



ST. JAMES
CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Catholic School Advisory Agenda & Minutes

Monday, March 24, 2025 | 5:30 pm

Present: Kerri Lyn Courtney, Jen Van Dietsen, Diane Young, Danielle Tosetto, Emily Hendriks, Kim Carnochan, Mariana Abullarade Gamez

Regrets: Ang Poppe, Mel Denys, Jill McIlwain

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 2025 Minutes

- a. [February 2025 Minutes](#)

3. Principal Update

- a. Health & Safety Update & Facilities
 - i. Roof repairs - upcoming construction this summer
 - ii. The Playground has reopened for Spring
 - iii. Repairs to yard from snow removal - pavement, grass planting
- b. Perth-Huron Crossroads Family of Parishes Update
 - i. First Communion Prep has begun - Tuesdays with Grade 2 students / Karen Doyle
 - 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
- c. 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
 - ii. Lenten Group Activities on Fridays (next three weeks)
 - iii. Stations of the Cross - Holy Thursday - Grade 1/2 - 12:20 pm
 - iv. Lenten Fundraiser - Grilled Cheese & Popcorn
 1. St. Andre Bessette Trust Fund
- d. School Improvement Plan
 - i. 'Do the Math' Intervention for Grade 6-8 students continues
 - ii. Mid-year check-in for Literacy Data results
 1. Significant growth in all primary learners - adjustments to groups and interventions have been made - teachers will be communicating with families this week regarding next steps
 2. Karen Kramers - Literacy coach assigned to St. James supports regularly
 - iii. EQAO Preparations - Grade 3 & Grade 6

1. Additional math blocks on Tuesday for all Grade 6 and Grade 3 students
2. System-level support for administrators for supporting students in preparing them to take the assessment
- e. School Programs & Initiatives
 - i. OPP Community Officer Visit April 24 for Grades 6-8
 1. Social Media, Interpersonal Relationships, Stress Management, and how the law changes as they get older / transition to high school
- f. Recent / Upcoming Events at St. James
 - i. French Carnival
 1. Amazing success - all students had a wonderful time
 - ii. Class Trip Planning for Spring/End of Year
 1. Most trips are confirmed by most classes - communication will be coming after Easter regarding logistics, chaperones, and planning

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. The Ricco Fundraiser runs now until Thursday, April 3
- b. Delivery/Pick up is Tuesday, April 15th
- c. Proceeds to Year-End Class Trips and Recess Activities
 - i. No need for the year-end trip allowance for each class if the fundraiser is successful from CSAC

6. Agenda Additions

- a. Shrove Tuesday Reflections
 - i. Huge thank you to everyone who assisted - huge success!
- b. Spring Fling Preparations
 - i. The date is confirmed and added to the calendar: Thursday, June 5
 - ii. Meal? Knights? Rollin' Roaster?
 1. Kim and Kerri Lyn will look into Knights doing Peameal on a bun again
 2. If Knights can't do it - can we get it catered and build our own
 - iii. Same format as last year - Point of Sale booked
 1. A positive discussion on turning our silent auction into a Penny Sale
 - a. More accessible for students/families
 - b. Sell arm-lengths of tickets for students to 'enter to win'
 - c. Families do not need to stay for the winners to be announced
 - d. More engagement from families and students
 - e. With every meal, a 'complimentary' penny sale ticket is given.
 - f. More baskets can be made when it is a penny sale, rather than fewer baskets trying to get higher value
 - g. Perhaps still consider a smaller silent auction for higher-value items

- h. Reflections from parents are that some families win/outbid other families in an offer to donate to the school, loses spirit of the item (experiences for class/students at the school)
- c. Continue to explore the opportunities of additional food days at the school
 - i. Consider a new food day item with remaining snack funding at the end of this year - based on success, decide for next school year (Subway from June 2024, now a food day)
- d. Fundraising Possibilities
 - i. Online Auction at Christmas Time for Playground - speak with St. Columban, seek community input and donations
 - ii. Ricco Fundraiser again during Winter Months - January/February

7. 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 - Monday, May 12, 2025, at 5:30 pm
 - i. Main agenda items regarding Spring Fling logistics