

**St. Joseph School Council
Monday, Jan. 25, 2016 - 6:30pm**

FYI

Reflect on the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. They are benchmarks or measuring sticks we can use to know if we are living as disciples of Jesus Christ.

MINUTES

Attendees

Name	Present	Regrets	Name	Present	Regrets
Chair - Corinne Sampson	X		Parent Liaison - Susan Olsen	X	
Vice Chair – Laura Bachmeier		X	Community Liaison – Diane Vienneau	X	
Secretary – Sharon Gurr		X	Parish Liaison - Shelley Lohues	X	
Principal - Val Leahy	X		FOSJ Chair - Sheryl-Ann Giacchetta	X	
Frances Cote - Trustee	X		Member at Large –Jennifer Leith-Hodge		X
			Guest Participant – Lisa Wolfe	X	

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
1. Opening Prayer	The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm by Corinne. Susan led prayer.	
2. Welcome and Introductions	Corinne will take Minutes. Tanya Gayowski removed from membership at this time as requested. We welcome Lisa Wolfe.	
3. Approval of Minutes	Minutes of Nov. 30/15 were approved as circulated. Motion by Shelley. Seconded by Sheryl-Ann.	carried
4. Approval of Agenda	Motion to accept the agenda as circulated by Sheryl-Ann. Seconded by Diane.	carried
5. Trustee’s Comments	Frances reviewed last Board meeting in December. Notable discussion surrounding international student travel/field trips and the new HSSB-imposed limitations; Life Framework (Board,	

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
	Superintendent, Bishop and ACSTA reaction to Best Practices, etc.); Fall budget; New north side school to open in June/16. Frances commented that she appreciates the wisdom of the patience and measure our Board and Mr. Smeaton are exercising in their response to the current issues regarding sexual orientation/gender identification/gender expression. She noted that parents can write to the Minister, MLA and Premier with their concerns. HSSB meets again Wed. Jan 27/16.	
6. Chairperson's Report a. ASCA Resolutions b. Catholic Education In Alberta c. 2016/17	See attached submission (Appendix 1). Discussion. Consider attending ASCA annual conference and AGM in April. ACSTA Press Release can be found at acsta.ab.ca. Read Bishops' letters surrounding gender issues on Archdiocese of Edmonton website. See articles at http://news.nationalpost.com/full-comment/jen-gerson-can-catholic-teachings-on-sexuality-be-reconciled-with-mainstream-values-and-can-we-avoid-invoking-the-nazis , and http://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/dont-let-alberta-schools-controversy-become-a-battle-of-rights/article28340180/ Chairperson's position will be open for next year.	
7. Principal's Report	See attached submission (Appendix 2). Good discussion centered on calendar highlights, nutritional breaks, LIFE Framework, school fee payment, possibility of hockey academy, soup kitchen, and ski trip. All present were given an opportunity to voice their findings, express opinions and ask questions, as Val requested input for school planning.	
8. Liaison Reports		
a) Friends of St. Joseph	Good evenings , Hope everyone had a great New Year . Friends of St. Joseph School has been very Blessed to have a great team this year working together to Fundraise and help coordinate school events. Thank you to everyone who participate in our Christmas dinner that was a great success. Up coming events scheduled is our Shrove Tuesday February 9, 2016 first break ,volunteers to help cook pancakes are more then welcome please contact me @sagiacchetta@gmail.com . Please take an opportunity to glance in the Parents Lounge board for information and updates on our Events on the Calendar. Thank you for all your support !!! Cheers Sheryl-Ann Giacchetta	
b) Parent	Susan has not found any communication in our email account, or in the Parent Lounge Suggestion Box.	

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
	<p>Corinne spoke to a concern as a parent. "I would like to urge administration to communicate with parents regarding how teachers are often taken advantage of in terms of the supervision they provide of students at times and venues outside of their responsibility. Examples might be on the ski trip or at the school while students are waiting for sporting practices. Teachers jump in with a sense of responsibility when they witness unwise behavior or activity. Their efforts are not always supported by parents and /or students while at the same time, their involvement increases safety and justice. Too often disrespect grows out of this situation. My question is how can we encourage a culture of gratitude and respect?"</p>	
<p>c) Parish</p>	<p>Shelley noted that there is a book study (<u>The Holy Year of Mercy</u>) beginning in February. St. Ambrose will not be having an Easter Vigil celebration this year. It will be held at St. Catherine's.</p> <p>The Hall Fundraising Committee will be holding a Mystery Dinner.</p> <p>CWL is working with SJS to create a project for the year of mercy. They are hosting a parish event every 3 months. Parish breakfast on Feb. 28, potluck dinner on May 14, breakfast on Sept. 18 and dinner on Nov. 26. These events are to foster a sense of community.</p> <p>The Children's Liturgy will take place on Sundays when the youth are not involved in the celebration, and Sundays that are not adjacent to a holiday.</p> <p>There is an internet hardwire connection to the choir loft.</p> <p>Groups that create electronic displays to support celebrations must be aware that screen displays should not distract from our Christ-centered focus.</p>	
<p>d) Community</p>	<p>Diane reported the following upcoming events:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Valentine's Day High Tea at Gem of the West on Feb. 13 at 1 pm. \$15 pp includes tea, sandwich, dessert 2. Community Fest on Feb 15 at the community center – VOLUNTEERS needed. Duties include bussing tables, escorting the mascot, assisting with hayrides, go-fish helpers, handing out balloons. Contact Stephanie Wierl at 403-345-1325, or at community@coaldale.ca 	<p>Diane: Please send a request to Kaareen at the school office to email parents about this community volunteer opportunity</p>
<p>9. Old Business</p>		
<p>a. SJSC Lenten Hope Project</p>	<p>Projects have taken on a "mercy" theme and extend beyond Lent.</p> <p>Students have an opportunity on the second Friday of each month to participate in the St. Ambrose Soup Kitchen volunteer experience. Sign up at the office.</p>	<p>Val will ask teachers to give this a plug in their</p>

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
	Students, parents and teachers are invited to participate in the SA book study of <u>The Holy Year of Mercy</u> in the Old Rectory at 7 pm on the second Wednesdays of the month.	religion classes.
b. Presentation to parents, Nutritional Breaks	Discussion occurred in 7. Principal's Report. Presentation is not planned at this time.	Val gathering parent and student feedback as advisement for next year.
c. Online Payment of School Fees	Discussed as part of 7. Principal's report.	Val will compile survey data and report to HSSB
10. New Business	N/A	
11. Closing Prayer and Adjournment	Susan led the Closing Prayer. Meeting adjourned at 8:52 pm.	
12. Date of Next Meeting	DATE: March 21, 2016 TIME: 6:30 pm PLACE: Library, SJS	

Submitted
Corinne Sampson

Appendix 1

SJSC
Chair Report
January 25, 2016

a. ASCA Resolutions 2016

ASCA has advised that the Proposed ISSUE RESOLUTIONS and other documents for the Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) Annual General Meeting (AGM) to be held April 24, 2016 are now available and posted on the [AGM section](http://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/?page=AGM) of the website. (<http://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/?page=AGM>)

There are 5 resolutions approved for discussion:

- Consent as an addition to the Alberta sexual education curriculum
- Visual resources related to provincial assessments
- Individualized Program Plans (IPPs)/Instructional Support Plans (ISPs) and other outcome based tools
- LGBTQ access to information
- Provincial Support for Transfer Station development in regionalized transportation systems

It is interesting that the first four resolutions were submitted by Lethbridge 51, the fifth by a district near Edmonton. Even more interesting is that both contributors are non-Catholic school districts. They address things mentioned in the Alberta Education Best Practices guideline but not inclusive of the Catholic perspective.

If you have an interest or strong feeling about any of these issues accepted as this year's resolutions, consider following the research submissions to these resolutions via the website, and attend the AGM in April as our representative. Funding assistance is available through Holy Spirit.

b. Catholic Education in Alberta

On Jan 13/16, Alberta Education published "Guidelines for Best Practices" without consulting the Catholic School Board Trustees in the province. These guidelines are written in response, largely, to the debate surrounding bullying and sexual orientation/gender identification/gender expression. They do not consider the Catholic perspective on those issues. So ACSTA released a response to make known their commitment to the Ministry's call for creating an inclusive, safe and caring environment for all students in all schools BUT A COMMITMENT TO MORE THAN THAT, from a Catholic perspective, regarding all points raised in "Best Practices". The ASCTA publication is attached and it is important to familiarize yourself with the declaration. It gives us a renewed appreciation for what Catholic education is all about in Alberta. FYI: Bishop Henry has issued statements as well. (Val comments?)

?? Can we post this ASCTA publication in the school and/or include it in the next school newsletter??

c. 2016/17

We began this year with the intention of hosting a workshop to define and delineate the School Council and our fundraising society, Friends of St. Joseph. I feel this was a very important step to take for the best interests of the school. It allows for the school council to function in its intended capacity, focusing on issues other than fundraising. It also allows the society to manage fundraising and disbursement of funds independently.

My involvement with the Council began at a time when the two bodies were linked, in our minds and by our By Laws. It was not clear that they are not linked. The ability to raise funds does not depend on the shape or form of council and vice versa.

Given our new-found identity, I feel confident that this is the time for me to step back from involvement in Council. It is my intention to remove myself from membership at the end of this school year in June, 2016.

Appendix 2

Principal's Report

January 25, 2016 "Horizon of hope."



New School Resource Office

Constable Doug Sokoloski is the new School Resource Officer for the Coaldale area. He attended a Wednesday morning staff meeting and met the staff. He has met many of the students, been to some classes and has been in the school quite a bit. He is a former Fish and Wildlife officer. Check this out:

<http://www.buzzhourly.com/2015/10/01/campers-got-visit-cop-awesome/>

Shrove Tuesday

Tuesday February 9

Pancakes served at 10:30 AM

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday February 10

Pd 2 (9:10 AM)

New Priest

St. Joseph School and St. Ambrose Parish welcomes Father Ian Gagne. Grades 7 and K attended Mass on Thursday, January 14 and Grades 2, 5 and 6 on Thursday, January 21. Youth Mass was held on Sunday, January 24th. I met with Father and we discussed several things including:

- Starting on February 1, 2016 Thursday morning Mass times will change to 8:45 AM
- Father will not have a schedule to visit classes on Thursday, but will be in the school on Thursday, visiting and wandering around. He is available to visit classes and talk with students as requested.

Lent Activities

SJS has a PD Day on Monday, February 1, 2016. We will be discussing what we will be doing as a school for Lent. Our student raised over \$500.00 for Mission Mexico from a Taco in a bag sale that was held in December. In order to make this more meaningful and to students we invited Father Fred Monk to present to students regarding Mission Mexico. He will give two presentations on February 24th at 1:00 PM and 1:45 PM to grades 1 to 5 and grades 6 to 9.

Soup Kitchen – Students in grade 7 to 9 can sign up to volunteer at Soup Kitchen on Feb 12, March 11, April 6, May 13 and June 10.

Updates

Past Events

- Dec 10 - Very Successful Christmas Concert – Grade 6 students were fantastic in the play and the JH Jazz Band was amazing
- Dec 17 – Learning Clicks Presentation for grade 7, 8 and 9 students (Future Planning, Careers, Marks, etc)
- Jan 7 - New West Theater Presentation of the Three Little Pigs for grades ELP to 6 (Great Presentation – the staff and students really enjoyed it)
- Jan 12 – UFA Farm Safety Presentations for grades K to 6
- Jan 22 – 23 – Cats Classic Basketball Tourney

Calendar

- What is happening:

- January 27
 - CCH Football Presentation
 - Gr 1 Grade Level Meeting (Marina attending)
- Feb 1
 - SJS PD Day
- Feb 2
 - District Faith Plan (Marianna and Tera attending)
- Feb 3
 - JH Math Meeting
- Feb 4
 - Gr 3 attending Mass
 - Pizza Lunch
- Feb 5-6
 - JV Basketball League Finals
- Feb 8
 - FNMI PD
- Feb 9
 - Shrove Tuesday (Pancakes at 10:30 AM)
- Feb 10
 - Ash Wednesday Liturgy Pd 2
- Feb 11
 - Gr 2 attending Mass
 - Gr 4 to 9 Ski Trip (90 students)
- Feb 12
 - 100th Day of School / Valentine's
- Feb 13-19
 - Family Week No School
- Feb 23
 - FNMI Day (morning)
- Feb 24
 - FNMI Day (morning)
 - Continuous Improvement Plan Meeting with Sr Admin @ SJS
 - Father Fred Monk (Mission Mexico Presentations)
- Feb 25
 - Gr 9 Orientation to CCH
 - Gr 1 attending Mass
- Feb 26
 - Pink Shirt Day
- Feb 27
 - Youth Mass
 - COLJHAA SV League Finals
- Feb 28
 - Gr 4 attending Mass
- Feb 29
 - SJS PD Day
 - Board Appreciation Lunch
- March 1
 - Chris Smeaton SJS School Visit
 - CCH East Gr 9 Parent Meeting
- March 2
 - CCH West Gr 9 Parent Meeting
- March 3
 - Gr 8 and 9 attending Mass
- March 4-5
 - Basketball Zones

- March 7 -Holy Spirit Divisional Retreat Day
- March 10 -Pizza Lunch
- Spring Band Concert
- March 11 - Lion King Production at St. Francis Gr 1 – 9
- Family BINGO
- March 17 - Report Cards Home / School Logic Updated
- March 18 -AM Elementary Stations of the Cross
- JH Module 2 Options Ends
- JH 25 hour Famine
- 7:00 PM JH Stations of the Cross
- March 21 - School Council Meeting
- March 22 -Parent Teacher Interviews
- March 23 -Cupcake Sale (Gr 3 Providing)
- Parent Teacher Interviews
- March 24 - Holy Thursday
- Meagher Lunch
- March 25- April 3 - Easter Holidays

Happenings

- Canteen – still looking for someone to take it over any thoughts or ideas?

Professional Development

- Math
 - o Div I Teachers attending Alberta Education Math Webinars
 - o Violet, Marianna, Dianne on Divisional Math Committees
- Feb 1, Professional Development Day
 - o Staff Meeting, Faith Component (Joann Bartley leading), Brain-based Learning for EA's (Michelle McKinnon Leading) Work Time
- PAX
 - o Tim Hiedelbrecht did follow-up with staff on Thursday, Jan 20, 2016
- FNMI PD
 - o Cara and Tera attending

Business Items (for discussion)

- School Fees
 - o Levy Fee
 - o Paying School Fees on Line
- LIFE Framework (Safe, caring and inclusive spaces)
 - o LGBTQ / GSA
- Balanced Day vs Regular Day
 - o What do you think?
- Accountability Surveys for parents (please complete)

Please ensure that you highlight the importance of completing the survey to your parents and staff. To gauge our own ability, we need multiple sources of data and the accountability survey provides some excellent information.

- Hockey Academy
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- Registration for 2016-2017 (as of Jan 25)
 - o ELP – 20 registered
 - o ECS – 11 registered
 - o Waiting for updated registration forms for Gr 1 to 9 registrations and then will send them home.
 - o
- Ski Trip
 - o 90 students attending of a possible 158 (56%)
 - 92% Gr 4
 - 73% Gr 5
 - 53% Gr 6
 - 46% Gr 7
 - 41% Gr 8
 - 29% Gr 9
 - Should we targeting a specific grade?
 - o Lessons (no choice)
 - o Supervision
- 2016-2017 School Calendar
 - In Draft form, but looks like first day will be after the long weekend and Christmas break will be from Dec 24 to Jan 8 inclusive
 - Try to have the same PD Days as Palliser, but this does not always work out.