

MINUTES
Gateway Christian School
School Council AGM
April 23, 2024

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 at Gateway Christian School, we would like to thank God for all of creation.

Here south of the Red Deer River, Gateway is on land that is known as Treaty 7 territory. First Nations people used the Red Deer River to follow and hunt wildlife - it was a place of provision.

Later, the river was a landmark for First Nations to meet, trade, and come to agreements. The Métis continued on with these traditions and the river was a place of community building and justice seeking.

We acknowledge the traditions of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people whose footsteps have marked these lands for thousands of years, and we ask God to help us to use it in a way that honours Him, and blesses those around us.

Attendance: Julie Cavanaugh, Alisha Wiens, Karen Wiebe, Stephanie Stutheit, Adam Barthel, Geannette Lehman, Amy McAllister, Carolyn Stolte, Jenessa Parker, Wendy Faith, Shannon Driedgere, Carolyn Anderson, Vanessa Mutch, Caroline Swanson, Lauren Visser, Nick Burnett, Suzanne Burnett, Nick Robichaud, Trish Robichaud, Karalee Andrus, Melissa Kooiker, Neil Hill, Stephanie McKenzie, Jenna VanderVeen.

1. Welcome and Introductions - Julie Cavanaugh

- Meeting called to order at 6:32PM

2. Land Acknowledgment and Prayer - Julie Cavanaugh

- James 1:5

3. Adoption of Agenda - Julie Cavanaugh

MOTION: Suzanne Burnett, Second - Karen Wiebe

4. Adoption of Minutes from March 19, 2024 - Julie Cavanaugh

MOTION: Alisha Wiens, Second - Julie Cavanaugh

5. Reports:

a) School Council Annual Report: Julie Cavanaugh

Annual activities report: no crossover from last year's School Council

- 'What do you hope for from the School Council?' was discussed early this year: the Student Support Rooms, Christian Curriculum, partnering with the Society with Teacher Appreciation. Barb Barthel will be here in May to address the Christian Curriculum being taught.
- A survey will be sent out in May as to how the School Council can best serve the school for next year.

Financial report:

Adoption of Financial Report

MOTION: Shannon Driedger, Second - Julie Cavanaugh

- Suggestions will be accepted in May as to where our surplus should be allocated.

No vacant positions to fill this year

b) Principal Report: Geannette Lehman

- 1) Our Grade 12 Co-Impact team went to the Dominican Republic over the Easter Break.
- 2) We had 50 grade 3 to 5 students perform in our School Choir yesterday at Gaetz United with Mrs. Marquart and Mrs. Vaarstra.
- 3) Badminton tournaments for middle school students at the end of the month and Grade 5 swimming lessons are ending this week.
- 4) Literacy and Numeracy Interventions for Grade 1's are underway and will go until mid-June.
- 5) Our throughline in April is Earth-Keeping
- 6) Middle School students hosted a Fine Arts Showcase.
- 7) Grade 8 Student and Parent Information Night was hosted for upcoming Gurber students.
- 8) Grade 8 FNMI students attended Indigenous Youth Conference and Grade 6 went to the Legislature in Edmonton and Biology 30 went to the Calgary Zoo
- 9) Spring flower fundraiser - funds are for field trips.
- 10) Student-requested clubs - Bible Study clubs for Grade 4 and 8. Beauty Creating club.

c) **Society Report:** Carolyn Stolte

- 1) Society AGM is after the Parent Council meeting. We have two vacancies.
- 2) Parent prayer time is before Family Worship and being led by Trish Robichaud.
- 3) Teacher Appreciation has been going well.
- 4) Fundraiser being planned in conjunction with Parent Council - Pancake Breakfast and Market with a Carnival and Silent Auction on June 1, 2024.

6. Gateway's theme for June (responding to RDPSD's Pride Week) = Focusing on the Community

Building Through Theme: Geannette Lehman

- We have been doing through themes throughout the year, this year we are doing Community Building for the month of June.
- The theme of Community Building with a focus that all students are loved, all students are accepted, all students are created in God's image.
- There is no hidden agenda for the theme of Community Building.

Questions

- If a parent has concerns as June approaches, what would be the most helpful way to approach the school? They can come to Admin or to the teachers.
- Will the devotions be given to the teachers to use or do they come up with their own? Teachers work in grade teams and Cherilyn Strom helps come up with what is used.

7. **Questions**

- Why is the AGM in April? It aligns with the Society AGM, so that we are not asking parents to attend two times.

9. **Adjournment - meeting adjourned at 7:23 PM.**

Next Meeting Date: May 21, 2024

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