

AGENDA
Gateway Christian School
School Council Meeting
October 17, 2023

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, let us remember that we live, play, work, and worship on Treaty Six Territory to the North of the Red Deer River and Treaty Seven Territory to the South of the Red Deer River. We acknowledge and give thanks to the many First Nations, Métis and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries. May we live with respect on this land, and live in peace and friendship with its people.

Attendance: Carla Berger, Julie Cavanaugh, Amy McAllister, Cathy Peacocke, Stephanie Stutheit, Alisha Wiens, Carolyn Anderson, Nick Robichaud, Mandy Dubyna, Ruel Cadiente, Rona Cadiente, Shannon Driedger, Chidinma Akune-ude, Charlene Toews, Ami Martens, Trish Robichaud, Carolyn Stolte, Wendy Fath, Cory Kloss, Geannette Lehman, Adam Barthel

1. **Welcome and Introductions** - Julie Cavanaugh
-meeting called to order at 6:33PM
2. **Land Acknowledgment and Prayer** - Julie Cavanaugh
-Ephesians 2:10
3. **Adoption of Agenda** - Julie Cavanaugh
MOTION: Carla Berger , Second - Nick Robichaud
Motion carried.
4. **Adoption of Minutes from September 26, 2023** - Julie Cavanaugh
MOTION: Shannon Driedger, Second - Alisha Wiens
Motion carried.
5. **Reports:**
 - a) **Principal Report:** Geannette Lehman
 - 1) Moved into modular classrooms! Waiting for other items but classes are in.
 - 2) Teachers and EAs will be at PCCE Teachers Convention on Oct 19/20. Theme is Deeper: Having An Agenda. Keynote is Dr. Christina Edmonson. She will lead us through three sessions: Having an agenda of Love, Having an agenda of courage, Having an agenda of care.
 - 3) Parent teacher conferences were on Oct. 5. We had many parents and students come.
 - 4) Book fair was in the first week of October. Raised \$2,000 for the library.

- 5) High school retreat for all Gurber students on October 30th. They will be going to Camp Evergreen in Sundre. First retreat since before Covid.

b) Update from School Board: Cathy Peacocke

- 1) Already had a meeting with the school admin.
- 2) Former school council chair and instructor for ASCA.
- 3) Board met with the City Council. Last year, the school board met with students grade six and up about what made a good day.
- 4) Concerns from students - bullying online. Will be doing follow up meetings in Spring
- 5) Student enrollment was 11,424 and increased 244. 1423 staff, 608 teachers
- 6) Big focus on cyber security going forward. Cyber security will be on going concern
- 7) Trustee increase - 2% increase approved this year. Last increase was in 2017
- 8) Questions - Is there any time where parents have opportunities to liaise with trustees? Answer - They can come to City Wide Council Meeting. Board meetings are open to the public and live streamed.
Questions - Is the meeting on Oct 29 sponsored by the School Board? Answer - Alisha will update.

c) Update from Society: Carolyn Stolte

- 1) First meeting was last month.
- 2) Biggest thing is parent prayer time hosted by Trish Robichaud. Watch calendars for prayer times.

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

- 1) Attended by Alisha and Julie.
- 2) The Principal from Don Campbell shared a presentation on initiatives in their school.
- 3) A report on the student support room.

K-8 has a student support room. A certified teacher or Educational Assistant is placed in each room. This provides a place for students to go and regulate and learn skills to help them function in their classroom. The heart is preserving student dignity and creating a safe space.

City wide parent engagement conference - Oct 28. 9-12:30. Register online if you want to go. Different sessions to attend.

6. ASCA Position Election - Julie Cavanaugh

Karen Wiebe - self nominated

MOTION: To accept Karen Wiebe in this position.

Julie Cavanaugh, Second - Trish Robichaud.

Motion carried.

7. Explanation of the new Student Support Room - Lynette Loonstra

- 1) The room supports students for a variety of reasons including transitions, regulatory breaks, etc.
- 2) Information of who attends and why is tracked.
- 3) Students need a parent permission form if they attend regularly.
- 4) About 30 students access the space. 25 on a regular basis.
- 5) Specific construction will take place in the room to ensure it provides a safe space for all needs
- 6) Questions - Is it a one year project? No, it is 2.
Is it a Board initiative? Yes.

8. Volunteer Application Information - Geannette Lehman

- 1) District consultation with RCMP before changes were made.
- 2) Volunteers must complete Criminal Record (where staff is always present) or Vulnerable Sector (where staff is not always there to supervise) check.
- 3) First - contact is Cathy McCullough for the letter. Second, apply online or in person. Third, go through the parent portal account in PowerSchool and upload and attach the check. Fourth, fill out an ongoing declaration the second and third year.

9. Table Talks re: School Council This Year

- 1) Question 1 - What are a few things that you want to feel more in the know about this year?
- 2) Question 2 - Where would you like to see more parent involvement or parent voice at Gateway?
- 3) Question 3 - If something is to be addressed at a council meeting this year, what would you like to have the opportunity to talk about?

10. Questions - no questions

11. Adjournment - meeting adjourned at 7:32PM.

Next Meeting Date:
November 21, 2023