

CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL – SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING



Thursday, March 20, 2025 6:00pm - CCH East Library

MEETING MINUTES

1). Call to Order/Opening Prayer

- Prayer led by Joanne Polec and Land acknowledgement led by Christa Sawatzky.
- Meeting called to order at 6:00pm.

2). Welcome and Introductions

- **Attendance:** Joanne Polec (Principal), Christa Sawatzky (Chair), Amber Baines (Secretary), Kayla Knowles (Treasurer)
Sally Schafer, Jackie Belcourt, Wendy Iwanczuk, Kaci Hawker, Sophia Henke (Student Council Communications Director), Roisin Gibb
- **Regrets:** Ange Talbot (Past Chair), Heather Spiess (Vice Chair), Bob Spitzig (Board Trustee)

3). Approval of the Agenda

- Items added to New Business.
- **Amber made motion to approve, Sally seconded. Motion carried.**

4). Approval of Minutes from January 16, 2025 meeting

- Available on the new CCH website: [January 16, 2025 Meeting Minutes](#)
- **Amber made motion to approve, Sally seconded. Motion carried.**

5). Trustee's report

- Bob unable to attend tonight. Roisin provided an update:
 - Boundary consultation – Would encourage all to attend the upcoming community consultation evenings regarding boundary changes:
 - **Thursday, March 27, 2025, at 7:00 P.M. at St. Teresa of Calcutta School**
 - **Monday, March 31, 2025, at 7:00 P.M. at Father Leonard Van Tighem School.**
- Includes presentation on potential options for boundary adjustments following the earlier consultations conducted and valuable feedback received. Will have an opportunity to provide feedback at the end of the presentation.
- Gov't of Alberta released the budget, board still waiting to receive their funding allocation numbers. Board budget is due the end of May. They will be looking to engage with school councils to discuss priorities for the budget.
- Watch for capital announcements coming soon.

6). Treasurer’s report

School Council 2024-2025			
Date	Description	Amount	Balance
3-Sep-24	Opening Balance		\$1,551.48
16-Sep-24	Deposit - School Fees (2023/2024 school fees)	\$742.50	\$2,293.98
30-Sep-24	Monthly Maintenance Charge	-\$5.00	\$2,288.98
11-Oct-24	Cheque #569 : Awards (cleared 25/10/24)	-\$900.00	\$1,388.98
31-Oct-24	Monthly Maintenance Charge	-\$5.00	\$1,383.98
13-Nov-24	Deposit - Knights of Columbus : Santa Anonymous Donation	\$500.00	\$1,883.98
13-Nov-24	Cheque #570 : Santas Anonymous (\$500 from Knights of Columbus)	-\$850.00	\$1,033.98
13-Nov-24	Deposit - School Fees	\$2,656.00	\$3,689.98
30-Nov-24	Monthly Maintenance Charge	-\$5.00	\$3,684.98
31-Dec-24	Monthly Maintenance Charge	-\$5.00	\$3,679.98
9-Jan-25	Cheque #571: Play Bill (cleared 31/1/2025)	-\$500.00	\$3,179.98
31-Jan-25	Monthly Maintenance Charge	-\$5.00	\$3,174.98
10-Feb-25	Cheque #572: Grad Roseries (cleared 28/2/25)	-\$309.32	\$2,865.66
28-Feb-25	Monthly Maintenance Charge	-\$5.00	\$2,860.66

Current Balance: \$2,860.66

New Requests:

#	Request Details	Amount	Date Needed	Motion Made	Second	Motion Passed
1	Student Council apparel	\$800.00	March 2025	Sally	Jackie	YES
2	Support for Grad Fees 2025	\$500.00	March 2025	Amber	Jackie	YES
3	Retirement Gift for Mr. Reichert	\$50.00	Mar/Apr 2025	Wendy	Jackie	YES

Estimated Total after New Requests: \$1,510.33

Anticipated Future Requests:

#	Request Details	Amount	Date Needed
1	None		

- **Christa made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s report, Amber seconded. Motion carried.**

7). Student Council Report

Kaci Hawker & Sophia Henke shared an update on the latest Student Council initiatives, highlighting their ongoing efforts to organize events and activities that engage CCH students.

- The Let’s Grow experience continues to celebrate student accomplishments throughout the school!
- Senior Night, St. Patrick’s Day, and Valentine’s Day events completed
- LEGO Building Competition – Scheduled for March 27
- Student Council Recruitment Night – Scheduled for April 14
- Cultural Event planned for May 16
- Dance planned for June 5

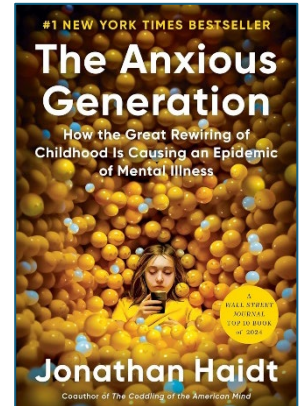
Request from Student Council for \$800.00 to purchase hoodies for current student council members and t-shirts for the anticipated incoming Gr 10 student council members as recognition for their efforts.

- **Sally made a motion to provide Student Council with \$800 for apparel, Jackie seconded. Motion carried.**

8). Principal's report

Joanne Polec shared highlights from her report and insights from other discussions.

- Highly recommend reading "The Anxious Generation" by Jonathan Haidt. Important read as a parent, inspired the Let's Grow experience that Student Council is running. Talks about the rise of anxiety, depression, and social struggles, linking these to the decline of play, the increase of smartphone use, and excessive social media/gaming.
- 2.5 weeks left in Q3, final exams Apr 7-11, Q4 starts Apr 14.
- 2025-26 course selections completed for current Gr 10 & 11. Discussed their future plans and grad req'mts. This year have engaged Gr 9 teachers to sign off on pre-requisites. Once complete, Mrs. Polec will start planning classes for next year based on numbers. Timetables will be available in June.
- Staff completed the Accountability Pillar survey with the Grade 10's.
Important for Grade 10 parents to fill this out by March 28, 2025. Look for an email from Sean Marks from the Board Office.
- 2025 Graduation preparations continue.
 - Grad gowns have been ordered.
 - Working with the grades to select a Grad Song and Grad Theme.
 - Valedictorian to be determined after Q3 marks are in.
- Read the complete Principals Report here:
[Principal's Report for March 2025](#)
- **Amber made a motion to accept the principals report, Jackie seconded. Motion carried.**



GRAD 2025

@ VisitLethbridge.com Arena

- **Grad Mass:**
Friday, May 9, 7:00-8:30pm
- **Grad Ceremonies (Convocation):**
Saturday, May 10, 9:00am-12:00pm
- **Grand March:**
Saturday, May 10, 7:00pm with
dance to follow

9). Chairperson's report

- Christa attended budget meeting with the school board.
 - Priorities discussed during the meeting included:
 - Mental health
 - Inclusive education supports
 - Class sizes
 - Brainstormed possible solutions, ie: to utilize older students to mentor younger students.

Kayla made a motion to accept the Chairperson's report, Jackie seconded. Motion carried.

10). New Business

- Graduation Rosary Gifts – Joanne has materials, we will package these gifts during the May 1st meeting. Christa will ask Ange for example of the message, Wendy will write the message (make ½ page) and Joanne will photocopy.
- Graduation fee support - discussed donating funds to assist graduates with their graduation fees as in years past.
 - **Christa made a motion to donate \$500 for grad fee assistance, Amber seconded, motion carried.**
- Would like to invite Dr. Robin Gibb from the U of L to speak in the fall – plan for October 2025. May be good to align her discussion with the first PT interviews next fall. Could have workshops or info nights for parents during school events. Roisin will provide Dr. Robin Gibb with an update.

- School Council Engagement Grant (\$500)
 - Discussed purchasing books to start a parent lending library. Would promote during school events like PT interviews, advertise in the school newsletter, etc. Continue to add resources over the years. Aim to purchase books in various languages. First book to make available for Parents (ie: The Anxious Generation). School will request the grant, and purchase/store the books.
 - **Christa made a motion to approve, Amber seconded, motion carried.**
- Retirement gifts - discussed purchasing a gift card for Mr. Reichert's upcoming retirement.
 - **Christa made a motion to approve, Amber seconded, motion carried.**
- Online Safety Presentation by ALERT and ICE – March 27 @ 7pm @ the CASA community room. Will discuss internet child exploitation in Alberta, and strategies to navigate with your child.
- Upcoming Exam Break – Apr 7-11 – Council would like to invite parents to participate in celebrating staff by dropping off goodies for staff like cookies, fruit trays, snacks, etc. Christa will send message to Joanne to include in the upcoming April school newsletter.

11). Upcoming School Council Meetings

All meetings will be hosted at the CCH East Campus Library.

- **Next meeting: May 1, 2025 @ 6pm (gift wrap grad rosaries)**
- June 12, 2025 @ 6pm

12). Closing prayer

- Closing prayer led by Joanne Polec.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:18pm.