



"Together We Build Tomorrow in God's Love"

Neil M Ross Catholic School

Executive Council Meeting Minutes

September 26, 2023 | 7:00 p.m.

In Person: Staff Room | Virtual: Google Link

Attendance: Kristy Cunningham, Julie Stefner, Jenn Kluthe, Sheri Holik, Becky Prudhomme, Melissa Giroux, Abbey Koehli, Courtney Haigh, Brittany Meaver, Stephanie Chau, Shelby Moser, Rob Rawcliffe

Virtual: Leslie Slanisky

Regrets: Susan Tarling, Gillian Hansen Schmidt

Business Portion of the Meeting

1. Call to Order: 7:13 PM
2. Additions to the September 2023 Agenda
 - a. No additions
3. Approval of the September 2023 School Council Agenda
 - a. Motion: Courtney Haigh Second: Jenn Kluthe
4. Approval of May 2023 School Council Meeting Minutes
 - a. No additions
 - b. Motion: Jenn Kluthe, Second: Courtney Haigh
5. Fowler Report: Courtney Haigh
 - a. See Attachments at end of document.
6. Old Business
 - a. Playground Update: Courtney Haigh
 - i. **Phase 2:**
 1. Not much to update right now, waiting on the city of St. Albert reports and finances to come through. Lots of lessons learnt through Phase 2. Construction was finished around August 22; fencing removed right at the start of school. Equipment was delivered July but could not start construction because of a 21-day permit period for neighbour to appeal. One neighbour came forward with concerns; Courtney and Donna (city rep) met with the neighbour, and they were satisfied with the plan. Construction happened and in August the playground passed final inspection.
 2. Could not present the financial summary for Phase 2 but can confirm it stayed in budget (about \$400 under budget) waiting for it to come through from the city.
 3. Phase 2 is pending City of St. Albert closeout; waiting on new city rep to join our meetings and 10% City of St. Albert grant holdback. The Playground committee is planning to meet at the end of October with new rep and finances will be wrapped up at that time.
 - ii. **Phase 3:**
 1. Planning will begin once Phase 2 is closed out. Looking at Grants for the Phase 3 development, confirmed won't be a June 2024 project and could take up to 2 years. NMR will be the lead of Phase 3
 2. Phase 3 will be an inclusive playground. Part of that will include not having sand but there is lots of research to be done by NMR and Head Office on what should be included in an inclusive playground. Playground is currently on track for redevelopment and its lifespan. If it starts to be non-functional pieces will be removed.
 3. Please email Melissa, Shelby or Courtney with any questions or comments as we head into Phase 3.

- b. Playground Bins: Claire Dobrski (unable to attend meeting)
 - i. Great job with the bins and inventory
 - ii. Submitted receipts and has been paid out half the budget for this year (\$1000 from NMR Friends Fundraising Society)
 - iii. Revisit in the spring for inventory/restock
 - iv. Feedback: skipping ropes can be a bit of a concern. Confirmed some were removed from bins and skipping ropes have not been replaced.
- c. School Council Committees: Melissa Giroux
 - i. Seven different committees, tonight you can sign up in person or there is a virtual sign-up option. Lists will be shared with Chairs to reach out to all parent volunteers.
- d. Admin Wish List: Shelby Moser and Rob Rawcliffe
 - i. Speaker system - there was a delay, they are coming tomorrow. Needed stuff put in by our maintenance group (rob) - hope to have it done by Monday next week.
 - ii. Wishlist this year:
 - 1. 12 Chromebooks - budget about \$400.00 per device for a total of \$4800.00
 - 2. Board Clickers – need about 22 of these. These can be purchased on Amazon for approximately \$30.00 each for a total of \$660.00.
 - iii. Discussed options for where to get new Chromebooks. Best price point/warranty is going through the supplier and not a box store.
 - iv. Motion: Courtney Haigh, Second: Sheri Holik to approach NMR Friends for the amounts of \$4800.00 and \$660.00
 Approved
 Melissa will send a communication to NMR Friends
- 7. Trustee’s Report: Joe Becigneul – no update and no Trustee present. We will find out our new School Trustee in October and invite them to School Council meetings.
- 8. Administration Report: Shelby Moser and Rob Rawcliffe
 - a. See Attachments at end of document.
 - i. Indigenous lead – there is a plan for every month going forward to focus on the seven Grandfather teachings this year and how it relates to our NMR family.
 - ii. Can parents be advised when clubs come up by newsletter/WAAG
- 9. Friends of Neil M Ross Report: Becky Prudhomme
 - i. Aly Virani will be Secretary this year. Vice chair is still vacant – doesn’t need to be filled but it can be if someone is interested, they can reach out.
 - ii. Did the raffle draw at the AGM total raised was \$1086.00 – winner was Martin Quick taking home \$548.00.
 - iii. Grade 10’s at SACHS for community volunteers. Students will be helping at the dance.
 - iv. Ski night at Sunridge, rebooked for March 2, 2024
 - v. Communication this year will be done through website, signup.com, bulletin board, QR codes, WAAG/school email and Facebook parent page.
 - vi. Meetings for the year: October 12, November 23, January 18, March 7, May 23
 - vii. Farm to Table – minimum of \$1000.00 hot and so far at least 800 lbs. of food
 - viii. Dance tickets will go on sale Sunday for \$7.00. Dance will be October 20 6:00PM-8:00PM
 - ix. Other fundraising ideas: Pizza 73, Art Cards, Little Caesars, Purdy’s
- 10. Healthy Hunger: Sheri Holik/Katie McMillan
 - i. All the options have been added to the system and parents can start ordering for their children.
 - ii. First one is Dairy Queen on October 6, order cut off is October 1. Sheri will send a communication to parents.

11. Healthy Hunger Funds Allocation (2022-2023/2023-2024)

- a. **Motion to Transfer Funds for Healthy Hunger 2022/23 School Year to be done at October School Council meeting**

- b. **Motion for Healthy Hunger Funds for the 2023-24 School Year**

Motion: Funds raised from the Healthy Hunger 2023/24 school year are to be utilized in the following way:

1. For Healthy Hunger Expenses (supplies, etc.)
2. Incidentals (errors with orders, no delivery of food etc.)
3. Year End BBQ
4. Excess funds to be utilized for School Council related activities if necessary.
5. Any remaining funds from Healthy Hunger at the end of each year is to be given to Friends of Neil M Ross Fundraising Society for the benefit of the entire student body.

Motion: Kristy Cunningham, Second: Stephanie Chau

Approved

12. Holy Family Parish Rep/Update

- a. See Attachments at end of document.

- i. Still looking for a new rep

13. Yearbook Update: Rebecca Prudhomme

- i. Sold all the copies of the yearbook for last year but have not signed a contract for this year.

Motion: to keep the year books a soft cover and cost to remain \$22.00 per book

Motion: Courtney Haigh, Second: Sheri Holik

Approved

- ii. Melissa will add discussion to transfer funds from yearbook to Friends of Neil M Ross Fundraising Society for October School Council Meeting

14. New Business

- a. ASCA Workshop

- i. \$500.00 will be available to be put towards Alberta School Council workshops. Ask is that parents and leadership team think of ways to use the funds.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:53 PM

Next Meeting: October 24, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. Staff Room

Attachments

5.a. Fowler Report

Fowler report:

- 1 - Terry Fox was a huge success! We raised over \$2100 and had a great afternoon outside with the students.
- 2 - Our grade 7 students had an amazing day with our district chaplain The Doug and all of the GSACRD grade 7 students at our first Faith Rally. They learned about how much God loves them and about "their prize inside"
- 3 - Our volleyball season is off to a great start. We have 4 teams running and would love for you to come cheer us on. All games are in the school calendar on the website.

8.a. Admin Report

Admin Report for NMR School Council Meeting September 26/2023

FAITH

- This year's Faith Goal: Growing in the Trinity! **Growing in Love with the Father!**
- Caring for those in need:
 - September:
 - Terry Fox Cancer Research Fundraiser = We raised over \$750.00
 - Friends of NMR & NMR Food Drive
- Truth and Reconciliation
 - NMR is committed to walking the path of Truth and Reconciliation each and every day of the year, not only on Sept. 30. We will focus all this week on special lessons to bring a focus on this topic to continue our learning.
 - Orange Shirt Day is on Friday Sept. 29! We remember those students who attended residential schools. Those who returned home, and those who did not. We remember.
- Grade 4 Bible blessing and presentation will be at our Thanksgiving Celebration on Oct. 6th at 9:30pm in our gym and Trustee Becigneul will be in attendance as both our trustee and from the Knights of Columbus in order for us to formally thank him and the knights for supporting the purchase of the bibles. Father Antony is not able to attend, but we had the Bibles blessed at our opening mass.

EXTRA CURRICULAR

- Healthy Hunger is starting on Oct. 6!
- Book Fair will be set up during October interview week (Oct 18-19).
- We are planning the following clubs in the near future:
 - Running/Fitness, Games, D&D, NMR Cup

SCHOOL NEWS

- Grades 1-6 Interviews will be October 18 & 19 - Interviews will be 10 minutes in length to allow for larger class sizes.
- Kindergarten interviews on November 29 & 30.
- Nutrition Grant is once again in place in our schools.
 - Neil M Ross was given \$10 000.
 - We have started supporting our families.
- RAINBOWS: grief and support group
 - We will be offering this should there be a need this year.
- Working with Family Resource Center to offer Anti-Anxiety Groups again this year
- School clothing order closes on Sept. 27th.
- District cross country run on Sept. 27th at Robert Rundle.
- Grade 6 immunization information presentation on Friday Sept. 29th.
- Read in Week: Oct. 3rd - 6th
 - Various guest readers
- We will be having 2 showings of our Christmas Concert this year in order to allow 2 casts of actors to have an opportunity to perform.
- New sound system is being installed tomorrow!

DISTRICT

- GSACRD's New Assessment and Reporting Practice

FEEDBACK

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

12.a. Holy Family Parish Rep/Update

Holy Family Parish Report

- Information was sent out by the School Regarding Sacramental Prep for students at NMR. Please see the church website or contact Bruno Binassi at Bruno.Binassi@caedm.ca
- Our Parish will be hosting the Exhibition on Eucharistic Miracles, based on the work accomplished by Blessed Carlo Acutis prior to his death at age 15. The Exhibition will be in our parish hall from Wednesday, Oct. 4th – Tuesday Oct. 10th. We are in need of pairs of volunteers to cover 2–3 hour time slots while the exhibition is open to the public. Sign up is in the Front Foyer.
- Our Catechism program runs on Friday afternoons, from 4:30-5:30 pm, for all children Grade 1-9. We are currently looking for volunteers for assistant teachers to help the primary teachers with the following classes: Grade 1-2 and 4. We are also looking for a primary teacher for Grades 1 and 5. There are teachers' manuals available, and support and training are provided. Catechism classes will begin on September 29th. If you are interested in helping the children or would like to have your children join us for Catechism classes, please bring them on September 29th at 4:30pm at Holy Family. Registration is \$15 per child. If you have any questions, please contact Amanda Lutes at catechism@holymfamilyparish.ca
- Everyone is welcome to bring their pets for a special blessing by Father Antony in Mary's Garden on Wednesday, October 4th from 6:30-7:00 pm.
- Holy Family has begun an 11-week Bible study Psalms: The School of Prayer run every Wednesday until December 6th from 7-9 pm (Cost: \$15). For more information or to register please contact the parish office.