



St. John Paul II Collegiate – Parent Council
Meeting Minutes – September 12 2017

1. Welcome/Opening Prayer:

Genelle called the meeting to order at 7:01pm and led us in the Lord's Prayer.

Attendance: Amber Cherneski, Ron Schreiber, Heidi Rogers, Suzanne Chateau-Fuhr, Nadine Pope, Jennifer Quinlan, Robert Fraser, Genelle Garagan

2. Approval of Agenda

Motioned by Robbie. Seconded by Jennifer. Motion carried.

3. Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes

Amended to include attendance. Motioned by Amber. Seconded by Genelle. Motion carried.

4. Principal Report – Jennifer Quinlan (in place of Mariette Moss)

Faith

New 3 Year Faith Plan – “Put Out Into the Deep” is the new initiative, motto taken from the Gospel of Luke 5:4.

Opening School Mass – Tuesday, September 26 at St. James Church, 10am (parents welcome).

Monthly Masses – Occur at St. James on the 2nd Thursday of each month, starting in October. 3-4 classes attend each time. The smaller size allows for a more intimate mass/faith experience for these students. Catholic Education funds help support the cost of busing to the church.

Enrollment

Grade 7 – 249 students (10 classes)

Grade 8 – 245 students (10 classes)

Grade 9 – 261 students (11 classes).

Total – 755 students. 49 new to Christ the Redeemer. Down slightly from last year, mostly due to students leaving beyond the St. JPII boundaries.

Staffing

Four new teachers – Jana Clark is covering a maternity leave for Tara Younggren (Art and New Media). Holly O’Neill replaced Gerry Zanoni who retired (Math, Religion, Information Processing). Siara Weinsensel replaced Tara Sziva (Drama and Religion). Meaghan Zolpis transferred from Canmore (Language Arts and Religion).

Welcome Week

St. JP II Ambassadors – Approximately 12 students helped for a very smooth start to the year!

Upcoming Events

School Photos – Wednesday, September 13

Magazine Fundraiser – Begins September 19

Author Shane Peacock – Attending St. JP II on Wednesday September 27

Terry Fox Run – Donations are already coming in; the annual run is on Friday September 29

Social Media Presentation – Constable Rita Gillis will be coming to St. JP II to talk about responsible use of social media on October 16. A presentation for parents will take place on October 18; more details to come.

5. Board Report – Ron Schreiber (Trustee)

A meeting was held with Education Minister David Eggen, he will be present September 20 at Christ the King Academy in Brooks regarding inclusion/safe schools/anti-racism. This school is about 60% ELL students.

Bishops, priests, administrators and trustees will be meeting this Thursday September 14 to discuss new evangelization. The goal is to bring parishes and schools closer together, and to bring parents/students back to mass.

Ron will be heading to Edmonton this week for a provincial meeting regarding Catholic education, defending the need for Catholic education in Alberta and associated issues.

The current NDP government has decided not to pass the new Education Act. This Act was years in the making and is a carry-over from the previous government. The current NDP government wants to amend the document and approve “fragments” of it. This means further discussion with trustees, superintendents, etc.

The Board meets on September 29 and 30. The public is invited to attend a Board meeting on September 30 at St. Francis of Assisi.

If you’d like to run for a trustee, need 5 nominations. This is Ron’s sixteenth year as a trustee in Okotoks. He is planning to run again, and is encouraging anyone else who’s interested to put their name forward.

6. Treasurer – Amber Cherneski

The balance in the account is \$2681. Decrease of \$687 mostly for prayer bags at the end of last year.

7. Parish Events – Genelle Garagan

Confirmation – Grade 6, 7, 8 are invited. This is different from years past, where it was traditionally just grade 8 students. Parent Council gives each candidate a bookmark and celebrates with cake. Usually have around 40 students in grade 8 who get confirmed.

New Youth Ministry Coordinator - Amy Heggenstaller-Boon

8. Chair Report – Genelle Garagan

Property Taxes – Town of Okotoks now has an online method for submitting revenue from property taxes allocated for education to go specifically towards Catholic education.

Shane Peacock – One of Parent Council’s goals for the year is to donate funds towards a student presentation. Motion to donate \$500 towards the Shane Peacock presentation by Suzanne, seconded by Nadine. Motion carried.

The Eric Walters presentation was extremely well received last year, students will be excited!

9. New Business – Genelle Garagan

Vice-Chair – still looking for a Vice-Chair for the Council, if anyone is interested.

Meeting Dates – Usually the second Tuesday of the month. No October meeting due to the Thanksgiving weekend. November 14. No December meeting. January 9. February 13. March 13. April 10. May 8.

10. Good News and Accolades

Thanks to Genelle for taking on the role as Council Chair (again), and to Jennifer Quinlan for filling in for Mariette Moss in her absence.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:59pm by Genelle
Next meeting is November 14.**