

St Catherine's School Council Meeting Agenda

December 3, 2025 7:00 pm

1. **Call to order: 7:04 pm by Crystie**
2. **Record of attendance: Aubrey Kolk, Josh Gatner, Dan Vanden Dungen, Esther Ritz, Lexi Paskal, Andrea Nieboer, Deanna Brilman, Crystie Praskach, Alyssa Murray, Karem Bracamontes, Nadia Ruualcaba, Carlee Nummi**
3. **Opening prayer and Land Acknowledgement - Dan**
4. **Review and adoption of minutes from previous meeting (November2025)**
Motion to Adopt - Andrea, Aubrey Second
5. **Old Business:**
 - a. Kindergarten Coffee: December 9 @ 10:30 - Crystie (Alyssa and Gabi)
 - It's a go!
 - b. Grade 4&5 Volleyball - Dan
 - The gym is full with four basketball teams most days of the week. We need to find an alternate time, or alternate people who can help out on Fridays. Maybe work with Basketball and Volleyball in the spring in between badminton days.
 - c. Recap Screensanity Night - Crystie and Dan
 - Not well attended maybe 8 total
 - Lot's of great discussions and sharing of information
 - Crystie willing to send to individuals, but cannot be posted publicly
 - d. ASCE Grant - PD sessions or spend this year - continue - Crystie
 - Crystal Van Raay presentation?
6. **Reports:**
 - a. Principal (attached below)
 - b. Associate Principal Faith Report (attached below)
 - c. Chair: Council of Council Chairs Recap - Crystie (and Dan)
 - Three year faith plan- love, know and serve God
 - Labour action of teachers- sharing of information with parents
 - New surveys coming in January
 - Lethbridge School Boundaries
 - Spaces is available but not mandatory
 - AI and how schools will handle it in the future
7. **Correspondence: none**

8. New business:

- a. [SCPB Alberta Assurance Measure Results Summary and School Goals](#) - Dan
 - Will be posted on school website
 - Overall positive results from the previous year, results are above the provincial average in all areas
 - Four areas that will be focused on for the Holy Spirit School Division
Strengthening our Catholic Faith, Living Truth and Reconciliation,
Belonging in our Diverse Community, Learning through Quality Teaching
 - Thoughts on what our school can do to focus on these values?
- b. School Council Communication & Whats App - Crystie
 - Please let Crystie know if anyone needs to be added

Christmas Potluck Thursday December 11th @ 11am, please wear christmas attire

9. Bussing for pre school

- School Council would like Dan to inquire about this and potentially bring it to the Superintendent

10. Next meeting: January 21, 2026

11. Closing prayer: Josh

12. Adjournment: By Crystie @ 838pm

Principal's Report

1. Staffing

- Our new admin assistant, Mr. Daniel Scott-Perry, started Monday, Nov 24th.
- Our three current PSIII intern teachers wrap up their round in December. We will have new PSIII Interns from the UofL in Grade 3 Constant and Grade 5 Gokarn from January to April.

2. Athletics

- Mr. Vanden Dungen is trying to take care of the athletic director duties until Mr. Dawydiuk's return, with the help of other staff. Thank-you for your patience!
- We wrapped up our volleyball season by hosting the COLJHAA SV boys league tournament. It went very well with a lot of work from Ms. Moro in organizing the draws and officiating, Miss Sara in coordinating, and Ms. Price in organizing the canteen and filling in shifts as needed.

- We have begun basketball season (games start next week) and we will again have JV and SV teams for both boys and girls! We are still in need of a parent or community member to help coach the JV Boys (with Mr. Vanden Dungen).

3. Surveys

- Holy Spirit Catholic School Division is launching a new survey in January of this year: The **Schollie Survey** will be given to students, parents and staff.
- We still need parents to complete the Alberta Assurance Measure survey for Alberta Education, but the Schollie is shorter and will be more focused on our school division goals and priorities.
- We will no longer be administering the Our School Survey to students.

4. Reporting

- Parent / Teacher Interviews on November 19 and 20th were very well attended. All families who did not attend have been contacted by phone and/or email.
- Junior High report cards were delayed one week to allow teachers additional time following the job action. They went out on November 28.
- The first K-6 Report Card will go out to parents on January 26. It will be released on Spaces, but a PDF copy will also be emailed to parents.

5. Family Life Instruction

- Under the Education Amendment Act (2024) school authorities are now required to notify parents and provide the opportunity to opt their child in, rather than opt-out, where courses, programs of study or instructional materials, instruction, or exercises include subject matter that deals primarily and explicitly with gender identity, sexual orientation or human sexuality.
- Our “Opt-In” letters will be going out shortly through Permission Click. Parents will need to respond to give their children permission to participate in these classes. As a school, we need to ensure that every parent/guardian has provided a “yes” or “no” response before beginning “Theme Three.”

6. Upcoming Events

- Dec 4 - Picture Retakes
- Dec 5 - Advent Celebration 2 (Grade 3)
- Dec 9 - Christmas Decor Day (Christmas colors and/or decorations)
- Dec 10 - School Mass
- Dec 10 - Junior High “Sail-n-Bail” (Cardboard Boat Races)
- Dec 11 - Christmas Potluck
- Dec 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe Play
- Dec 12 - Advent Celebration 3 (Gr. 8)
- Dec 15 - JH Shopping Trip 11:45 - 3:15pm
- Dec 17 - Grade 9 Trades Field Trip
- Dec 18 - Christmas Concert; 10:15am and 7:00pm
- Dec 19 - 4th Advent Celebration & Family Activity & Pajama Day
- CHRISTMAS BREAK - Dec 20th through Jan 4th
- Jan 6 - Hot Lunch (Beef on a Bun)
- Jan 14 - Monthly Mass

Associate Principal Faith Report

This month, we are preparing our hearts in anticipation of Jesus' arrival! The advent wreath is on display, new LED candles have been purchased, and decorative items have been swapped out with attention paid to the liturgical colour of the season - purple. Also, on an unrelated note, did you know that this year, our parish is celebrating its 80th anniversary?

Events:

- **Weekly staff prayer continues**
 - Using *Mediations on the Psalms* by Barbara Cawthorne Crafton
- **Parable and Saint of the Month: December 5**
 - December
 - Parable of the Persistent Friend (Luke 11: 5-13)
 - St. Monica is December's Saint
 - Recognizing Arwyn Vanden Dool, Kynlee Rempel, and Genesis Hinojosa Ruvalcaba for their Piety on December 5th. These "Saints" will have pictures on our saint wall!
- **Monthly Mass**
 - Josh Gatner will be leading the Grade 9 class in hosting mass for the school on December 10th. Students read the First reading, the Psalm, and the prayers of the faithful. During this mass, we will be recognizing Father for the 21st anniversary of his ordination by giving a card and a blessing.
- **Our Lady of Guadalupe**
 - December 12th - this feast day has significant meaning for many of our Spanish-speaking families. Led by Isabel, we have a collection of students preparing a dramatic re-enactment of Juan Diego's story that we will be watching as a school on Friday, December 12th.
 - Parish Mass - Fr. Santiago is coming out from Lethbridge to say mass in Spanish for our community at 4:30pm on the same day. The students will perform their drama as well as take a hand in leading music. It all finishes off with a shared meal.
- **Gospel during Advent**
 - Our first Advent Celebrations on November 28th was lovely! It was led by Grade 4 (Fuller), with Grade 3 (Constant), Grade 8 (Vanden Dungen), and Grade 5 (Gokarn) taking their turns on the coming Fridays.

Father did some new training for Alter Servers last month on Friday, November 14th. Planning is underway to recognize Epiphany on January 6th by having the Grade 9 class go around and chalk the doors!