

School Council Minutes

Date	February 10, 2020
Attendance	Colette Lastiwka, Fiona Nyuli, Shannon Blyth, Kristy Chamulke, Erin Crawley, Kyla Norris, Brenda Watmough, Melissa Orr-Langer, Teresa Bodker, Denise Hoag, Carrie Knysh, Aoife Cahill, Melissa Damur, Laura Cormier
Guests	Ted Paszek – EICS Trustee
General Business	
Start Time	6:36 p.m.
Approval of Agenda	Erin Crawley
Old Business	
4 x 4 Update <i>Erin Crawley</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is still a possibility of expanding the boundaries into Tofield and area. • The last vote didn't go through as quorum wasn't met. There will be another vote taking place (date to be determined). Voting deadline is April 18, 2020. Approximately 31 people are required to meet quorum.
New Business	
CEPAC <i>Erin Crawley</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unfortunately I wasn't able to attend the CEPAC (<i>Catholic Education Parents Advisory Committee</i>) meeting on January 20th due to illness. Minutes were shared with those in attendance, see attached.
School Report <i>Aoife Cahill</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Spread Love Everywhere You Go– (Melissa Damur)</i> We're dedicating the month of February to love and spreading acts of love everywhere you go. A bulletin board has been created to display paper hearts that will showcase the acts of love shown by our students and staff. • <i>Junior High – (Laura Cormier)</i> I teach the junior high students here at St. Luke. I have partnered with a friend from high school who teaches Language Arts in Edmonton. Our classes will be doing a novel study together. Students will be reading Legend by Marie Lu. • <i>Staffing –</i> As mentioned at our November meeting our music teacher Mrs. Lynette Kaminski reduced her hours due to health concerns. She is working three half days - Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings. Mr Driedger's wife who was filling in on Wednesday afternoons is currently off recovering from surgery and we have a substitute in for her. Mrs. Andrea Kroeker our grade 2/3 teacher continues to recover from a car accident in November, she will remain off till April. Miss Samantha Boehm is filling in for her. Miss Boehm will stay on until Mrs. Kroeker is able to return full time. Our Educational Assistant Mrs. Colleen Woltjen has retired and been replaced by Miss Chelsea Visser in grade 1. • <i>2020-2021 Kindergarten Registration –</i> Registration opened February 1 and we already have seven new families registered. We estimate having 20 students in kindergarten assuming our current thirteen pre K students carry on into kindergarten here at St. Luke. We haven't opened up pre K registration yet, a decision will be made depending on the amount of students we have registered in kindergarten.

- *Nature Kindergarten* – If we have enough enrolment (18-20 students) we will be running the nature kindergarten program for the 2020-2021 school year. Our pre K and kindergarten teacher Miss Jordan Lakeman also runs the nature kindergarten program at Holy Redeemer. Nature kindergarten would run on alternate kindergarten days like our current Kinder Plus program. The cost to families is \$400 per month.
- *School Advertising* – We continue to look into ways to advertise our school. We're talking with the county about the possibility of putting up a sign west of the school. We will also provide surrounding community halls and Parent Link with information about our school.
- *Open House* – Will be held Thursday March 12, 2020 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. There will be an 'Ask Me Anything' table manned by parents where perspective families can ask questions 'parent to parent' about the school. Families can enter a draw for \$200 towards their 2020/2021 PowerSchool account. Students have to be enrolled at St. Luke for 2020/2021 to claim the prize. Families can fill out one ticket per school aged child. Snacks will be provided by our nutrition program.
- *Nutrition Program* – Students are loving the nutrition program. It's exciting to see them try new food and to hear them talk about nutrition as they sit down together every morning for a nutritious snack.
- *Loose Parts Play* – Adrain from EverActive schools continues to work with the students. Loose Parts Play will begin once the snow melts. We continue to acquire items. Students are also looking forward to Loose Parts Art in the library.
- *Family Meet and Greet* – We are looking for ideas of ways that families can connect with other families within our school community. Most of the time families only know other families within their child's grade level.
(Discussion included a possible Family Fun Day)
- *ASCA* – The ASCA (*Alberta School Council Association*) conference and AGM will be held on April 24-26, 2020. AGM will be on Sunday the 26th. Erin Huculak represented our school last year.
(Erin Crawley) We need someone to represent our school this year. The cost to attend the conference is \$395. The AGM and voting is free to attend.
- *Lunchtime Supervision* – Due to the budget we had to cut our lunchtime supervision. Thank you to all the parents that have volunteered their time during the lunch hour to supervise our students. There is a volunteer calendar in the office, any amount of time you can give is greatly appreciated.
- *Surveys*– Parents with students in grade 4-8 should have received the provincial government's Accountability Pillar Survey in the mail. There is also the EICS Assurance Survey that needs to be completed. I encourage parents to complete the surveys as the results influence what our focus is for the year.
(Erin Crawley) – ASCA also has a survey 'Shaping the Vision of Student Learning' deadline to complete the survey is February 24, 2020.
- *Recognition of Staff* – (Erin Crawley) I'd like to recognize our junior high teacher Miss Laura Cormier. She provides many extra curricular activities to the students at St. Luke. She organized intramurals on the cold days when students had to stay inside. She devotes many hours to coaching the girls

basketball team and has done a fabulous job. A principal who coached one of the games shared his thoughts about Miss Cormier. He said 'The coach was calm, composed and extremely positive towards the girls throughout the game. She is an excellent role model and representative of St. Luke and your team!'

- *Ash Wednesday* – Our school community will attend mass at St Francis of Assisi in Tofield on Wednesday February 26, 2020 at 1 p.m.
- *EICS Trustees - (Ted Paszek)* As trustee we continue to advocate for Catholic education. We met with three out of the four MLAs in our jurisdiction to build relationships and to express concerns with the budget.

Adjournment

Next Meeting

Monday March, 16 2020 @ 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Adjourned by Erin Crawley Time 7:45 p.m.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (CEPAC)

Agenda

Monday January 20, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Central Learning Services

310 Broadview Drive, Sherwood Park

Parking – available at the front of the building

Attendees:

Pamela Bunclark, St. Mary

Melanie Marohn, OLMP

Natalie Wallace, OLPH

Monique Gagnon, EPK

Jean Boisvert, Trustee

Teresa Makowecki, Trustee

Ted Paszek, Board Chair

Shawn Haggarty, Superintendent

Kelly Frigon, OLMP

Stacey Walker, St. André Bessette

Jennifer Brownlee, Madonna

Pamela Gravelle, Principal, OLA

Michelle Szott, Trustee

Ron Baier, Trustee

Lisa Wispinski, Executive Services Coordinator

Paul Corrigan, Assistant Superintendent

AGENDA

Call to order – January 20, 2020 7:00 pm

Opening Prayer – Led by Paul Corrigan

1. Co-generate the agenda items to be discussed.
 - a. Topics generated using Thoughtexchange. This tool is also available to school council chairs to use as a tool to generate agenda topics. The link can be sent in advance to parent community to generate topics for school council meetings.
2. Goals for Catholic Education – how do we support the direction of our division?
 - a. GrACE Committee: Stacey Walker spoke about advocacy through GrACE. Important not to get complacent.
 - b. EICS Trustees have an advocacy plan each year to meet with MLA's municipalities, bishops, neighbouring school divisions to share the good work done in EICS schools. Allows for constructive conversations.
 - c. Trustee Baier spoke of advocating for faith opportunities in the schools, promoting student engagement in masses. Advocating for more masses in your school community. Suggested the idea of having school councils partner to bring in faith based speakers to the school.
 - d. Assistant Superintendent Paul Corrigan shared information about the EXCEL Academy at Newman Theological College. Currently have teaching staff enrolled in the faith based leadership development program. Maintaining vigilance in

engagement – to encourage parent community to participate in assurance surveys that are coming in January.

- e. Monique Gagnon shared that council works with OLPH parish to actively promote parish activities, works to support charitable initiatives of the division (ie. Valeda House)
 - f. Natalie Wallace shared that council tries to be visible at faith activities in the school, and works with OLPH parish to promote parish events.
 - g. Suggestion was to add a faith activity item to school council agendas, to help promote faith activities that are occurring in the school. This will help share ideas among the parent community.
 - h. Trustee Boisvert inquired if school council was involved in the Catholic School Reviews. Assistant Superintendent Paul Corrigan indicated this was more of an informal process working with school principals gathering parent feedback, but will look to include school council members as well.
 - i. Trustee Szott shared that the Board reports regularly to ACSTA (Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association) on the Catholicity in the division. Information is shared to promote best practices.
3. Budget Information
- a. Budget is expected in March along with a new funding framework.
 - b. Fiscal decisions cannot be made for 2020/20201 until new budget and funding framework are released
 - c. Once information is made available, that will be shared with the community.
4. ASCA Conference (April 24-26 – Delta Marriott Edmonton South)
- a. Important and valued work, ideal to have 1 or 2 school council members attend. <https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/about/annual-conference>
 - b. Suggest adding the topic to the next school council meeting to discuss sending members to the conference.
 - c. Trustee Szott commended CEPAC members for standing collectively to support Catholic Education. Your voice is important and powerful and is recognized in the province.
5. Email Communication
- a. How as school council chairs would you like EICS to communicate parish information, Board Highlights, GrACE newsletters, information from municipal groups, Quid Novum, ect?
 - b. Discussion about the volume of emails that school council chairs receive.
 - c. Suggestion made that school council set up a generic school council email where all communication can be sent (parent inquiries, community newsletters, ect). Login can be shared with council executive. This email can then be shared with your school community instead of parents having access to your personal email. Please share this email with Lisa Wispinski (lisaw@eics.ab.ca). She will use email this to forward any of the newsletters listed above. ***As requested, general***

solicitations for business (ie hot lunch vendors) will no longer be forwarded from EICS to school council.

- d. Request was made to send the communication listed above to a school council email, instead of the council chairs personal email.
 - e. CEPAC meeting dates, agendas will still be emailed to school council chairs' personal email address provided.
 - f. Some school councils are using Dropbox to share/store school council documents. OLPH and EPK council chairs are currently using Dropbox if you have questions.
6. Other
- a. 3 things to watch for from principals to discuss at council meetings as input is requested from school council:
 - i. 2020/2021 Proposed school calendars
 - ii. School Assurance plans
 - iii. Budget (April / May)

Superintendent Shawn Haggarty expressed his thanks to those in attendance tonight and gratitude for the work of all school councils in advocating for Catholic Education.

Closing Prayer – Shawn

Meeting Adjourned - 8:27 pm