



"Together We Build Tomorrow in God's Love"

Neil M Ross Catholic School

Executive Council Meeting Minutes

March 14, 2023 | 7:00 p.m.

In Person: Staff Room | Virtual: Google Link

Attendance: Jessica Brady, Melissa Giroux, Anne Hanson, Joe Becigneul, Shelby Moser, Rob Rawcliffe, Becky Prudhomme, Sheri Holik, Stephanie Chau

Virtual: Jenn Kluthe, Elicia Galesloot, Candice Crandall, Courtney Quirk

Regrets: Courtney Haigh, Susan Tarling, Brittany Meaver

Business Portion of the Meeting

1. Call to Order: 7:04pm
2. Opening Prayer: Melissa Giroux
3. Acknowledgement of the Territories: Melissa Giroux
4. Introductions
5. Good News to Share
6. Additions to the March 2023 Agenda
 - a. Defer Year End BBQ to April
7. Approval of the March 2023 Agenda
 - a. Motion: Anne Hanson, Second: Becky Prud'homme
8. Approval of February 2023 School Council Meeting Minutes
 - a. Motion: Candice Crandall, Second: Melissa Giroux
9. Fowler Report: Melissa Giroux
 - a. See Attachments at end of document.
10. Old Business
 - a. Playground Committee Motion/Update: Anne Hanson
 - i. The Joint Playground Committee agreed to move forward with expanding the footprint for Phase Two; acknowledging the current funds secured does not cover play equipment sufficient to cover the whole area.
 - ii. Playground Committee - Presentation of Information Package. See Attachments at end of document.
 - iii. Canadian Rec Solutions - Proposal Presented
(https://drive.google.com/file/d/193kRszeGxaYA-9YWeDsMFBwZgNiUk8e9/view?usp=share_link)
 - iv. Motion: Request additional funds to support Phase 2 Playground Project in the amount of 'up to, and including \$3500'; funds will offset the GST on CRS quote presented and supplement secured funds.
Motion: Anne Hanson, Second: Sheri Holik, all in favor
 - b. Shrove Tuesday Pancake Lunch: Courtney Quirk
 - i. \$790 donated to Catholic Social Services, \$499.10 donated to the Knights of Columbus
 - c. Staff Appreciation Week: Courtney Haigh
 - i. Parents were very generous, a report will be created with all of the funds that were collected and their intended use.
 - d. Education Foundation Update

- i. Finalized the sponsorship package for the golf tournament. Registration is open online. A sellout could net up to \$15 000 funds raised. Volunteer opportunities available.
- ii. Raised \$26 080 through Future Grant Programs, helps schools through scholarships that support students going into high school and post secondary.
- iii. AGM April 13, 2023, Secretary position is available, Business Member, and Community Positions available. Meeting at Division Services Center 7pm.

11. Trustee's Report: Joe Becigneul

- a. Meeting Held March 13
- b. Policy Reviews on Policy 10 (Policy Making), 16 (Alternative Programs), 17 (Public Interest Disclosure)
- c. Thursday March 16 there will be a day long review of Policy 1: Mission Statement, Policy 7: Expenditures
- d. French Immersion Campus, 3 year capital Plan needs to be submitted by the end of the month
 - ten projects and government looks at the top 3
 - Number 1 Priority was modernization/renovation of EMP/ESSMY
 - A renaming committee of the three schools, including parents, staff, admin, trustees
 - Third priority, Bertha Kennedy renovation and modernization
- e. ASCA re-election advocacy March 21 at Queen Elizabeth
- f. Electronic postcard created by GSACRD, top 4 questions that parents can use to question candidates (<https://www.gsacrd.ab.ca/trustees/community-and-advocacy>)
- g. Run out of room for the outreach school, the board has approved the design stage of renos to DSC and Holy Family School. If accepted St. Gabe;s will move to Holy Family School and departments will move back to DSC.
 - More than double the size, allow more room for privacy for small working groups for students
 - Design should be back in a month
- h. Minister Legrange visited Berth Kennedy February 13, intent on learning Dr. Georgio's program about closing the learning gaps, read to Grade 2's, Minister Nally attended as well
- i. Budget was received the same as last year, also being topped with stabilization funding
 - transportation funding requirements changed to include more families/closer proximity to qualify
- j. Board Self Evaluation in April and May
- k. April 3 next Whole Committee Meeting, April 24 next Regular Board Meeting

12. Administration Report: Shelby Moser and Rob Rawcliffe

- a. See Attachments at end of document.

13. Friends of Neil M. Ross Report: Becky Prud'homme

- a. Bylaws have been updated and filed with Corporate Registries
- b. Art Card Survey Results: looking to rotate between December/Christmas and Spring/Birthday Cards in future years
- c. We applied for a grant for Phase 2 - Community Services Relief Fund and will hear within the next month if we will receive funds
- d. Ski Night March 4, 2023
 - huge success as a community event, approx \$800-900 profit
- e. Purdy's Orders - closing March 18, Midnight
 - pickup will be from the Office April 3-6th
- f. 'Spoil Me' Spring Basket Raffle
 - Thank you to our donors: Erin and Albert So, Taste of Ukraine, Cattail Crossing, Rob Galesloot, Snow Valley, and Foam Fighters. Over \$1000 in donations. Thank you to Brittany Meaver who reached out to Cattail Crossing on our behalf.
 - we will hopefully have a first graphic in WAAG this weekend and if so sales will be open Sunday March 19 at 9am for the Raffle. All of the details will be available on our website and

sales will be open until April 11 at 10am. Our website will have the most up to date information: <https://friendsnmr.wixsite.com/friendsnmr>.

- g. Next Meeting April 13, 2023 at 7pm in Staff Room or Virtual
 - we will begin the meeting with the live draw of our raffle baskets and encourage anyone who wants to attend, to please come join us!
- 14. Healthy Hunger: Sheri Holik
 - a. Tim Horton's was a success, great experience with a new restaurant
 - b. Use of compostable individual bags for Nitza's, delivery of garlic bread comes in one large container, good option to have on hand if needed
- 15. Holy Family Parish Update: Melissa Giroux
 - a. See Attachments at end of document.
- 16. Yearbook Update: Becky Prud'homme
 - a. Yearbook Design is underway and looks amazing so far. First Proof will go to admin April 11.
 - were waiting on Lifetouch for some issues with the site
 - b. Cover Design Contest will be wrapping up before Spring Break.
 - c. Sold 126 so far.
- 17. New Business
 - a. Dog Park Working Group: Stephanie Chau
 - Stephanie has attended 2 working groups with the city, along with Rob and Shelby
 - Stephanie advocated and shared her knowledge that an appeal process should be in place
 - previously told no appeal would be accepted, they have now sent the process to appeal
 - looking at Bylaws and the Appeal Process, looking to move forward to escalate the situation
 - possibility of a petition to collect names that support the attempt to decommission the dog park
 - meeting last week: report was provided, documentation of incidents was disclosed, discouraged from pursuing appeal
 - alternative ideas given by city employee, in regards to use of dog excrement and potential for community involvement; science project where dog feces are collected and used to fuel lamps
 - city disclosed recent funding to erect a fence at an alternate site to protect the animals from traffic based on that location. Concern drawn to this as our team's main goal is the safety of human/children life based on our proximity to off leash area. It was suggested that NMR/GSACRD fund a fence that lines the dog park to keep it separate from the parks, playgrounds, and school use fields and adjacent outdoor spaces
 - Next Meeting May 25
 - b. Year End BBQ: Candice Crandall Deferred to Next Month
 - c. School Council Elections - Melissa to send out information to parents regarding positions available, elections will be in April
 - d. ASCA AGM Resolutions
 - Proposed Advocacy Resolutions for Member Review
 - 2023 Review Package (<https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/public/download/files/225915>)

Meeting Adjourned: 9:27pm

Next Meeting: April 25, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Attachments

9.a. Fowler Report

Richard S Fowler Report

- Annual Ski Trip to Marmot Basin is this Friday, March 16th. Two full busses of students will be going to Jasper for the day!
- Term 3 option classes begin on Tuesday, March 14th
- Homeroom classes coordinated themed raffle baskets for the Lenten Service Project which will help to support the Ukrainian Refugee Fund
- On Wednesday March 15th, SACHS will be visiting the school to help students with their course selections for high school
- Congratulations to Senior boys and girls basketball teams who were the City Champions this year!
- Parent teacher interviews will be held on March 21st and 22nd from 5-8pm. Parents can sign up for interviews online.

10.a. ii. **Playground Committee Update**

Playground Information:

The Joint Playground Committee agreed to move forward with expanding the footprint for Phase Two; acknowledging the current funds secured does not cover play equipment sufficient to cover the whole area.

Rationale:

- Expanding the footprint is best done when the site is in full construction mode.
- Cost comparison of expand/not expand; the committee reviewed designs/quotes and input from the COSA representative when deciding to expand w/less equipment or keep w/full coverage of equipment. As this playground is very likely to require drainage replacement/upgrade, in addition to complete curbing replacement, the cost difference given unknowns did not outweigh the advantages of expanding the footprint w/opportunity for future expansion.
- Expanding the footprint allows for additional play equipment in the future; easier to add equipment than expand a footprint.
- Expanding the footprint provides construction/upgrades for drainage.
- Expanding the footprint provides an additional play area for gathering, and play space for kids.
- Curbing is in need of replacement.
- Low-profile playground, designed to respect neighbouring houses and spread out play area for "ninja" style course play.

- Working with CRS for the last 6-months the attached design and quote is the most desirable for cost input/plan output.

Phase Two planning started in Fall 2020; following the completion of Phase One - Treehouse Park (August 2020). Following two unsuccessful attempts at securing the CFEP grant, the playground committee agreed to move forward with funds secured from both the KPA and NMR School Council. Phase three (Red/Blue) planning is set to begin Fall 2023.

What we know:

- KPA secured funds: \$30,000
- NMR S.C. secured funds: \$30,000
- KPA motioned at their March 5 meeting to support an additional "up to \$3500" to offset the GST on Quote provided by CRS. (attachment).
- Construction is set to begin June/July 2023.
- Playground Design: Low-profile

Background:

- Joint Playground Committee is composed of representatives from Kinoshayo and Neil M Ross; the purpose of facilitating the planning and construction phase of the current playground project.
- Established Terms of Reference.
- Playground lifecycle is determined by the City of St. Albert.
- Committee members select playground vendors which meet RFP requirements; for each phase the committee seeks to collect three vendor submissions.
- Committee works closely with the COSA; ensuring permits, boundaries of land area and planning/construction follow the requirements of the COSA and school boards.
- Committee coordinates with Vendor/construction to ensure site safety requirements and deliverables are being met.
- Prior to sending out an RFP to any vendor, school admin. engage school stakeholders (students, teachers, admin) requesting information of what play elements to move the park design in. Committee members are only tasked with ensuring alignment and compliance is sufficient to meet the requirements of: Kino/NMR Administration, City of St. Albert and any government grant guidelines.
- No financial commitments can be made without first engaging in KPA and/or NMR School Council, in the form of a motion and support.

Action Item:

· Motion requested: *Request additional funds to support Phase Two playground project in the amount "up to, and including \$3500"; funds requested will offset the G.S.T. on CRS quote presented and supplement secured funds.*

· This motion is time sensitive; the committee must have all secured funds to support the quote in order to submit COSA project plan and approve equipment ordering from CRS.

12.a. Administration Report

Admin Report for NMR School Council Meeting March, 14 '23

FAITH & LEARNING NEWS

★ FAITH: ARISE : Get up...Get Going!...**GO WITH GOD!**

- Our Lenten journey continues as a school. We are currently focusing as a school on Almsgiving. Through our school and district wide campaign, Love for Lent, we are raising money for Catholic Social Services to help families coming from Ukraine.
 - Visual is on a bulletin board where each homeroom is earning a ribbon for the display for every \$2 raised.
 - We have raised a total of \$1 065.00 so far!
- During our extended assemblies with each grade level, we continue our learning about Lent and what it means.
 - Teachers are collaborating while we have the students in the gym
- Staff Faith Retreat is this friday. We are working with Sister Alphonse staff under the guidance of our division chaplain, Doug Kramer.
- Student Faith Retreat is on April 6th which is Holy Thursday. The focus is on the rosary and its meaning for us as catholics. Every student will be making a version of the rosary and we are hoping to have them blessed at our Alleluia mass coming up later in April 14.
- We are celebrating the Feast of St. Joseph, next Monday assembly!

★ LEARNING:

- Teachers and support staff are now working on numeracy intervention to bridge the learning gap.
- Literacy interventions are wrapped(ing) up. Reassessments are underway which may lead to alternate supports for some students

SCHOOL NEWS / Collaboration

- ★ The school ski trip to Rabbit Hill was a huge success! So many smiling faces throughout the day. Great weather was definitely welcomed!
- ★ K-2 Fun Day was a blast.
- ★ We have now had 3 companies come in to look at the gym to see what work will have to be done and what equipment we will need. We are waiting for the final quote.
- ★ Report Cards went LIVE this morning through the parent portal on powerschool.
- ★ Parent Teacher Interviews are next Tuesday (5:30pm-8:30pm) and Wednesday (4pm-7pm).
- ★ Book Fair is running all of next week. Details went out in this past Sunday mailer.
- ★ World Down Syndrome Day is next Tuesday! We will be advertising to “Rock Your Socks and wear mismatched socks to raise awareness.
- ★ Evergreen Theater is at NMR on Tuesday morning at 10:30am for a special performance. All are welcome to join us!
- ★ Air Band competition is next Thursday from 1:30pm-2:30pm in our gym! Get ready for some great performances! Come one come all!
- ★ Tuesday April 4th: Parent Session in NMR Gym
 - RAISING KIDS with COURAGE, CURIOSITY & COMPASSION
 - How do we raise kids who have a strong sense of self, who choose to follow their own path and know how to belong to themselves?
 - How do we raise kids who own the truth of who they are? The strengths and awesomeness and the imperfections and flaws?
 - How do we help kids feel what they feel in a healthy and mindful way?
 - Most importantly, how do we normalize struggle AND look for the twinkle lights of joy in life?
 - In this session, Danielle will share tips and tricks to answer all of these questions. And...as always, she will share real life stories and hopefully bring you some laughter!
 - Bio:
 - Danielle is a high school counselor, professional speaker and the co-owner of Fit+Fierce (a program for girls in grades 3-12). Danielle is passionate about helping people find more joy and ease in their lives by aligning themselves with what matters, choosing self-compassion over self-criticism, embracing imperfections and always looking for the twinkle lights no matter how challenging life gets. Danielle loves to bring humor and optimism to everyone she meets. Her greatest professional achievement was being invited to speak at Brené Brown's Courage Camp in Texas in 2018. She is also the proud mother of two amazing boys.

Please feel free to email or call Shelby or Rob if you have any additional questions or would like to provide us with feedback on any of our school-related items. We would love to hear from you!

- Shelby Moser smoser@gsacrd.ab.ca
- Rob Rawcliffe rrowcliffe@gsacrd.ab.ca

15.a. Holy Family Parish Update

Holy Family Parish Report

- Bishop Stephen Hero will be giving our Lenten Mission from Monday, March 20th to Wednesday March 22nd. Each evening, there will be a Mass at 6:30 pm followed by a Lenten talk. Lenten Penitential Service will be March 23rd, Mass at 6:30 pm followed by Reconciliation.
- Lenten Fridays, each Friday during Lent (except March 24th) everyone is welcome for some soup and buns at 5:45pm in the parish hall. The Way of the Cross will follow at 6:30pm and Mass will be held at 7:00pm.
- NMR School will be collecting bottles in support of the Knights of Columbus during parent teacher interviews. Bottles can be dropped off in the church parking lot across the street from the school.
- Our Lady of Victor Camp returns in 2023. Any students from Grades 4-12 is welcome to attend. Those looking for more information or to register can go to the Our lady of Victor camp website.
- Please go to the Holy Family Website for Mass times during Holy Week