



ST. BENEDICT SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
St. Benedict School Staff Lounge
Thursday, May 25th, 2023 @ 7:00 pm

1.0 Call to Order @ 1908 hr

- Introduction of Guests and Executive Members

Attendance:

Connie Greer – Principal

Amber Hardy – Vice-Principal

Trina Joly – Chair

Trina Samotej – Secretary

Ashleigh Handbury – Treasurer

Darby Heck – Member at Large

Jen Swancoat – Member at Large

Pam Roper – PEACE Treasurer

Absent:

Kalee Ryan – Co-Chair

Ashlee Corpuz – Member at Large

Venita Gonzales – Member at Large

Jolyne De Marco – Leduc School Board Trustee

Alicia Braden – PEACE Chair

- Verification of Quorum – verified –
- Prayer: led by Trina Samotej
- Treaty 6 Land Acknowledgement: read by Trina Joly

2.0 Review and Approval of Agenda (*motion to accept, approved*)

3.0 Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes (*motion to accept, approved*)

4.0 Reports

4.1 School Board Trustees Report: Trustees not present

Next board meeting:

<https://www.starcatholic.ab.ca/division/school-board/board-meetings>

Board priorities for 2019-2023 can be found here:

<https://www.starcatholic.ab.ca/download/222944>



4.2 Principal's Report: Presented by Principal Connie Greer and Vice-Principal Amber Hardy.

Key Board Priority One: Grow & Affirm Catholic Identity:

- Gospel Assembly: Last one of the year theme is Truth – May 31st
- Final Mass hosted by Grade 1 – June 8th held in gymnasium at 10:30am.
- Grade 6 Farewell is scheduled for June 16th – 9:00am liturgy; Grade 5 field trip – June 9th; Kindergarten Farewell – June 23rd
- Division-wide prayer book being created to give to each staff member, parish, and family – each class to write a prayer, all prayers to be used by school next school year.
- Important dates from St. Michael's Parish provided: First Reconciliation – May 13th, First Communion – June 3rd, Confirmation – May 27th, RCIA/RCIC programs to be offered this Fall.

Key Board Priority Two: Provide High Quality Learning & Working Environments:

- Upcoming Events: Professional Development Day – June 5th, Sports Day June 7 (rain-out date June 13th – hot dog day to stay June 7th regardless of rain-out due to June 13th being a hot lunch day), Travis Dubas Bellerose (NightHawk) presentation on Indigenous Day – June 21st at 1:30pm.

Key Board Priority Three: Support Students in their Journey, Ensuring All are Successful Learners:

- Disney Day – May 26th; Leduc Library Summer Program Presentation – May 31st; Soccer tournament – June 2-3; Grade 6 immunizations – June 6th; Dentist visits – June 8th (T/Th Kinder), June 9th (M/W Kinder/Grade 1); Patroller Year-End Party (Manluk Center) – June 19th
- Kitchen Upgrade – St. Ben's received \$9000 grant from STAR to upgrade and replace appliances etc. to support expansion of the nutrition program to include a morning breakfast program.

Additional Information:

- Jen Swancoat requested a review regarding effectiveness of emergency drill preparations and the effect on mental health of the children.

Action: Principal Greer and Vice-Principal Hardy to examine current practices, discuss challenges and possible options.

- 2023-24 Open House – August 30th, First Day of School – August 31st
- School Council AGM – September 18th, 2023.
- PEACE AGM – requesting date, if known.

4.3 PEACE Report: presented by Pam Roper.

- Stawnychy's Order's in, delivery in June.
- Sports Day Hot Dogs will be supplied by PEACE, budget: \$900.
- Principal Greer offered Jumpstart donation of \$750 to cover food, PEACE declined due to plans and budget already in place.

4.4 Financial

4.4.1 Current Account Balances – Reviewed.

5.0 Standing Business

5.1 Family Dance Update:

May 12th - "Spring Fling" led by Council Members Ashleigh Handbury, Ashlee Corpuz & Jen Swancoat – deemed success. Discussed positives: lighting and smoke machine rentals, beach balls, tables and chairs set up for families. Feedback for future dance plans: School Cash online forms, music requests for kids ahead of time, charge of \$5/family fee, DJ (Darby Heck has a contact), plan for two dances next year.

5.2 ASCE Grant:

\$500 toward school community engagement. Suggestion/discussion of books / educational resources for Indigenous Day.

Action: School Council to make decision and submit by June 15th.

5.3 ParticipACTION Update:

ParticipACTION planning by Trina Joly & Trina Samotej; Trina Joly put forward request for remaining balance of funds from concession/movie night to go towards June events – (*motion to accept, approved*). Two paralympic volleyball team members who are willing to come coach requesting honorarium to cover missed work.

Action: Principal Greer, Vice-Principal Hardy, Trina Joly, & Trina Samotej to meet before May 31st to finalize event schedule and plans for the month of June.



Trina Joly and Trina Samotej to confirm contracts/attendance reps. Kalee Ryan to design social media posts once June calendar is finalized. Vice-Principal Hardy to contact Katelyn Salsbury to provide more information on requested honorarium.

5.4 Score Clock:
Tabled.

5.5 Future Photo Shoot:
Ashleigh Handbury will plan for Christmas Photo Minis for next year.
Tabled for June meeting.

5.6 Bring Your Own Device:
Letter drafted from Principal Greer and Vice-Principal Hardy. Pam Roper offered helping with this due to personal contact in the tech supply industry.

Action: Pam Roper to reach out to contact regarding bulk purchasing rates.

6.0 New Business

6.1 Watermelon Station at Sports Day:
School Council volunteers will run the station – Sports Day planned for June 7th; the \$750 from Jumpstart will go toward fruit (watermelon, oranges, etc) for the station.

6.2 Grade 6 Farewell:
Plans come to \$1500, students have made \$500 from bake sale. Asking for subsidization.

Action: Request letter to go out to fundraising committee.

6.3 Home Safety / Babysitting Course:
User-pay; PEACE initiating sign-up. Discussion regarding which course would be most beneficial to our students/school community, and number of sessions which would be necessary. Tabled to June to discuss logistics to offer in September 2023.



6.4 Additions:

Pam Roper requested the 2023-24 Hot Lunch plans be added to School Council's June Meeting Agenda.

Action: Trina Joly to add 2023-24 Hot Lunch plans to June Agenda; Kalee Ryan to make post for volunteer sign-up.

7.0 Next Meeting of the St. Benedict School Council:

Monday, June 19, 2023 @ 7:00 (St. Benedict's Staff Lounge)

8.0 Closing Prayer: led by Trina Samotej

Adjournment: 2100h