



St. John Paul II Collegiate – Parent Council
Meeting Minutes – September 11, 2018

1. Welcome/Opening Prayer:

Genelle called the meeting to order at 7:02pm. She invited the assembly to introduce themselves. Fr. Lucas led us in an opening prayer.

Attendance: Joanne Yurko, Jackie McKenzie, Andrea Keenan, Mardan Pahang, Heidi Rogers, Monique Dauphinais, Ron Schreiber, Leslie VanderMaarel, Deanna Whiting, Nadine Pope, Robert Fraser, Amy Hegganstaller-Boon, Fr Lucas, Marco Pacione, Genelle Garagan

2. Approval of Agenda

Motioned by Genelle. Seconded by Robbie. Motion passed.

3. Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes

Motioned by Genelle. Seconded by Nadine. Motion passed.

4. Principal Report – Marco Pacione

Faith

Year 2 of CTR's Faith Plan – Put Out Into the Deep – Luke 5:4. A big theme of this plan is “Encounter”.

Opening School Mass – 10am at St. James Church. Parents are welcome as well!

Monthly masses – This new St. JP II tradition began last year and will continue this year as well. Every 2nd Thursday of the month. 3-4 classes attend. Catholic Education Funds help support the cost of transportation (busing students).

Enrollment

Grade 7 – 231 students

Grade 8 – 249 students

Grade 9 – 250 students

Total – 730 students (560 English and 170 Fr. Immersion), compared to 755 students last year. There are 33 new to CTR, compared to 49 new last year. This is due in part to students enrolling in St. Francis of Assisi school.

Staffing

Three new teachers – Kayla Bouchard (Math/Science), maternity leave for Amy Baldwin. Rebecca Jalbert (French Science), replaced Megan Morrissey who moved to NB. Breanne Shuya (LA and Religion) replaced Janise Dunphy who transferred to NDC in High River.

Welcome Week

St. JP II Ambassadors – These are student leaders who wear very visible yellow t-shirts and assist new students in finding their way to class. Start-up went smoothly, due in part to the assistance provided by these students.

Connections – A Welcome Lunch was held for students who are brand new to CTR (grade 7/8/9).

Upcoming Events

Meet the Teacher – Thursday, September 6th. St. JP II continues to hold Meet the Teacher during the evening.

School Photos – Tuesday, September 11th.

Band Fundraiser – Wednesday, September 19th. Telethon style, they have 90 minutes to call and sell as many bags of cookie dough as possible!

Terry Fox Run – Friday, September 28th. An annual event and amazing display of school spirit.

Social Media Presentations – Paul Davis will be returning. The presentation will be given to students on Monday, October 15th. He is a national speaker and offers a dynamic presentation. Gr 7/8 will be one session, gr 9 in a separate session.

Social Media Parent Presentations – The same evening, Monday October 15th at 7:00pm. It will be open to other schools and the public board as well. This will be a community-wide event.

#Relationships in a Digital Age

Updates to our Electronics Policy – to limit the amount of screen time and the opportunity for distraction, students must keep their phones in their locker or backpack (not in their pocket or on their desk). Research has shown that even phones in pockets can be a distraction and detrimental to student learning. The aim is for this to become a part of St. JP II “culture” rather than policing.

5. Guest Speaker – Amy Heggenstaller-Boon – St. James Parish Youth Ministry Coordinator

Amy noted how gifted we are here at Christ the Redeemer to have an associate pastor and a youth ministry. The intention of Youth Ministry is to feed students in being disciples of Christ. Youth Ministry respects all members

of the community no matter where people are on their faith journey. One of Amy's jobs is building relationships, and enhancing the gifts/fruits of the Holy Spirit that students receive during Confirmation.

Youth Group has been moved to Thursday nights. The first Thursday is community: bowling, bouldering, bubble ball soccer, etc. The second Thursday, Fr. Lucas and Jason Springhausen will be guiding boys in their formation as young men. At the same time, Amy will be guiding girls in the same way. On the third Thursday, Alpha, Growing in Faith. Fourth is service work: Rowan House, Feed the Hungry, etc.

Students in Youth Group carry out ministry on the weekend by being part of the masses: greeters, altar servers, working the soundboard, doing Feed the Hungry in downtown Calgary, working with the KOC. Amy is present in the school regularly. Youth Ministry is not all-or-nothing, students can come when they're available. Fr. Lucas noted that he attended these fun activities back in school as well. The goal is to help these young adults be formed as whole people.

Search the Facebook group St James Youth Group for more information.

6. Board Report – Ron Schreiber - Trustee

#Relationships is big on the agenda. There is a legal symposium regarding Catholic issues the end of September in Calgary. There have been policies and incidents that have arisen that have affected the general population's attitude towards Catholic education, and whether it should be separate from the public system. PACE (Parent Advocates for Catholic Education) continues to educate and promote Catholic education in our local community. This is priority #1 for the Board.

Ron reminded us of the election coming in the Spring. Governments don't do anything drastic in their fourth year (typically), so changes to Catholic education aren't expected in the immediate future. A provincial organization (on request of the Bishop, trustees, etc) is being created to give a provincial voice in a manner similar to what PACE is doing now.

Catholic Education Sunday (November 4th), St. Mary's will be bringing in a choir. They will lead the mass on that Sunday morning. A second collection will be taken at the end of the mass which goes directly towards Catholic education. These funds help to pay for things like busing students to mass.

Another priority for the Board is English Language Learners (ELL). Roughly 10% here at St. JPII. It's growing steadily every year. We are developing mastery in this type of education. Have been meeting with public board counterparts regarding this initiative as well.

Next Trustee meeting is in Oyen on September 21 and 22. The location of these meetings vary.

Andrea added that the first PACE meeting was held. Amy and Andrea discussed having some St. JPII and HTA students involved in media, promotion, etc.

7. Treasurer Report – Genelle Garagan

The balance of the account is \$571.91.

8. Parish Events – Genelle Garagan

Confirmation is now for grade 6/7/8. RCIT (Right of Catholic Initiation for Teens) will be taking a new format this year. Individuals will walk through this journey for a year.

9. Chair Report / New Business – Genelle Garagan

No fundraising is done by Parent Council. There is fundraising in the school, but none is done by Parent Council. Band does fundraising but this goes to the Band program. Student fundraisers include Terry Fox, We Scare Hunger, Backpack Campaign, and the Grade 8 Fast.

Parent Council volunteering includes pot-luck during Parent Teacher interviews, staff appreciation in February, grade 9 BBQ, and prayer bags before exams.

Guest speakers will be a regular part of Parent Council meetings this year.

Parent Council Meeting Dates & Presenters:

Tuesday October 9 – Christina Barnstead (Learning Support Coordinator, St. JP II)

Monday November 12 – Sherry Gustafson from PACE.

Tuesday December 11

Tuesday January 8

Tuesday February 12 – Alberta Health Services presentation on cannabis. It will be open to all of Okotoks.

Tuesday March 12 – Leah Carter (Family School Liaison Worker)

Tuesday April 9

Tuesday May 14 – Annual General Meeting

No meeting in June.

10. Old Business

Executive Positions – The role of treasurer is open.

11. Acknowledge our Blessings

Marco noted that Costco has donated backpacks for our Backpack Campaign. This year, they graciously offered backpacks and school supplies for our start-of-the-year.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:13pm by Genelle
Next meeting is October 9, 2018.**