

CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL – SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING



Thursday, March 5, 2026 5:30pm - CCH East

MEETING MINUTES

1) WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- Meeting called to order at 5:33pm.
- Opening Prayer led by Principal Joanne Polec. Land Acknowledgement by Christa Sawatzky.
- **Attendance:** Joanne Polec (Principal), Christa Sawatzky (Chair), Heather Spiess (Vice Chair), Amber Baines (Secretary), Sally Schafer (Co-Treasurer), Kira Kinahan, Sheryl Benson-Loman, Leslie Smiljanec, Chantal Motycka, Rosin Gibb, Tricia Doherty, Deena MacWilliam
- **Regrets:** Kayla Knowles (Co-Treasurer)

2) APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

- Removed Trustee Report and Student Council Update.
- **Heather made motion to approve, Kira seconded. Motion carried.**

3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 5, 2025 MEETING

- Available on the CCH website: [February 5, 2026 Meeting Minutes](#)
- **Sally made motion to approve, Christa seconded. Motion carried.**

4) TREASURER REPORT

Sally Schafer presented the Treasurer’s Report, providing an overview of the current financial status and recent expenditures.

- **Current Balance: \$2,421.00**

Catholic Central High School School Council 2025-2026			
Date	Description	Amount	Balance
11-Sep-25	Opening Balance		\$1,605.66
30-Sep-25	Monthly Maintenance Charge	-5.00	\$1,600.66
2-Oct-25	Deposit -2024-2025 School Council Fees	720.34	\$2,321.00
2-Oct-25	Deposit - Knights of Columbus (Santa Anonymous Donation)	500.00	\$2,821.00
22-Oct-25	Cheque #578 CCH (Awards) (Cleared 31/10/25)	-1200.00	\$1,621.00
22-Oct-25	Cheque #579 Student Council (Cleared 31/10/25)	-500.00	\$1,121.00
31-Oct-25	Monthly Maintenance Charge	-5.00	\$1,116.00
7-Nov-25	Cheque #580 CCH Santa Anonymous(Cleared 11/24/25)	-850.00	\$266.00
30/Nov/25	Monthly Maintenance Charge	-5.00	\$261.00
31-Dec-25	Monthly Maintenance Charge	-5.00	\$256.00
31-Jan-26	Monthly Maintenance Charge	-5.00	\$251.00
6-Feb-26	Deposit - School Council Fees	2675.00	\$2,926.00
6-Feb-26	Cheque #581 Play Bill (cleared 13/02/26)	-500.00	\$2,426.00
28-Feb-26	Monthly Maintenance Charge	-5.00	\$2,421.00

New Requests:

#	Request Details	Amount	Date Needed	Motion Made	Seconded	Motion Passed
1	2026 Graduation Gifts	\$ 600.00	April 2026	Christa	Amber	YES
2	Teacher Retirement Gifts	\$100.00	April 2026	Christa	Amber	YES
TOTAL NEW REQUESTS		\$ 700.00				

Estimated Total after New Requests: \$ 1,721.00

Anticipated Future Requests:

#	Request Details	Amount	Date Needed
1	2026 Graduation Fee Assistance	TBD, \$500 last year	May 2026
2			
TOTAL		\$100.00	

Expected Revenue:

#	Revenue Details	Amount	Date Expected
1	Expecting a deposit the beginning of June	Around \$300-\$500	Beginning of June
TOTAL			

Kira made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, Chantal seconded. Motion approved.

5) PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Joanne Polec shared highlights from her report, and insights from other discussions. Read the complete report here: [Principal's Report for March 2026](#).

Academics

- Mar 13: No school – Spiritual Development Day.
- Quarter 3 ends April 2, 2026. Diploma exams for English 30-1/30-2 (Part A) and Social Studies 30-1/30-2 (Part A) are scheduled over Easter Break April 9–10, with remaining Quarter 3 exams April 13–20. Quarter 4 begins April 20, 2026.
- Catholic Central will continue using a 1:1 course selection process for current Grade 10 and 11 students, allowing each student to meet individually with an administrator or guidance counsellor to review course choices, graduation requirements, and post-secondary planning. Students are encouraged to review selections with their families at home.

Staffing

- New admin support staff: Ms. Kidwai
- Upcoming leaves: Mrs. Patterson (maternity), Mr. Schmidt (paternity)
- Two upcoming retirements (names to be shared later)

Christa made a motion to spend \$100 on retirement gift cards and a plant, Sally seconded. Motion passed.

Co-Curricular

- Wrapping up: basketball, wrestling, school musical (Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Mar 12–21)
- Upcoming: badminton, rugby, baseball, slo-pitch, track & field
- Choir preparing for Grad Mass and Closing Mass

Travel Opportunities

- Japan trip (June 21–30) – 20 students confirmed
- France/Italy trip – full
- Exchange trip to Alsace, France – spots still available

Engagement Opportunities

- Budget Townhall Sessions: Mar 11 (Campus West), Mar 18 (Campus East), Mar 23 (Virtual)

Key Dates

- Mar 13: Spiritual Development Day (no classes)
- Mar 17: Final course selection submissions
- Mar 19–21: Basketball Provincials (South)
- Apr 2: Last day of Q3
- Apr 3 & 6–10: No school (Good Friday & Easter Break)
- Apr 9–10: Diploma Exams (English & Social Part A)
- Apr 13–17: Diploma Exams (Math, English B, Social B, Bio, Chem/Science)
- Apr 20: First day of Q4

Grad 2026

- Grad fees are now overdue (Mar 2, 2026).
- Grad Hoodie Orders due April 1, 2026 via School Cash Online.
- A Feather Blessing ceremony will be held on May 5 at 5:00 p.m. in the Campus West gym to celebrate First Nations, Métis, and Inuit graduating students. Participating students are encouraged to wear their ribbon skirts or shirts, and those who have not yet picked up their ribbon skirt/shirt kit can contact Emily Fox.
- See the Grad 2026 Google Classroom, CCH Website ([School --> Graduation Information](#)) or CCH March Newsletter for more details on Grad 2026.

GRADUATION 2026



@ VisitLethbridge.com Arena

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

6) CHAIRPERSON REPORT

Council of School Councils

Christa attended the Council of School Councils meeting at the School Board Office on March 2. See report below.

Chair of Chairs Summary

Schollie Survey Presentation

- Survey results are to reflect priorities and are used in making sure information is relevant to the school communities and used in conjunction with the Class Room Complexity survey that Joanne went over with us in December, 2025
- Strategic Planning & Budget Priorities;
- Strengthening Catholic Faith;
- Living Truth & Reconciliation;
- Belonging in Diverse Communities and learning through quality teaching.

90% of students completed the survey
875 parents in the division completed the survey
90% of the Staff completed the survey
Full Results will be sent to Principals in March 2026
Complexity Teams have been formed November 7/25
Data From Principals received November 24/25
Government Analysis December/25 to January/26
Government announcement February 26, 26 – **The initial investment will be put into elementary schools.**
Data Analyzed-Parameters-Total Investment
Priority determined K-6
Holy Spirit School Division has 5 complexity teams 1.5 million has been allocated which = 1 Teacher & 2 EA's.
Schools Selected for the Teams are- Children of St. Martha

- Our Lady of Assumption
- St. Paul;
- St. Joseph (Coaldale)
- St. Patrick (Taber)

Budget Division Priorities Presentation-

Transparency, Trust & Resource Allocation

- a. Alberta Education 92% based on Enrollment (Projected 70%)
- b. Federal First Nations 1%
- c. Donations, Fund Raising Grants 4% - Targeted
- d. Program Fees 3%

Categories: -Base Funding – Instructional is approximately \$6,000.00/Student the funds go into a pool and staff are hired, software and hardware are ordered accordingly

- Operations and Maintenance – Buildings & Caretakers, excess funds can be transferred to instructional. Changes to IMR (Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal) coming in March 2026
- Transportation -Shared with Lethbridge School Board
- Board & System Admin 3.63% 2.4 M out of the 74 Million budget.

Allocation: -ECS -Grade 12 -78%

- Operations & Maintenance -15%
- Transportation -4%
- Admin 3%

Hierarchy:

1. Required Allocations
2. Non-Negotiable
3. School Staffing
4. Specialized Support
5. Resources & Technology & Supplies

Principals can choose how to use the “Pools”. There will be a new Division wide Furniture & Equipment budget coming this year.

Reserves Operating - 3 Million which is 4% of overall expenditures and payroll is 4.8%/month
Capital Reserves.

Priority is the Classroom (Round Table discussion)

1. What do we want to maintain?
2. Priorities to adapt next years budget?
3. Priorities most important?

School Council Reporting

Duty to report to the board

14(1) The chair of a school council must prepare and provide to the board by September 30 of each year a report (a) summarizing the activities of the school council in the previous school year, and b) detailing, in accordance with the policies referred to in section 13.1(2), the receipt, handling and use of any money by the school council in the previous school year.

7) NEW BUSINESS

School Engagement Grant

- CCH School Council received a \$500 School Engagement Grant
- Discussion on use of funds: Parent/Guardian Library expansion vs. booking an author
- Interest in supporting parent engagement session (scholarships & post-secondary info)
- Librarian recommended adding “adulting” resources (e.g., taxes, home basics, cooking, life skills, self-help). Open to suggestions from parents!
- **Christa made a motion to spend \$523.00 on adulting books – Sally seconded. Motion approved.**

Grad Gifts

- Previous gifts included pens; past 7 years have been rosaries/wristlets
- Alternative ideas discussed: keychains, lanyards
- Decision to proceed with rosaries due to limited time to explore new options
- Joanne to confirm remaining inventory of bags and coordinate rosary order
- Sally to draft write-up for inclusion with grad gifts (e.g., suggested use)
- **Christa made a motion to spend no more than \$600 on rosaries and bags, Heather seconded. Motion approved.**

School Lockdown/Security Measures check-in for parent information

- Tumbler Ridge incident has prompted a check-in on schools where central office and board trustees will do a walkthrough security audit (classroom doors/locks, blinds, reviewing how people enter the building, how teachers identify, lockdown procedures, etc).
- Joanne discussed current communication process, lockdown processes, and previous lockdown events.

8) 2025/2026 SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING DATES

All meetings will be in the Library on East Campus.

- Thursday April 30, 2026 (Graduation Rosaries) – Library CCH East 6:00pm
- Thursday June 4, 2026 – Library CCH East 6:00pm

9) CLOSING PRAYER

- Closing prayer led by Joanne Polec.
- Meeting adjourned at 6:58pm