Catholic School Division Board of Trustees meeting – Charmaine Uys
 - i. School Council members from all over Alberta joined together to give feedback on how they deal with different situations.



Some topics discussed were: The Alberta assurance survey and the School Council engagement grant. Everyone struggled with the same issue, they can't find ways to spend it. The schools who were able to use it shared what items worked for them. There was also discussion of increased awareness of indigenous practices in schools.

How we used our grant: Anxious generation books x three languages, parent evening, ted talk.

6. Trustee's Report –

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

The boundary reconfigurations must be set up a year before the new school opens. The new school will be opening approximately September 2026 (elementary school). They will need to reevaluate the whole city to better balance students, looking at pressure points, throughout district to all the schools. They will be making decisions focusing on long-term thinking of the next 10-15 years. Everyone is encouraged to attend one of the meetings, the first is on January 29th at FLVT, and the second is on January 30th at CCH East (in the canteen). They want as many perspectives as possible, public feedback to ensure all aspects are considered. Childcare will be offered during the meetings as well as translators (if possible) to try to eliminate barriers and assist families who speak different languages. Messages will be going out to parents. The information is posted on social media. Tricia is meeting with the committee tomorrow and they'll discuss sending out more information. The original message was sent out October 29th, but they will send out a new one. Bussing regulations changed after boundary planning. The boundaries have changed back to 1.6 minimum (A couple years ago to 1km k-6, 2km 7-12), that will come into effect in Sept 2025. Some considerations must be for families with different age levels, different schools, French vs not. The only school that won't change will be CCH because it's one school for the whole city.

Re-registration reminder emails have been sent out and started on Monday. New registration starts on Feb 3. Extremely important because of the



weighted average, early enrollments provide a good projection of numbers for the purposes of planning, budgeting and staff allocations.

Check out the link above for the Holy Spirit stars, the Board package and meeting brief.

Next board meeting is January 22nd.

GRACE website is now live (<https://www.gracealberta.org/>). The website provides resources, news and updates, etc. and is a helpful place to direct interested families.

7. Treasurer's Report – Submitted by Tokunbo by email

Opening balance as of Nov 1, 2024 - \$795.39

Closing balance as of Dec 31, 2024 - \$3,621.39

The total credit to the account was \$2,842(school fees) in Nov & Dec.

The total debit from the account was \$16, which consists of monthly maintenance and statement printing service charges.

8. Principal's Report

1) Staffing Update:

a) Librarian - Currently looking to fill a temp medical leave until March. EA filling in. Can't find a casual employee to fill in.

b) Daniel Scott- Perry - Feb 14th last day. Resigning to be a full-time dad. Advertised and have about 20 applicants.

a) Maternity Leaves 3 pregnancy.

i) Tricia Sward

ii) Camilla Paglierrici

iii) Kristen Mazzuca

2) Re-Registration is now open. Please re-register asap. Jackie had a pre-enrollment meeting, and numbers are looking like they will increase again. Currently at 617, with projections to be at 640 for next year. Boundary meetings! Get awareness for meeting out, people need to come. Increased 12% in student enrollment this year. Admin met with the government to add additional programming. We had 78 students join the school and only 5 are



from Holy Spirit schools so the numbers show they're not poaching from other Holy spirit schools.

3) Performing Arts of St. Francis

- a) Newsies -Tickets will be up this week probably on the 16th! March 11th is opening night. Showcase will host incoming grade 7's or families on March 10th.

4) Athletics

- a) Basketball update – Full swing, almost wrapping up for grade 7's. Staff rep with almost every team. Hosted successful tournaments for boys' and girls' grade 7's.

5) Office Hours/ Parent Teacher Interviews, if you want more time try office hours, and multiple teachers can meet with parents at one time.

- a) Office Hours posted on our website - call the office to book in.
- b) March 25th PTI

6) New York Trip

- a) April 17- 21
- b) 31 travelers

Possible teacher's strike in the spring, parents had to pay for insurance to figure out how each individual refund would be handled. They use EF tours because things like this have happened.

7) School Council engagement money \$388. 76

- a) books have arrived - need to be catalogued and added to the library collection. Jackie will update when she has final numbers for what we have left to spend.

8) AEAM - CIP Report

CIP – There was a better parent response this time. The administration is always trying to figure out better ways to get parent response. It'll be sent out early 2025. They use the information for everything. The report/results have been posted on website under AEAM CIP

<https://sfjh.holyspirit.ab.ca/documents/444e315c-ab3c-4f40-b6e2-77e84c0d>



[1fe7/2024-2025%20AEAM%20and%20CIP%20Reports.pdf](#)). The new superintendent wanted a more standardized analysis.

School report card. Overall St. Francis is above average in almost all the areas. Student learning and engagement score was 89.9%, provincial average 83%, we increase from 79.5%. We're seeing an upward trend because of very engaged staff and collective efficacy and the data is supporting that. Citizenship score was 89.4% versus the prov average 79.4%. Intramurals, clubs, fine arts and athletics programs, volunteerism built into classes. Students take an active role for the common good. PAT data area to note doesn't match provincial level (prov 15.4 vs ours 15.1). Acceptable standards for St. Francis received 73.5% vs the Provincial Average at 62.5%. There are more students meeting the acceptable standards than the provincial average.

The results in English Language Arts, 83.1% of our students achieved the Acceptable Standard compared to the provincial average of 71.4%. Similarly, our science results are exceptional, with 78.8% of students meeting the Acceptable Standard compared to the provincial average of 66.3%. The results acknowledge the unique makeup of students and families as they are very diverse. Education Quality and Welcoming, Caring, Respectful, Safe and Caring Learning Environments both improved, showing the hard work the staff have done trying to build school culture. Discipline at the office has gone down every year. Access to support and services. Dual stream school, maintaining exceptional French program. Parental involvement increased. The staff have tried to be creative with office hours or concerts etc. to ensure parents can be involved or interact with teachers when they are available.

- 9) Basement update and tour. Officially an academy space. Hockey and dance have used it the most. The goal was to have it functional before semester two. CCH has been asking to use the basement for baseball.
- 10) Questions: The callout system only phones parents at 6:15pm. How does it work. You can request a PowerSchool update so parents can excuse through the app from the division. Parents would like to be notified earlier as it can be a safety concern. Some factors that can cause the delays are our staffing, main person was sick, trying to make sure it's all entered properly. The school will look into finding a more efficient way. Email sfoffice@holyspirit.ab.ca is the best way to let them know about attendance issues. A better system will make it



better for the office staff as well. Tricia added that the Board always has a standing item for advocacy, Tricia can bring this up as well.

9. Closing Prayer – Jackie Kraemer

10. Adjournment – 7:10pm

Next Meeting March 4th, 2025 @6:00pm