

Neil M Ross Catholic School | School Council Minutes

DATE: February 25th, 2024 TIME: 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Staff Room

In Person: Becky Prud'homme, Jenn Kluthe, Carrie Slater, Melissa Giroux, Leslie Slanisky, Joe Becigneul, Colin Loiselle, Jessica Brady, Rob Rawcliffe

Regrets: Brittany Meaver, Susan Tarling, Courtney Haigh, Abbey Koehli, Gillian Schmidt

Virtual: Gena Wozimirsky

1. Call to Order 7:02pm
2. Acknowledgement of the Territories
3. Opening Prayer
4. Introductions
5. Good News to Share
6. Additions to the February 2025 Agenda: none to add
7. Approval of the February 2025 Agenda
Motion: Jenn Kluthe
Second: Becky Prud'homme
8. Approval of November 2024 Meeting Minutes (Jan 2025 was cancelled)
Motion: Jenn Kluthe
Second: Becky Prud'homme
9. Fowler Report
 - Grade 6 visited Fowler yesterday
 - Fowler open house tonight
 - In the past NMR has hosted a parent information session prior to the Fowler Open House. It is planned to still occur at a later date.
10. Old Business
 - a. Playground Update: deferred to next meeting
 - b. Shrove Tuesday
 - Pancake bites served to Kinders this year, hoping to include sausages
 - Lots of volunteers to support the day
 - Catholic Social Services will be the charity this year for any remaining money left over after the Knights are paid
 - c. Staff Appreciation
 - Email out to parents, lots of parents volunteering to bring in items
 - No update on how many gift cards or cash brought to the office yet
 - d. ASCA Grant
 - Previously looking at a presentation on internet safety

- Potential now for six schools to come together for one presentation; topic Raising Resilience, cost being \$1800 and it would be hosted at Holy Family School. May 14th was proposed, no time has been set to date.
 - With this speaker, Rob and Colin to determine what can be done with the remaining money unspent
11. Trustee's Report
- Renewed the contract of our Superintendent for another 5 years
 - Two Capital Planning meetings to finalize list of projects to be submitted Friday to the province
 - Student Engagement Committee: board to meet two times a year to get their perspective. Will meet first in April.
 - Board Faith Formation Committee: meetings once a month, for the board to take turns presenting to enhance faith
 - Chair Yeomans met with Minister Nally last week with Archbishop Smith. He was appointed Archbishop of Vancouver effective in May
 - Joe was elected to the Provincial Board of ASBA. Meeting last week included a meeting with the Minister of Education, Dimitrios Nicholadis.
 - Next COW meeting is March 10
 - Next Meeting of the Board is March 31
12. Administration Report
- a. See Attachments.
 - b. Question to Admin: Will there be eagle awards this year? The awards will be given at the end of the school year, follow the same criteria as in the past, and be given to two individuals in each class and resume like two years ago and prior.
 - c. Presentation of School Fee Maximum Schedule for the 2025-2026 for discussion and approval: there were no increases from last year and no parent concerns over what was presented. Keeping in mind these amounts are all the maximum of what can be charged, not what is actually charged.
- Motion: To accept the School Fee Maximum Schedule for 2025-2026 presented by administration (see attached).***
- Motion: Carrie Slater
 Second: Becky Prud'homme
 All in favor
13. Friends of Neil M. Ross Report
- Art Cards had 28 families complete the additional option of birthday cards
 - Little Caesars delivery of tomorrow, pickup at Sturgeon Valley Church 1-330pm and remaining pizza kits will be moved to Becky's house for pickup 4-7pm
 - Ski Night we have 5 tickets remaining but the other schools are having a harder time selling. Each school had 125 to sell and 49 tickets was the break even

number. Current numbers sold as of today; Bertha Kennedy: 31, JJ Nearing: 58, and Holy Family: 20

- Consideration to possibly help Holy Family recover their minimum cost for not selling enough tickets, conversation to possibly take place at Friends meeting.
 - Purdys will open in March for a delivery before Easter
 - Growing Smiles will open in April for a delivery on May 12 before the long weekend.
 - 50/50 Raffle, Dance, Art Cards, Perogies & Meats, Little Caesars, and Ski Night with Purdy's and Growing Smiles to finish the year
 - Collectively 231 hours of volunteer work and over \$11 500 raised
 - Question to Admin: Will there be a wishlist this year for Friends? Admin hoping not to give a wishlist in order to save for the upcoming playground rebuild.
 - Wishlist request from a parent: To include microwaves in every classroom. Due to safety concerns it is not possible at this time.
 - Next Meeting: March 20, 2025 in the staff room and by virtual link
14. Healthy Hunger: deferred to next meeting
15. Holy Family Parish Update
- Thank you to all of our volunteers and attendees for this year's SNOW BALL!
 - Reminder of programs for school age children:
 - Saints in Training: an interactive catechism group that runs Fridays at 4:30-5:30 for grades 1-9
 - Angel Choir: Children and youth choir for grades 2-12
 - Important upcoming dates:
 - Feb 27- Sledding at Liberton Hill 7-8:30pm
 - March 5 - Ash Wednesday Masses: 9 a.m & 7 p.m.
 - March 7 - Stations of the Cross: 6:00 p.m. Mass at 6:30pm and then soup and buns in the hall afterwards
16. Yearbook Update
- Sold 145 of our 201 Target
 - We sell them for \$22 and the cost is \$18.86. We are looking to increase the number of pages by 8 at a cost of \$1.90. Only increased in 4-pg increments and increasing enrollment/more classes leave far less room for candid.
- Motion: To increase the number of pages by 8 at a cost of \$1.90, increasing our base cost to \$20.76. Book selling price will remain at \$22.***
- Motion: Becky Prud'homme
Second: Jenn Kluthe
All in Favor
17. New Business
- a. ASCA Resolutions

- If there are any that affect our District, administration is made aware of them, nothing has been brought to their attention at this time.
- There were five of note mentioned as examples:
 - Pilot program for electric school buses
 - Mandatory funding for specialist teachers (phys ed, music, etc.)
 - Sunlight is the best disinfectant; related to class size and funding
 - Discontinuation of timed testing Kinder to Grade 3
 - Online safety
- b. Staff Appreciation Funds
- A parent brought forward a concern that one parent/individual should not be in control of all of the money. Case in the media currently of major fraud within a sports group. Discussion over what NMR can do to prevent the same.
- Discussion of how Friends could collect money to be given directly back to Council as Friends has insurance. Currently it is unclear as to whether Friends is able to support this activity. Consideration to revisit and change wording on Friends Mandate to better suit the group and its activities, as well as Friends ability to support Council related activities for NMR.
- Should Email Money Transfers be allowed to one parent/individual? Parents have been well known to each other and the school, and have been trusted with these duties in the past. It was questioned whether money should continue to be collected this way. No decision was made beyond the discussion of possible ideas for money collection in the future.
- The school could potentially collect the money digitally, but there is an element of extra work outside of their roles if their systems were used to collect funds for a parent project. There are limits to the school being able to collect funds for these purposes.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:30pm

Next School Council Meeting: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 7pm

Staff Room & Virtual Link

Attachments

12.a. Administration Report

ADMIN REPORT FOR NMR SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING FEBRUARY 25/2025

FAITH

- ★ This year's Faith Goal: **Growing in Mercy with the Son!**
- ★ Faith in action:
 - After weekly assemblies, each grade is presented with a faith session addressing this year's Faith theme.
 - Jon Bauer was a huge success - the students really enjoyed his retreat.
 - Ash Wednesday Celebration is on Wednesday, Mar. 5 at 10:30 am in our gym.
 - Fr. Antony from Holy Family Parish will come to offer the sacrament of Reconciliation during Lent
 - During Lent, NMR students will go to Holy Family Parish for an "Instructional Mass", in which parts of the mass are explained in simple terms.
 - Shrove Tuesday is on Mar. 4th. Thank you to Becky and Gillian and those who are helping us!

EXTRACURRICULAR

- ★ Basketball - we have over 60 grade 5 & 6 students participating in basketball. Over 30 students will go to Bertha Kennedy on Thursday for a mini-tournament. The other students will play against ESC in a home and away next Wednesday, March 5.
- ★ Air Band underway
- ★ Camera Club
- ★ Fashion Club
- ★ Theme Days (Valentines, Twin Day, Pink Shirt Day)

SCHOOL NEWS

- ★ Grades K-6 Interviews are on March 12 & 13 - Gr. 1-6 Interviews will be 10 minutes.
- ★ Partnering with RS Fowler
 - Administration from RSF visited NMR last week to address gr. 6's
 - Gr. 6 Students toured RS Folwer school yesterday (Feb.24)
- ★ We are beginning our Worry Too Much groups (Div 1) and Taming Your Worry Dragon (Div 2) with the city of St. Albert Family Resource Centre.

ACADEMIC NEWS

- Black History Month:
 - During weekly Monday Assemblies, we have been sharing teachings about history, and famous Black Canadians to commemorate and celebrate Black History Month.
 - Teachers have been integrating Black History Month into classroom lessons.

- Intervention for Literacy and Numeracy
 - We have been blessed to have had the opportunity to provide small-group, targeted instruction for literacy.
 - As literacy intervention finishes, a new set of students will benefit from targeted instruction addressing numeracy (mathematics).

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 Loiseau cloiselle@gsacrd.ab.ca
 - Rob Rawcliffe rrawcliffe@gsacrd.ab.ca

12.b. NMR School Fee Maximum Schedule, presented and approved

**Neil M Ross Catholic
School Approved SCHOOL
FEE MAXIMUM SCHEDULE
For the 2025 - 2026 School Year**

Maximum Amount to be
charged throughout the year

<u>Technology User Fee</u>		
Tech Fee		\$25.00
 <u>Fees for Optional Courses</u>		
Art		\$20.00
Art Extra Project		\$20.00
Outdoor Education		\$180.00
 <u>Early Childhood Services</u>		
All Day, Every Day Kindergarten	(975 Hrs, \$325/mo)	\$3,250.00
Progressive Kindergarten	(617 Hrs, \$97.50/mo)	\$975.00
 <u>Extracurricular Fees</u>		
Running Club		\$100.00
Sports Team Tournament Travel <150 km		\$35.00
Sports Team Tournament Travel 150-325 km		\$40.00
 <u>Lunch Supervision & Noon Hour Activity</u>		
Annual		\$58.60
 Activity Fees		
Other Field Trips		\$60.00
Overnight Field trips		\$181.00
Shrove Tuesday		\$5.00
Ski Trips		\$160.00
Student conference		\$20.00
Swimming		\$60.00
Year End Trips		\$45.00
 <u>Non-curricular Goods & Services</u>		
Agenda Books		\$8.55
Music - Recorder		\$9.45
 <u>Other Fees to Enhance Education</u>		
\$14.00		
Cultural		

Approved by Parent Council:

