

St Catherine's School Council Meeting Agenda

May 20, 2026 7:00 pm

1. Call to order: **By Crystie @ 7:06pm**
2. Record of attendance: **Josh Gatner, Deanna Brilman, Andrea Nieboer, Amy Brecka, Esther Ritz, Devan Kolk, Lenae Brilman, Alyssa Murray, Gabi Kolk, Amanda Andersen, Dan Vanden Dungen, Crystie Praskach, Carlee Nummi**
3. [Opening prayer](#) and Land Acknowledgement
4. Review and adoption of minutes from previous meeting ([April](#) 2026)
 - Adopted by Devan
5. New business or items to add to the agenda?
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6. Old Business:
 - a. [Kindergarten Coffee](#)
 - June 2nd @10:30
 - b. [ASCE Grant](#) - Crystie
 - To be carried over into the fall
7. Reports:
 - a. Principal (attached below)
 - b. Associate Principal Faith Report (attached below)
 - c. Chair - Crystie
 - Nothing to report
8. Correspondence:
9. New business:
 - a. School Council Plans for Next Year
 - **Completed 3-year maximum (one-year at a time) terms:** Crystie - Chair, Andrea - Vice-Chair. We will be seeking a Chair and Vice-Chair in September. Terms are elected one year at a time, to a maximum of three for the three executive roles. Other roles have no maximum time.
 - **September:** attend Back to School BBQ with a table and invite more volunteers / sign up sheet
 - b. Bylaw Review / Update:
 - Changes will be voted on at the Annual Meeting in September.

c. Safe Arrival Software

- Starting May 25, 2026, parents will be asked to report absences instead of calling, emailing, or sending messages through students.
- Parents will need to install the SchoolMessenger Home app and sign up.
- How to document will be sent out

d. Schollie Survey Results ([link](#))

- 103 students, 51 parents, 13 teaching staff and 12 support staff filled out the survey
- Grade 4-6 overall positive response. Areas of growth are adult fairness, mutual respect and volunteerism
- Grade 7-9 -areas of growth cultural representation and mutual respect
- Teachers response- low on student supports, supports for new math curriculum and numeracy
- Support staff response- more professional development opportunities provided by the division

e. School Plans for Next Year

- Fridays go until 12:25 (10 minutes longer); otherwise little change to schedule
- More multi-grading of classes
 - Likely Grade 2-3 split
 - EA staffing to stay the same, asked for 6.5 and 4.5 is allotted
 - Projected 12 Grade 9 students next year, potentially combining Grade 8-9 for some classes
 - Staffing and teaching assignments are being discussed and will be shared soon.
- Maintain IEL time and try to provide some additional time for literacy and numeracy support

f. Other? Kindergarten Survey - continuing with 4 half days next year

10. Next meeting: June if needed — September 23rd @7pm

11. Closing prayer:

12. Adjournment: By Crystie @ 8:23pm

Principal's Report

1. Enrolment

- We are currently at **184** with pre-k, **165** without; this is down about 6 students since September 2025 and down about 23 students from September 2024.

2. Staffing

- Our teacher staffing will be **reduced by 1.0 teachers** next year due to our decrease in enrollment. This will require a teacher to be transferred to another site. Details are still being worked out.
- Our support staff allotment for grades 1-9 will be the same as this year. Since Kindergarten and ELP staffing is affected by student needs, it may vary.
- Mrs. Ortynski is extending her leave until after Christmas, and so we will be hiring someone for a temporary position.
- Mr. Snow is back but he is slowly working his way back to full-time. In the meantime, Rita continues to fill his additional hours.

3. Assessment, and Reporting

- We are into Provincial Achievement Test season with students doing their Writing tests (ELA Part A) this week. Grade 7-9 write on Thursday and Grade 6 on Friday.
- The [Junior High Exam Week Schedule](#) has been set. Jr. High students will write in-class finals for ELA and Math on June 24 and 25th, after the PATs have been completed.
- Elementary report cards are to be shared with parents on June 25 for our grade 1-6 students. This will consist of a full year summary using the Holy Spirit Proficiency Scale. Similar to our previous report card, they will be available in Spaces but will also be emailed to families as PDF documents.

4. Calendar and Timetable

- We are still waiting for Board approval for next year's calendar. We will share it with our parent community as soon as possible.

Associate Principal Faith Report

Our Easter season ends with Pentecost this week, followed closely by lots of end-of-year events and observances.

Events:

- **Weekly staff prayer continues, with the resource**
 - With the new year, we are using *The Simplest Prayer* by the Irish Franciscans
- **Parable and Saint of the Month - with Fr. Iqbal helping during Friday Gospel:**
 - **May**
 - Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15: 11-32)
 - St. Mary Magdalene (and the importance of Forgiveness in her life) was May's Saint

- We celebrated Renata Morales Lopez (Gr2), Akim Gloria (Gr6), and Santiago Gomez Ramos (Gr9) on May 1st. Their pictures have been added to our Wall of Saints.
 - **June**
 - Parable of the Persistent Widow (Luke 18: 1-8)
 - St. Rita of Cascia and the importance of Perseverance is June's Saint
 - Saints of the month will be shared on June 5th.
- **Monthly Mass**
 - Jackie Price and the Grade 1/2 class led our monthly mass in May. In addition to doing all the readings and the prayers of the faithful, they also shared a dedication to Mary. Students sang and played in the choir. Followed by Long Service Awards.
 - Two Masses in June - Grade 9 Farewell on June 11th and June 17th as a whole school, both led by grade 9 students.
- **Professional Development**
 - Josh Gatner went to an inservice on the new Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ 9 resource on May 15th in addition to attending Blueprints Conference on May 6-8.
 - Jackie Price and Josh Gatner will be going to an inservice regarding new resources - Grade 1 Blessed and Beloved and the Grade 9 GIFGIC on June 10.
- **Catholic Education Sunday (and week)**
 - A divisional priority, this week had many of our students highlighted in social media posts. Staff were invited to come to mass and celebrate Catholic Education Sunday with Trustee Cher O'Donnell reading a message from GrACE.

Looking Ahead: End of Year

- There is a statue of Mary that makes its way to all divisional schools and parishes in the month of May. We will receive the statue on June 1 and have it for a week. It will be up in the gathering space and classes will be given resources to use in supporting a classroom liturgy during that week.
- Meeting with Father Iqbal to review and collaborate planning for next year.