



ST. JAMES
CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Catholic School Advisory Agenda & Minutes

Monday, May 12, 2025 | 5:30 pm

Present: Kerri Lyn Courtney, Mel Denys, Mariana Abullarade Gamez, Kim Carnochan, Jen Van Dieten, Emily Hendriks, Danielle Tosetto

Regrets: Jill McLlwain

AGENDA:

1. Welcome Prayer

On Fire with the Spirit.

Holy Spirit, awaken us to Your presence. Stir our hearts to recognize Your works in our lives and the world. Grant us the courage to embrace new challenges with open hearts and willing spirits, serving others with compassion, kindness, mercy, and unity.

Spirit of Truth, illuminate our path. Shine Your light to dispel doubt and fear, filling our minds with wisdom to discern and follow Your will. Help us guide others into the radiant light of Christ.

Spirit of Joy, rejoice with us. Fill our hearts with joy in Your presence, so that even in trials, we may be a beacon of hope and love. May we share the light of Christ with the world, spreading peace and joy wherever we go.

Holy Spirit, let us be ever mindful of Your presence, ready to be led by You. Set our hearts on fire with Your love, awakening, illuminating, and rejoicing with our entire community.

Amen.

2. Review of 2025 Minutes

- a. Review of [March 2025 Minutes](#)

3. Principal Update

- a. Perth-Huron Crossroads Family of Parishes Update
 - i. First Holy Communion - Saturday, May 3, 2025
 - ii. Confirmation Retreat - June 5
 - iii. Sacrament of Confirmation - Thursday, June 12, 2025
- b. Catholic School Initiatives
 - i. Lenten Activities
 - 1. Fundraising, Faith Families, Blaze the Trail Grant Funding
 - ii. Catholic Education Week - Pilgrims of Hope
 - 1. Assembly;
 - a. Applause Award Winners
 - b. Catholic Trustee Student Leadership Award
 - 2. School Mass - led by SK/1
- c. School Improvement Plan
 - i. EQAO Preparations Continue
 - 1. May 27 to June 5 (submitted by June 11)
 - a. The schedule reflects the best time of day for students to write
 - 2. Additional Math Blocks weekly to support
 - 3. System Level Literacy Support visits to each classroom to assist with readiness
- d. 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

2. Highly impactful visit - members of OPP, Detective, and Mental Health division were present for the presentation - very informative for students!
- ii. Track & Field Day
 1. School-Based Event - rescheduled to June 10/11
 2. BBQ lunch provided for all
 3. No System Track & Field Meet this year due to St. Anne's Track delays
- iii. Graduation
 1. Thursday, June 19, beginning with Mass at 5 pm, followed by a ceremony and refreshments in the St. James Gym
- iv. Year-End Class Activities
 1. Two-Pitch, Play Day, small class-based activities, "special days"
 2. Kindergarten Orientation and First Ride - June 9
- e. Recent / Upcoming Events at St. James
 - i. Class Trip Planning for Spring/End of Year
 1. Groups of classes travelling together
 2. Dates and costs of trips are found below:

CLASS / TEACHER	LOCATION	DATE OF TRIP	ORIGINAL COST	ACTUAL COST
Kindergarten: Mrs. Wilson & Mrs. Schoonderwoerd SK/1 Mrs. Nolan Grade 1/2 Mrs. McLlwain	Camp Menesetung Goderich, ON	Thursday, June 19	\$42	\$0
Grade 2/3: Mrs. Ducharme Grade 3/4: Mrs. Wydeven	Camp Menesetung Goderich, ON	Tuesday, June 17	\$42	\$0
Grade 4/5: Mr. Weiler Grade 6: Mr. Schoonderwoerd	Western Sports Camp London, ON	Thursday, June 19	\$83	\$0
Grade 7: Mr. Schnoonderwoerd Grade 7/8: Mrs. Peters	Toronto Blue Jays/CN Tower Toronto, ON	Thursday, May 22	\$183	\$75

4. Spring Fling

- a. The date is confirmed and added to the calendar: Thursday, June 5 (PD Day Friday)
- b. Meal? Knights? Rollin' Roaster?
 - i. Knights have a meeting on Thursday, May 15, to discuss helping us again (same night as their large chicken BBQ Dinner)
 - ii. Email sent to Rollin' Roaster to get price on anything 'on a bun' - beef, pork, chicken
 - iii. A cost per bun may have to be asked for, depending on the price or take-out profits.
- c. Drinks, Toppings, and Extras
 - i. Use of OSNP funds to support Meat on a Bun toppings, fruit, veggie trays, etc
 - ii. Should have lots of plates and utensils from the Christmas Dinner
- d. Same format as last year - Point of Sale booked (from the Board for Debit/Credit Option)

- e. A positive discussion on turning our silent auction into a Penny Sale
 - i. More accessible for students/families
 - ii. Sell arm-lengths of tickets for students to 'enter to win'
 - iii. Families do not need to stay for the winners to be announced
 - iv. More engagement from families and students
 - v. With every meal, a 'complimentary' penny sale ticket is given.
 - vi. More baskets can be made when it is a penny sale, rather than fewer baskets, trying to get a higher value
 - vii. Perhaps still consider a smaller silent auction for higher-value items
 - viii. Reflections from parents are that some families win/outbid other families in an offer to donate to the school, losing the spirit of the item (experiences for class/students at the school)
- f. Classroom Themes - as a suggestion, any donated item will be accepted
- g. Mrs. Kemp is preparing a small Talent Show for Students who want to showcase their gifts
- h. Information will be shared in the Family Weekly Update this week

5. Fundraisers & Upcoming Events

- a. Ricco Fundraiser Success
 - i. School Community raised \$1,875.00! All funds raised have been put towards year-end class trips
- b. OSNP Funding & BBQ Lunch
 - i. Snacks will be shared more frequently with students to ensure we can spend the remaining OSNP funds
 - ii. BBQ lunch is being explored for the Track & Field day
- c. Freeze King Walking Excursion
 - i. Huge success last year for students (and teachers!)
 - ii. Approximate cost for the entire school was \$650 - do this again?
- d. Spring Fling Funds
 - i. All funds from Spring Fling (less Freeze King) will be rolled to the 25-26 CSAC Year

6. Communication & Next Meeting

- a. All communication related to the CSAC will go in the standing section for CSAC in the Weekly Update
- b. Homecoming Details
 - i. When more details become available, Kerri Lyn Courtney will reach out to Jen Van Dietsen and Emily Hendriks for the next steps with participation
- c. Next meeting - September 2025
 - i. Follow-up email thread from volunteers of Spring Fling to capture reflections and next steps