

Gateway Christian School
MINUTES
School Council Meeting
January 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, Geannette Lehman, Madalyn Church, Yvonne Prins, Karen Wolfmeyer, Amy McAllister, Cathy Peacocke, Carla Berger, Wendy Fath, Neil Hill, Shannon Driedger, Carolyn Anderson, Kevin Bran, Ami Martens, Carolyn Stolte.

Regrets: Adam Barthel and Cathy Mottus-Landry

1. Welcome and Introductions - Julie Cavanaugh

- Meeting called to order at 6:30PM

2. Land Acknowledgment and Prayer - Julie Cavanaugh

- Psalms 127

3. Adoption of Agenda - Julie Cavanaugh

MOTION: Wendy Fath , Second - Karen Wiebe

Motion carried.

4. Adoption of Minutes from November 21, 2023 - Julie Cavanaugh

MOTION: Amy McAllister, Second - Julie Cavanaugh

Motion carried.

5. Reports:

a) Principal Report: Geannette Lehman

- 1) AB Ed Assurance Survey - Grade 4, 7 and 10 parents and students to provide feedback on what is working well and what needs to be improved. Parents should have received an email.
- 2) Modulars will be getting final touches. Lockers are being installed this week and boot racks will be installed soon.

- 3) Sports teams are basketball and cross country skiing. Clubs are starting soon.
- 4) Gateway Christmas Village went very well.
- 5) We are planning an Easter celebration the week before Easter (March 20) for K-5.
- 6) Middle school Through Crews have been continuing. Looking for feedback from middle school students.
- 7) Stephanie Stutheit is doing literacy and numeracy interventions for Grade 2 and 3. Grade 1s will start in the spring.

Question - What is the policy on attendance when a student is absent and not verified?

You should receive an automated call when there is an absence.

b) Board Report: Cathy Peacocke

- 1) We are starting preparations for our Education Plan. Engagement sessions are starting.
- 2) January meeting involved a presentation from Student Services. Increase in students needing supports.
- 3) Cathy gave a presentation to Grade 6 students at Gateway on being a public servant. The grade 6 students were a credit to the teachers and to Gateway.

c) Update from Society: Geannette Lehman for Carolyn Stolte

- 1) Thank you to the School Council for joining the Staff Appreciation Initiative. First day was in December and it was wonderful.
- 2) Fundraising initiative will be coming in the Spring.
- 3) Thank you to all who supported the hot chocolate and popcorn fundraiser at the Gateway Christmas Village.
- 4) Parents can continue to support the school through prayer at a gathering before Family Worship, led by Trish Robichaud.

d) Update from City-Wide School Council: Alisha Wiens

- 1) Attended by Alisha and Julie.
- 2) School hosts a young writers conference every spring on a PD Day (we have students that participate in this).
- 3) Websites handed out for reference:
- 4) City Wide School Council meeting at 7:00PM at Central Services next month. Discussing the pillars of education and it is a part of the education plan.

5) Discussed results from surveys last year.

6. ASCA Attendance - Julie Cavanaugh

1) We have money set aside for School Council. We would like to send a member of council to the ASCA general conference.

MOTION: Karla Berger, Second - Amy McAllister

Motion carried.

7. Teachers Sharing re: Throughlines and TFT integration in the classroom(s)

1) Barbara Barthel has created the Bible curriculum for our school. She will speak to that in the future at a School Council meeting.

2) Madalyn Church, Karen Wolfmeyer and Yvonne Prins presented about teaching with TFT throughlines.

a) Each classroom has a storyline and a deep hope.

b) Classrooms follow the Christian Calendar.

8. Questions

No questions.

9. Parent Prayer for Students and Staff

10. Adjournment - meeting adjourned at 7:19PM.

Next Meeting Date: March 19, 2024

gcs-schoolcouncil@rdpsd.ab.ca