



"Together We Build Tomorrow in God's Love"

Neil M Ross Catholic School | School Council Agenda |

DATE: October 24th, 2023 **TIME:** 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Staff Room **VIRTUAL LINK:** [Click Here](#)

Attendance: Sheri Holik, Melissa Giroux, Abbey Koehli, Brittany Meaver, Gillian Hansen Schmidt, Shelby Moser, Joe Becigneul, Stephanie Chau

Virtual: Becky Prudhomme, Claudio Gallardo

Regrets: Susan Tarling, Courtney Quirk, Courtney Haigh

Business Portion

	Time
1. Call to Order: 7:01PM	10 min
2. Opening Prayer-Melissa Giroux	
3. Acknowledgement of the Territories-Melissa Giroux	
4. Introductions	
5. Good News to Share	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Halloween Dance SUCCESS!• Food Bank drive SUCCESS, the school collected over 800lbs of food.	
6. Additions to the October 2023 Agenda	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No additions	
7. Approval of the October 2023 Agenda	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Motion: Sheri Holik, Second: Abbey Koehli	
8. Approval of Minutes from September 2023 School Council Meeting	5 min
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No additions to the minutes• Motion: Becky Prudhomme, Second: Sheri Holik	
9. Fowler Report: Courtney Haigh	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• See Attachments at end of document.	
10. Old Business	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dog Park -Shelby Moser/Stephanie Chau	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- No meeting, a calendar invite sent in June for a meeting September 21 at 6:00PM and the meeting just did not happen. No further updates from the city.- Best to follow up with Aaron Giesbrecht – Stephanie Chau will reach out prior to the next School Council meeting.	5 min

- Joe Becigneul brought the topic up at a meeting with council; the understanding was the school is dealing with the city employees and council wanted that to happen before they stepped in. It could likely go that route now that there has been no action from the City of St. Albert.
 - Wish List Update-Melissa Giroux/Becky Prudhomme
 - Friends were able to fulfill the wish list item for the presentation clickers up to \$660.00.
 - Friends was unable to fulfill the wish list item for the Chromebooks up to \$4800.00. 5 min
 - Looking at the account balance we needed to consider upcoming costs and obligations. We are unaware at this time how much funds will be required for insurance, RazKids, and Grade 4 Bibles. Insurance costs will be going up this year.
 - In addition to those unknown costs, we have expenses for the upcoming Wine Survival Raffle Fundraiser and our annual Ski Night, which we need to make sure we set aside a minimum of \$9000.00 if we do not sell tickets to these campaigns/events.
 - In the next few months with successful fundraisers such as the Halloween Dance, and more than likely Wine Survivor and Ski Night.
 - Funds from Healthy Hunger 2022-2023 have not yet been motioned to transfer to Friends. We are confident that we will have funds to contribute to the Chromebook Wishlist Item and have decided to defer the vote on that item until our meeting in January.
 - 2022-2023 Healthy Hunger Funds Motion
 - **Motion to Transfer Funds for Healthy Hunger 2022/23 School Year to be done in the amount of \$5735.00 to be transferred to Friends of Neil M Ross** 5 min
 - Motion: Gillian Hansen Schmidt, Second: Sheri Holik
 - ASCA Grant-Melissa Giroux
 - Shelby will put out an ask – there is on regarding digital awareness. 5 min
 - Melissa encouraged parents to provide input on topics. 5 min
11. Trustee’s Report Joe Becigneul 5 min
- See Attachments at the end of document.
 - Joe Becigneul is the Trustee for NMR again this year.
12. Administration Report – Shelby Moser 15 min
- See Attachments at end of document.
13. Friends of Neil M. Ross Report-Becky Prudhomme 5 min
- Wish list items in October, we are focusing this year on replenishing our bank account. Last year we funded over \$61 000.00 (including playground rebuild, new mic system, prayer tables & bins, bibles, RazKids, and playground bins) with the addition of nearly \$13 000.00 in operational expenses (including fundraising expenses, operational expenses, and insurance).
 - Friends were able to fulfill the wish list item for the presentation clickers up to \$660.00. Friends was unable to fulfill the wish list item for the Chromebooks up to \$4800.00.
 - Looking at the account balance we needed to consider upcoming costs and obligations. We are unaware at this time how much funds will be required for

insurance, RazKids, and Grade 4 Bibles. Insurance costs will be going up this year. In addition to those unknown costs, we have expenses for the upcoming Wine Survival Raffle Fundraiser and our annual Ski Night, which we need to make sure we set aside a minimum of \$9000.00 in the event that we do not sell tickets to these campaigns/events.

- We know that we have funds coming in, in the next few months with successful fundraisers such as the Halloween Dance, and more than likely Wine Survivor and Ski Night.
- Farm to Table
 - Was a successful fundraiser, making almost \$900.00, and we were able to support the Local Food Bank, in the end with over 800lbs of food. If we run this again in the future, we will set delivery for earlier in the week to give multiple pick up days vs the last day of school before the long weekend. Thanks to Rachel for taking that on!
- Halloween Dance
 - Was a success, we sold out again this year and any requests for tickets after that were able to be accommodated. Huge thank you to all the volunteers; from the prep and planning crews, decorating, night of helpers, and to all the people we are so grateful to have at the very end when the doors close to a clean school; THANK YOU! Final numbers have not come in, but it will be around \$4000.
- Art Card
 - Fundraiser has begun at school, Christmas Art Cards will be completed in the classroom
 - ***New*** children can take home blank Art Card paper and complete a special occasion card at home if they would like.
 - Both will be available for purchase.
- Wine Survivor Fundraiser
 - Will be launching at the beginning of November. We have been working through the details and are looking forward to its success for our holiday season.

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| 14. Hot Lunch Committee Report-Sheri Holik/Katie McMillan | 5 min |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mucho Burrito – less interest this year due to the quesadillas no longer being there and smaller portions, so might not include them next year. | |
| 15. Holy Family Parish Update-Melissa Giroux | 5 min |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Attachments at end of document. • Still looking for a Holy Family Parish rep. • TABS FOR WHEELS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the school will run a drive in the classrooms where the kids can bring pop can tabs. Big push for a short period of time, details to follow. | |
| 16. Yearbook Update-Rebecca Prudhomme | 10 min |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yearbooks will go on sale November 1st for \$22.00. They will be available for purchase in PowerSchool. Heard back from admin on some new changes to FOIPP, and now will do a callout to families at the same time to collect photos from events: Terry Fox, Thanksgiving, Truth and Reconciliation, and Halloween. | |

- A link will be provided where parents can collect community photos after events had at the school.
- Claire will be designing the book again this year, and there are many great ideas already underway. We will share some of those in meetings to come, if we are able to make the ideas work within the design program.
- There has been seemingly lots of concern with many parents over the quality of photos this year, no concerns that it would impact yearbook sales.

17. New Business

5 min

- Education Foundation Update-Courtney Haigh
 - Scholarships were awarded.
 - Christmas cash raffle has started. Money raised is used for grade 9 and 12 scholarships. Link on WAAG.
- November School Council Social
 - After the meeting there will be a social for parents to visit. Please bring a small snack of your choice.

Meeting Adjourned 8:26PM

NEXT SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING: November 21st, 2023 (Social to Follow)

Attachments

9. Fowler Report

Volleyball season is well underway with both junior and senior teams competing this week.

Friends of Fowler are currently running a Bear Tracks Ice Melt fundraiser; orders close Oct 27. 1 for \$30 or 2 for \$50 (16kg each)

http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/5JMmZEoZGliHAXlrvLoinw~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRnF_AhP0QjaHR0cHM6Ly9mb3Jtcy5nbGUvNHdvWHlrSDRwUTZwaENaTDlXB3NjaG9vbG1CCmUdobw2ZXh8mARSGGNvdXJ0bmV5LmhhaWdoQGdtYWlsLmNvbVgEAAAAAg~~

(http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/5JMmZEoZGliHAXlrvLoinw~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRnF_AhP0QjaHR0cHM6Ly9mb3Jtcy5nbGUvNHdvWHlrSDRwUTZwaENaTDlXB3NjaG9vbG1CCmUdobw2ZXh8mARSGGNvdXJ0bmV5LmhhaWdoQGdtYWlsLmNvbVgEAAAAAg~~)

11. Trustee Report

Board Activity:

Meeting October 23, 2023

- Board Policy Review: Policy 4. Trustee Code of Conduct.
- School Council Liaison Appointments. I got NMR
- Developed and approved Board Policy 22: surplus Buildings and Surplus Lands.
- 2023-24 Enrolment Report.
- Safe and Caring Schools Report. Positive numbers.
- Diploma Exam Results / Provincial Achievement Tests - Results are actually still embargoed.

Other Activities:

Big FNMI meeting mid September. In conjunction with our Métis Elder and our Elders from Alexander First Nation, we will be doing a review and overhaul of our Territory Acknowledgment to make it more inclusive of the First Nations.

Board Religious Retreat - Mass at Sacred Heart, balance of the day at Star of the North Retreat Centre. Joined by our Division Parish Priests for dinner.

Archbishop's Dinner- attended by 3 Trustees, Dr. Moroziuk. Sold out at 1200 people from across the Diocese.

Public Engagement - has started.

Board Chair Yeomans & Superintendent Moroziuk have a one on one with Education Minister this Thursday.

Upcoming Events:

ACSTA FGM - Nov 17 - 19

ASBA FGM - Nov 19 - 21

Next meetings. COW November 13

Board Meeting November 27

12. Admin Report

Admin Report for NMR School Council Meeting October 26/2023

FAITH

- This year's Faith Goal: *Growing in the Trinity!* **Growing in Love with the Father!**
- Caring for those in need: :
 - Food Bank Drive = We donated over 800 pounds of fresh and non perishable food to the St. Albert Food Bank
- Truth and Reconciliation
 - NMR has continued our focus on the grandfather teaching of Respect signified by the Buffalo. We expand our teaching of this with our students who stay with us past the end of the assembly while their teachers collaborate with one of our school learning team members.
- Remembrance Day Observance on Fr. Nov. 3 at 10:45am in our gym. Father is joining us.
- NMR team for Light the Night - hosted by SACHS in support of Lymphoma and Leukemia. Saturday Oct. 28th at 5:00pm for registration in the parking lot of SACHS. Must sign up online ahead of time.

EXTRA CURRICULAR

- Book Fair was able to bring in a total of \$1500 for our school to spend at Scholastic for new books thanks to the support of our families. This allows our library to stay current.

SCHOOL NEWS

- Halloween Dress up day on Tuesday Oct. 31
- Kindergarten interviews on November 29 & 30 from 4-7pm
- Much gratitude goes out to our volunteer readers who came out to NMR to make reading week special for our students!
- New sound system has been installed and is working great! The glitch we had with the mikes was our fault and we have learned some ways to troubleshoot.

DISTRICT

- **NEW: Important Announcement: Upcoming Community Engagement Initiative (launches Oct. 26)**
 - We want to provide everyone with an overview of our next community engagement initiative, "Programming and School Configuration: A Conversation with Our Communities," and to provide you with some insight into what you can expect in the coming weeks. **Engagement will launch on Oct. 26.**
 - The primary focus of this engagement is to gather feedback and insights from our parents and school communities on programming and grade configurations. We believe that your valuable input can help us enhance the educational experience for our students and ensure that our schools align with the evolving needs and aspirations of our community.
 - To participate in this initiative, participants will have the following options:

- Online Engagement Platform: Families can share their thoughts, suggestions, and ideas through our online engagement platform.
- Workshops (Online and In-Person): We will be conducting workshops, both online and in person, to facilitate in-depth discussions and collaborative brainstorming sessions.
- Online - Nov. 2023, at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. [Click here to join.](#)
- St. Albert - Nov. 21, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. Legal School (5122 46 St, Legal)
- Morinville - Nov. 23, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. MCHS (9506 100 Ave., Morinville).
- Legal - Nov. 29, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. SACHS (33 Malmo Ave., St. Albert).
- Feedback gathered during this engagement will guide our administrative decisions, support the optimization of school facilities, and help position our Division strategically for future funding opportunities. Moreover, it will instill confidence in our current and prospective families, reaffirming our commitment to providing exceptional educational opportunities and listening to feedback.

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

15. Holy Family Parish Update

All SOULS DAY & ALL SAINTS DAY Masses: November 1st - 9:00 am and 7:00 pm November 2nd - 9:00 am at Holy Cross Mausoleum, 12:15 pm and 7:00 pm We invite families to join us for an All Saints Day celebration on Wednesday, November 1st. We are gathering for pizza at 5:00 pm and have games set up to begin at 5:30 pm. Children are encouraged to dress as their favourite Saints and join in the procession for Mass at 7:00 pm.

CWL CRAFT & BAKE SALE Saturday, November 4th 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Vendors will be selling knitted and quilted items, home décor, jewellery, raffles and much more. Donations of baked items would be greatly appreciated for our bake tables! Please indicate if your item is nut or gluten free. Your donations can be brought to the parish hall on Friday, November 3rd from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm or Saturday from 8:30 am - 10:00 am. Tourtière pies: Cost: \$20 Maximum 2 per family. This fundraising event enables CWL to support our various charities. We hope to see you there.

“SOCTOBER” is here again. Please donate warm socks for needy seniors. The container will be in the foyer for the month of October

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Ukrainian Night Saturday, November 25th, 2023 Brother Anthony Council will again be having its “almost annual” Ukrainian Night. Cocktails and silent auction will start after the 5:00 pm Mass. Dinner with traditional Ukrainian dishes at 7:00 pm. Entertainment with Ukrainian dancers and you can dance with The Cimarrons after dinner. We would appreciate any appropriate donations for the silent auction. Donations can be dropped off at the parish office. Tickets are available for purchase after the November 4th & 5th Masses. Adults - \$45 Ages 6 to 16 - \$20 Child under age of 5 - Free K of C General Council Meeting on October 25th, with dinner at 6:00 pm and meeting at 7:00 pm. All members are welcome. Tickets for the Ukrainian Night will be available to purchase.

TABS FOR WHEELS Thank you once again for all the tabs left in the green container in the coat room! We need 5000 pounds to realize enough revenue to purchase a motorized scooter for a person with disabilities! That totals 12 million tabs! So far your contributions have been added to the necessary amount to reach this goal. The lucky recipient is chosen by Easter Seals and the Edmonton Chapter of Knights of Columbus #1184. EVERY tab saved is so appreciated and brings us closer to our goal. Please contact Rachelle at (587) 290-0090 or Tony at (780) 428 4537 for more information.