

Neil M Ross Catholic School | School Council Minutes

DATE: September 24th, 2024 TIME: 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Staff Room

In Person: Melissa Giroux, Rob Rawcliffe, Courtney Haigh, Kristy Cunningham, Joe Becigneul, Colin Loiselle, Carrie Slater, Shauna Wasik, Julie Stefner, Gillian Schmidt, Jill Antonioli, Jenn Kluthe, Becky Prud'homme

Regrets: Abbey Khoeli, Brittany Meaver

Virtual: Susan Tarling, Simbarashe Mushonga, Nigel Forster

1. Call to Order 7:23pm
2. Additions to the September 2024 Agenda
None to add.
3. Approval of the September 2024 Agenda
Motion: Courtney Haigh
Second: Kristy Cunningham
4. Approval of May 2024 Meeting Minutes
Motion: Becky Prud'homme
Second: Gillian Schmidt
5. Fowler Report
 - Volleyball has started.
 - Terry Fox was a success raising \$1563.00 for the Terry Fox Foundation. One of the top classes raised \$390.
 - Faith Rally for Grade 7's took place this week
 - Looking for parents of Fowler to participate in Friends of Fowler. Less events and fundraising going on than NMR, but they do need some parent support.
6. Old Business
 - a. Playground Bins
 - They were redone last friday and anything damaged or broken was discarded.
 - Always welcoming feedback from teachers, supervisors, and students. Good to know what is working and what isn't. Are there wishlist items that are not in the bins? Are there enough items in the bins?
 - Feedback from meeting: Kids are excited about the bins; loved items like skip-its and large tennis balls. The bins are great this year and everyone is happy.
 - b. School Council Committees

-Discussed in the AGM preceding this meeting. Please refer to AGM Minutes for details.

12. Trustee's Report

- Lydia Yeomans was re-elected Chair and Rene Tremblay is Vice Chair
- Joe Becigneul chosen as GSACRD Rep for Alberta School Board Association
- St. Gabes relocated to Holy Family School
- Division Office is being renovated with completion in October. There is a new chapel in the building. Move in date is November 1, 2024
- Marketing and Communications meeting this week. Manager (Shannon) presented her three year marketing plan.
- Stakeholder Engagement on Ward Review. Current Trustee Allotment: St. Albert 4, Morinville 2, and Legal 1. Structure has to be submitted to the Minister by Dec 31 the year prior to an election. Will take place October 23 at SACHS.
- Board Annual Faith Retreat on November 1, 2024.
- Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association AGM mid November
- Catholic Education Week is the third week of October. Trustees will introduce students, but the students will speak instead of the Trustees this year.
- Visiting 9 schools the first week of December to review school results. NMR will receive a visit on December 3, 2024.

13. Administration Report

-See Attachments.

14. Friends of Neil M. Ross Report

- Fundraising list for this year: Halloween Dance and 50/50, Art Cards, Perogies and Sausage, Little Caesars, Ski Night, Purdy's, and Growing Smiles Plants
- Halloween Dance is October 25 from 6-830pm. Tickets will be \$8ea.
- Ski Night we are hoping to partner with Bertha Kennedy, JJ Nearing, and Holy Family Schools. Help to keep costs lower for each school and potentially increase the profit as a fundraiser. Positive impact in the community to partner with other schools.
- Next Meeting: October 17, 2024 in the staff room and by virtual link

15. Healthy Hunger

-Financial update for the month of April 2024 and May 2024: In April Healthy Hunger fundraised \$855.15 and in May Healthy Hunger fundraised \$1,518.53 through the various restaurants chosen.

-We look forward to another fun and successful year with Healthy Hunger this school year.

-Suggesting an option to start 'Snack Day' in addition to the weekly Healthy Hunger days. Snack Day would be provided by our Local St. Albert Booster Juice. Families would have the opportunity to purchase a snack sized (355ml) booster juice for \$6.50. For each Snack Day purchase that is made, \$1 will go towards school fundraising. Last Year the school made approximately \$250 from two of the Booster Juice HH Days.

-Suggested: Mondays during morning recess. Pilot Project for the months of November and December on every second Monday. Feedback appreciated.

-Feedback from meeting: Admin will discuss with Staff. Have to consider what is happening for classes in blocks after recess and that it is not a quickly consumed snack. Not wanting it to interfere with learning, etc.

16. Healthy Hunger Funds Allocation (2023-2024/2024-2025)

-Motion: to have \$7009.29 from the 2023-2024 School Year Healthy Hunger Funds transferred to Friends of Neil M Ross to benefit the entire student body.

Motion: Courtney Haigh

Second: Kristy Cunningham

All in favor.

-Motion: Funds raised from Healthy Hunger for the 2024/2025 school year are to be utilized in the following way:

1. *For Healthy Hunger Expenses (supplies, etc)*
2. *Incidentals (any 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: Courtney Haigh

Second: Kristy Cunningham

All in favor.

17. Holy Family Parish Rep/Holy Family Parish Update

-See Attachments.

18. Yearbook Update

-There are yearbooks left over from last year that will be going for sale this week.

-The new books will go onto PowerSchool once the old books are sold so there is less confusion. The new books will remain at \$22. We reduced the quantity for our contract this year as well.

-Motion: to donate two of the extra yearbooks as gifts for Shelby and Elly.

Motion: Courtney Haigh

Second: Kristy Cunningham

All in favor.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:34pm

Next School Council Meeting: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 at 7pm

Staff Room & Virtual Link

Attachments

13.Administration Report

ADMIN REPORT FOR NMR SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING SEPTEMBER 24/2024

FAITH

- ★ This year's Faith Goal: **Growing in Mercy with the Son!**
 - We will use Monday Morning assemblies to address this faith theme with students.
- ★ Caring for those in need:
 - September:
 - Terry Fox Marathon of Hope Cancer Research Fundraiser = NMR raised \$879.65
- ★ Truth and Reconciliation
 - NMR is committed to walking the path of Truth and Reconciliation throughout the school year, not only on Sept. 30. Teachers have been invited to share a presentation this week, to engage students in their understanding of, and respect for National Truth and Reconciliation Day.
 - Orange Shirt Day is on Friday, Sept. 27! 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. 10th at 1:30pm in our gym
- ★ Catholic Education Sunday, Oct 20 - 9:00am for NMR and Holy Family Elementary School
- ★ Catholic Education Week - Fr. Antony of Holy Family Parish will be visiting NMR classes - Oct. 23, 24

EXTRACURRICULAR

- ★ Healthy Hunger is starting on Oct. 4!
- ★ Handball Teams for gr. 3 and 4 - over 60 students
- ★ We are hopeful to plan the following clubs in the near future:
 - Running/Fitness, Games, D&D, NMR Cup, Volleyball, Fashion, Camera.

SCHOOL NEWS

- ★ Grades 1-6 Interviews will be on November 27 & 28 - Interviews will be 10 minutes in length.
- ★ Kindergarten interviews will also be on November 27 & 28.
- ★ We have once again received a Nutrition Grant
 - Neil M Ross was given \$ 10,000.
 - We will once again use this to provide support to select NMR 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 should there be a need.
- ★ School clothing orders close on Sept. 25th.
- ★ Grade 6 immunization information presentation on Friday, Oct. 4th.
 - The first round of vaccinations is on Monday, Oct. 28th.
- ★ Read in Week: Oct. 7th - 11th
 - Various guest readers
- ★ We will be having 2 showings of our Christmas Concert again this year, to allow 2 casts of actors to have an opportunity to perform and to ensure seating for all families. Please save the date - December 10th!

Division

- ★ Division Cross Country run is on Friday, Sept. 27th @ Hillgrove School.

FEEDBACK

- Please feel free to email or call Colin 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!
 - Colin Loiselle cloiselle@gsacrd.ab.ca
 - Rob Rawcliffe rrowcliffe@gsacrd.ab.ca

17.Holy Family Parish Rep/Holy Family Parish Update

Holy Family Parish Update

- CHILDREN'S CATECHISM Saints in Training (HFP Catechism) is a fun and engaging group for kids in grades 1 - 9. We meet Fridays starting on September 27th at 4:30 p.m.

at the parish. There is a \$20 registration fee per child to cover the cost of materials. You can pay with cash or cheque (payable to the parish) or by e-transfer to accountant@holymfamilyparish.ca Please put your child's name and a note it is for Children's Catechism. This program needs more adult volunteers. Please contact the office to volunteer Google form to register children for catechism: <https://forms.gle/GGqMBuXhbTsin3846>

- **SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS SIGN UP NEXT WEEKEND** After September 28 & 29 weekend Masses Please join us for the Service Organizations sign-up next weekend. Discern ways you can be more fully involved in our parish and community.
- **SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION** Parent sessions are underway and the autumn lessons begin soon. Here are the remaining parent sessions: First Reconciliation/First Eucharist Saturday, Sept. 21st at 10:00 a.m. Confirmation Saturday, Sept. 21st at 11:00 a.m. or Thursday, Sept. 26th at 6:30 p.m.
- **BLESSING OF THE PETS** October 4th is the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, Patron Saint of the Environment, Animals and Birds. Fr. Antony will bless pets on Thursday, October 3rd at 6:30 p.m. in Mary's Garden.
- **2024 ARCHBISHOP'S DINNER** Archbishop Richard Smith warmly invites you to the 2024 Archbishop's Dinner, an annual event that brings together Catholics from across the Archdiocese on Friday, October 4th. This year's gathering offers a wonderful chance to connect with fellow Catholics and hear the Archbishop discuss the Pastoral Priorities. Enjoy a delightful meal, make new friends, and leave with an updated Pastoral Letter from Archbishop Smith.
- **TABS FOR WHEELS** We need 5000 pounds of tabs to realize enough revenue to purchase a motorized scooter for a person with disabilities. That totals 12 million tabs! 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. Tabs can be left in the HFP coatroom. Please contact Rachelle at (587) 290-0090 or Tony at (780) 428 4537 for more information.