

St Catherine's School Council Annual General Meeting and September Meeting Agenda, September 24, 2025 7:00 pm

A. Annual General Meeting:

1. Call to order
2. Record of attendance: Jackier Price, Gabi Kolk, Aubrey Kolk, Esther Ritz, Amy Brecka, Karem Bracamontes, Ashley Crapo, Deanna Brilman, Carlee Nemmi, Tanya Slomp, Angela Faber, Dan Vanden Dungen, Crystie Praskach
3. Opening prayer and Land Acknowledgement - Dan
4. Greetings from our trustee - Cher
5. Chair: Presentation of Annual Report - Crystie
6. Nominations and Election
 - Division 1 Rep: Tanya nominated **Aubry**-passed
 - Division 2 Rep: Crystie nominated **Lexi**-passed
 - Division 3 Rep: Amy nominated **Karem**-passed
 - Pre-K / Kinder: Ashley nominated **Gabi**-passed
 - Secretary: Tanya nominated **Carlee**-passed
 - Co-Chair: Gabi nominated **Andrea**-passed
 - Chair: Tanya nominated **Crystie**-passed

B. September 2025 School Council Meeting:

1. Review and adoption of minutes from previous meeting (May 28, 2025) - **Amy motioned; approved**
2. Old Business:
 - a. Parent Screen Night - choose a date and committee/format
 - Suggested to do on a Gems night (Thursday) so possibly more would attend. Nov 13/25
 - Dan, Crystie, Jackie, Karem, Esther on committee to organize
 - b. School Start Program - feedback? How did it go?
 - No negative feedback
 - c. Update on cell phone/technology use (Dan)
 - Adjustment from students has been positive. They have been able to find other activities to do (gym time ect) even youth who would not normally participate in the other activities are participating. Maybe we need more activities such as tether ball, gaga ball.
3. Reports:
 - a. Principal (attached below)
 - b. Associate Principal Faith Report (attached below)
 - c. Chair
4. Correspondence:
 - a. **Letter to School Council Chairs**

5. New business:

a. Goals and events for the year

- GET COMMUNITY/FAMILIES TOGETHER
- Family Numeracy Night
- iSwag-activity or craft night. Dan will try to reach out/ follow up about grants ect to do this again,
- Family Dance
- Movie Night
- Kinder Koffee—Continue maybe add an activity that would encourage connections

b. Joint meetings with Home and School

- Try out doing the meetings on the same night to reduce nights away from home for. Amanda & Crysie will co-ordinate.

c. Feedback on **new Student Handbook**

- Add a guide for athletics regarding participation numbers - Example if there is not enough of Grade 7/8/9 to form a full team for basketball grade 6 would be invited to join practices & fill in for illness ect. If numbers are sufficient for that year then a separate “Mini” Basketball / volleyball would be offered to grade 5|6

d. Grade 4&5 Volleyball - Fridays?

- Will be further discussed at the next meeting. Crystie has a connection to reach out to at the Dorothy Darglish School that potentially a program could be done together

e. **OTHER:** (Athletics)

- Can we create school guidelines for when and if grade 6s are included in junior high teams?
- Tournament selections need to be considered more thoroughly. When students end up playing in tournaments that are

6. Next meeting: **Wednesday Oct 22/25**

7. Closing prayer

8. Adjournment

Principal's Report

- **Enrolment Update:** **191** with pre-k, **171** without; this is down slightly from projections and from last year and down quite a bit from 2 or 3 years ago.
- **New Staff:**
 - **Janis Myndio** - Janis is the new person in our office. She is taking on the administrative assistant role following Margaret's retirement.

- **Abby Bartsch** - Will be covering the remainder of Mrs. Nelson's maternity leave (until April). She is the grade 9 homeroom teacher and teaches Jr. Science and Grade 6 (Math, Science, PE and Wellness, Options)
- **Jo Dixon** - Jo was Mrs. Ortynski's PSIII intern last year and she returns to our school to cover Mrs. Ortynski's maternity leave this year! She teaches grade 2 and some grade ½ gym and grade 3 gym.
- We have 3 PSIII Interns:
 - Olivia Olivieri - grade 1 with Mrs. Price
 - Danielle Moroszczuk ("Miss Moro") with Mr. Dawydiuk
 - Anne Neil - with Mrs. Rasmussen
- **Other staffing assignment changes:**
 - Mrs. Price is teaching grade one
 - Mrs. Fuller is teaching grade 4
 - Mrs. Harling is helping Mr. Gatner with Inclusive Education
 - Mr. Gokarn and Ms. Constant are assigned to do a few periods of reading intervention per week. Mr. Vanden Dungen and Mrs. Elashuk will be supporting them with this.
- **Other changes:**
 - **New bell times** (start just a couple minutes earlier at 8:33 and go until 3:26)
 - **New cell phone policy** - students are not allowed on cell phones in the school between 8:33 and 3:26; computers/chromebooks are allowed in class when directed by the teacher for educational activities; the library is open for students most lunch hours for supervised use
 - **New K-6 Report Card Format:**
 - We have moved away from portfolio-based reporting in Spaces as the primary reporting method. The report cards for K-6 will be comment based and will have a proficiency scale (Not Yet, Basic, Proficient, Excellent) for each subject. These report cards will be created using the Reporting Space in Spaces. Report cards will be Nov. 24, March 23, and June 25
 - The Growth as a Learner will be an embedded heading within the report card (will report to parents on student behaviour and other non-academic factors).
 - Students in grades 3-6 will still be required to maintain a digital portfolio to demonstrate growth and to encourage their engagement with and reflection on their own learning
- **New Resources:**
 - 25 Ukeles (from the school division furniture and equipment fund)
 - New library books and classroom library upgrades (Home and School donation)
 - Theatre Lighting System (Home and School donation)
 - New English Language Arts and Literature Resources (Government of Alberta funds for literacy and numeracy support)

Associate Principal Faith Report

As a Catholic School, we are committed to bringing high-quality faith based education to our students. We also recognize that faith formation of staff is also a vitally important component to ensuring that Gospel values remain at the core of all that we do.

The Holy Spirit Catholic School Division supports us within the framework of a three-year faith plan, one that was unveiled at the end of June 2025. It is titled "Open Wide the Doors! Sent to Share Christ's Love" and uses the following scripture as its focus:

"And he said to them, 'Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole of creation.'" (Mark 16:15)

Each year has its own focus. Year One is to Know God, Year Two is to Love God, and Year Three's focus is to Serve God. In this first year, we are called to be more familiar with scripture, specifically the Parables of Jesus within the Gospel of Luke. Through exploring this theme, we are hoping that all staff and students will come to know that each person is created in the image of God and has an eternal destiny.

Events:

- Initial planning meeting with Fr. Iqbal with Dan and Josh
- Staff exploration of the four benchmarks on the first day of school
- Divisional mass with Bishop William McGrattan in August 29
- Weekly staff prayer established
 - Using Mediations on the Psalms by Barbara Cawthorne Crafton
- Opening school mass on September 3
- Introduction of the Parable and Saint of the Month September 5
 - Introduced the Parable of the Sower
 - St. Dominic de Guzman is September's Saint
- Recognize Vanesa Pena, Nicole Fuller, and Sarah De Coste for their receptivity to God's Word
- As new "Saints" are selected, their pictures go on our saint wall!
- New Family Blessing at the Welcome Back Barbeque on September 10th
 - Invited Fr. Iqbal to lead a liturgy that welcomes and blesses any new families to our school.
 - Attended by 18-20 people
 - Held in the music room and accompanied by music
- Initial planning for staff and student retreats has begun