

Meeting Minutes

Gateway Christian School

School Council Meeting on October 18, 2022

The School Council is an advisory council to the School Principal and the elected Board of Trustees with respect to matters pertaining to the school.

As we gather tonight, let us remember that we live, play, work and worship on Treaty Six territory to the North of the Red Deer River and Treaty Seven territory to the South of the Red Deer River. We acknowledge and give thanks to the many First Nations, Metis and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries. May we live with respect on this land and live in peace and friendship with its people.

Attendance: Stephanie Vanderleek (Chair), Geannette Lehman (Principal), Miranda Moltzahn (Teacher rep), Cathy Mottus-Landry (Vice-principal), Carolyn Stolte, Faith Plunkett, Susie Heinrichs, Andrea Korevaar, Wendy Fath, Robyn Friesen, Matthew Sproule, Laura Brouwer, Shannon Driedger, Lauren Visser, Christina Billings, Karen Wiebe, Brendon Martens, Melissa Kooiker, Colleen + Trevor Cameron, Allan + Danelle Cole, Jan Fox, Caroline Swanson, Jenessa Parker, Alisha Wiens, Heidi Rew, Jenna Brotnov, Pam + Taylor Armstrong, Cory Kloss, Carla Berger, Jena Braun, Ifie Janzen, Stephanie McKenzie

Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm

Stephanie issued a welcome to parents and attendees, and read a portion of scripture (Romans 12:9-18).

Geannette opened with prayer.

Stephanie read our Land Acknowledgement.

Adoption of Agenda: Motion - Karen Wiebe, Second - Taylor Armstrong

Adoption of Minutes from September 20, 2022: Motion - Faith Plunkett, Second - Cathy Mottus-Landry

Principal Report: Geannette

Admin attended the Christian Schools Canada Conference with the theme "Make Room at the Table" which included a time at the Canadian Museum of Human Rights. The message of building a strong connection while focusing on blessing, brokenness, connection, and giving was taught.

October 20-21 Prairie Centre for Christian Education Teachers Convention

The fences have been put up for the 2 portables, which are finally being put in! They'll be on temporary settings until a waterline can be moved for more permanent placement. They will have electricity, heat, etc, but no direct hall to the school at this time. Portables should be up in 2 months.

Athletic programs are up and running. The running club had 65 participants this year - our biggest yet!

The Hot Lunch ladies continue to do an excellent job of coordinating fun, affordable meals for our school, while raising funds that go directly back into Gateway (i.e. sponsoring water

filling stations)

The school continues to offer a breakfast program for students who need it, as well as participate in the lunch program with the Mustard Seed.

Literacy and Numeracy interventions are going well in Grade 2-3. Grade 4-8 "Reading Naturally Live" program is launching with intervention blocks scheduled for middle school students to focus on strengthening core skills.

City-Wide School Council Report: Stephanie

Held at Normandeau. Deputy Superintendent delivered the Superintendent's report - emphasized large number of new staff and big admin shuffle at the end of last year.

School Councils asked to respond to Policy 21 proposal:

- Concern raised about vague nature of some points (i.e. what is considered "appropriate timeline", what measures will be taken)
- Parents asked for clarification as to Code of Conduct for behaviours considered "Non-Culpable"

Any parents who wish to submit feedback on Policy 21 as an individual can access the Proposed Policy [here](#).

Elections: Stephanie

Susie Hienrichs put her name forward for Vice-Chair. She was appointed by the Chair and affirmed by the Executive.

Andrea Korevaar put her name forward for Secretary. She was appointed by the Chair and affirmed by the Executive.

Budget Finalization: Stephanie

School Council budget confirmed to be \$2000. Council voted on budget allocations at AGM. \$500 ASCE Grant has been confirmed for this year.

Motion to bring in Jo(e) Social Media for parent talk with \$500 fee covered by ASCE Grant and \$25 GST to come from Community budget line - Stephanie VanderLeek

Second - Carolyn Stolte

Question raised re: field trips. This matter will be addressed at the next meeting.

"Who Should I Talk to if I Have a Concern?" Presentation: Stephanie

It's important that parents can identify who the right person is to bring a concern or question to. We've assembled a flow chart for parents to reference with common concerns, and the appropriate avenues for addressing them. You can view the Contact Flow Chart [here](#).

It's also helpful for parents to understand the organizational structure of our Public Education model to see how and where decisions are made. We've put together an infographic to show the flow of authority in our province. You can view the Alberta Public Education Organizational Structure [here](#).

No matter who we bring our concerns to, it is important to be respectful and polite in our interactions, that our message may be heard.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 - remaining agenda items deferred to November meeting