



Catholic School Advisory Agenda & Minutes

Monday, February 3, 2025 | 5:30 pm

Present: Kerri Lyn Courtney, Mel Denys, Jen Van Dieten, Diane Young, Danielle Tosetto, Emily Hendriks

Regrets: Jill McLlwain, Mariana Abullarade Gamez, Kim Carnochan, Ang Poppe

AGENDA:

1. Welcome Prayer

Heavenly Father, we come to you today asking for your guidance, wisdom, and support as we begin this meeting. Help us to engage in meaningful discussion; allow us to grow closer as a group and nurture the bonds of community. Fill us with your grace, Lord God, as we make decisions that might affect the students, staff, and friends of St. James School. We ask these things in your name, Amen.

2. Review of November 2024 Minutes

a. [November 18 Minutes](#)

3. Principal Update

a. Christmas Dinner Reflections

i. Notable items for next year

1. A third station for the buffet that allows for easier access to 'seconds' sooner
2. Portions were slightly high on the gravy and meat - consider asking for lower numbers - decided to not change portions as the 'turkey on a bun' was a huge success and benefitted the local food bank
3. Considerations over some entertainment for students
4. Costs will be kept in mind for next year - likely no need for the optional \$5 per family, or reduce it based on increasing costs

b. Health & Safety Update

i. Victoria Street Dismissal Routines - improvements

1. Communication with OPP and Huron Heat to explore possible next steps if things did not improve

ii. Snow Day Arrival/Dismissal Routines

c. Perth-Huron Crossroads Family of Parishes Update

i. Celebrated Reconciliation on Friday, January 10 at St. Patrick's Dublin

ii. Lucas Ducharme Visits - Grade 4/5, 6/7, 7/8

1. Youth Group opportunities are coming for the Family of Parishes
2. Getting to know students ahead of their Confirmation

d. Catholic School Initiatives

i. Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations Mini-Lessons & Classroom-Based Presentations

1. Mrs. Courtney will continue to lead class-based discussions with all classes individually through each of the graduate expectations

e. School Improvement Plan

i. CCAT Results have been distributed to students who participated in Grades 4 & 7

1. Infinite Horizons opportunities this spring

ii. 'Do the Math' Intervention for Grade 6-8 students has begun

1. Snow day hiccups, but running smoothly now

- 2. The intervention will continue for the remainder of the school year - involving most or all Grades 6-8 before the end of the year
- iii. Mid-year check-in for Literacy Data results - begins Tuesday/Wednesday
 - 1. Information will be included with the Term 1 Report Card for SK- Grade 2 students
- iv. Term 1 Reports Go Home on February 14
 - 1. Opportunities for meetings with teachers
 - 2. Data further assessed to adjust programming and interventions in place at the school
- v. EQAO Preparations - Grade 3 & Grade 6
 - 1. Late May start - lots of prep and information available to students and parents beginning in late March
- f. School Programs & Initiatives
 - i. New Mental Health Counselor - Social Worker Nicki VanBakel
 - 1. Time has increased at the school to a full day from ½ day
 - 2. Social-emotional learning opportunities for all learners for term 2
 - a. Whole class lessons and opportunities
- g. Upcoming Events at St. James
 - i. French Carnival - Thursday, February 20
 - 1. Students celebrate French Culture by re-creating our own Carnival de Quebec to honour this pre-Lenten celebration done in Quebec each year since 1984
 - ii. Class Trip Planning for Spring/End of Year
 - 1. Teachers are exploring possibilities and booking trips to ensure an amazing celebratory experience is offered to every student

4. Fundraising Goals

- a. Creation of a Sub-committee that would focus on fundraising goals for a future Playground Purchase
 - i. Small Scale Fundraising - Spring Fling this year
 - 1. Date - Thursday, June 5, 2025
 - 2. Point of Sale Machine - Addition of items and events due to 'cashless' option
 - ii. Homecoming Fundraising Opportunities
 - 1. August 2, 2025, is the Open House Day for the Schools and other community buildings
 - 2. Consideration: using this opportunity as the kick-off for a Playground Fundraising Event

5. Fundraisers & Schedule

- a. Christmas Chacuterarie Boxes - Success - \$350.00
- b. Other Winter Options / Early Spring Fundraisers?
 - i. Elmira Chicken
 - ii. Metzgers / Elmira Chicken
 - iii. Chocolate or some Easter-inspired fundraiser

6. Agenda Additions

- a. Shrove Tuesday
 - i. Contact Kim for information related to last year
 - ii. students/families bring plates/utensils
 - iii. Lots of parent council volunteers
- b. Explore the optional of additional food days for the school
 - i. Catered meat on a bun, soups or grilled cheese again

7. PRO GRANT Application

8. Communication & Next Meeting

- a. All communication related to the CSAC will go in the standing section for CSAC in the Weekly Update
- b. Next meeting - March 24, 2024, at 5:30 pm
- c. Change of date for the May meeting: Now will be Monday, May 12, 2025, at 5:30 pm

