



CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL – SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, November 6, 2025 6:00pm - CCH East Library

MEETING MINUTES

1). WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- Meeting called to order at 6:03pm. Opening Prayer led by Principal Joanne Polec.
- **Attendance:** Joanne Polec (Principal), Christa Sawatzky (Chair), Heather Spiess (Vice Chair), Amber Baines (Secretary), Sally Schafer (Co-Treasurer), Carmen Mombourquette (Trustee Liaison), Tricia Doherty, Roisin Gibb, Tanya Koopmans, Leslie Smiljanec
- **Regrets:** Kayla Knowles (Co-Treasurer)

2). APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

- Removed Chairperson and Student Council update.
- **Amber made motion to approve, Sally seconded. Motion carried.**

3). APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 2, 2025 MEETING

- Available on the CCH website: [October 2, 2025 Meeting Minutes](#)
- **Amber made motion to approve, Sally seconded. Motion carried.**

4). TRUSTEE REPORT - PRESENTED BY CARMEN MOMBOURQUETTE

Carmen Mombourquette attended the meeting as the newly assigned Holy Spirit School Board liaison for CCH. Key updates included:

- An overview of the purpose and authority of School Councils, noting that councils serve in an advisory capacity—offering feedback and perspectives to both the school principal and the school board. He also highlighted that the School Board Trustee Liaison serves as the communication bridge between the School Council and the School Board, sharing updates, clarifying decisions, and bringing parent feedback to the Board.

- **Upcoming School Council Chairs/Trustee Session – December 1 at 6:00 pm**

This session will review the recent teacher strike and its impact. The meeting is open not only to School Council Chairs but also to any interested School Council members.

Carmen also noted that the board has received an application for a new Charter school within the Holy Spirit School Division from a Calgary-based organization; this item will be discussed at the Dec. 1 session.

- **Federal Budget Update**

A new federal budget has been released; the division is monitoring it and awaiting further detail on how it may affect education funding.

- **Special Education Funding Model**

In response to Christa's question, Carmen confirmed that special education funding is pooled rather than being allocated individually per student. This change will influence how supports are distributed across schools.

5). TREASURER'S REPORT

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

Current Balance: \$1,116.00

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
02-Oct-25	Deposit -2024-2025 school fees	720.34	\$2,321.00
02-Oct-25	Deposit - Knights of Columbas (Santa Anonymous Donat	500.00	\$2,821.00
22-Oct-25	Cheque #578 CCH (rewards) (Cleared 31/11/25)	-1200.00	\$1,621.00
22-Oct-25	Cheque #579 Student Council (Cleared 31/11/25)	-500.00	\$1,121.00
31-Oct-25	Monthly Maintenance Charge	-5.00	\$1,116.00

New Requests:

#	Request Details	Amount	Date Needed	Motion Made	Seconded	Motion Passed
1	Santa's Anonymous	\$350.00	Nov 2025	Christa	Amber	YES
TOTAL NEW REQUESTS		\$350.00				

Estimated Total after New Requests: \$ 766.00

Anticipated Future Requests:

#	Request Details	Amount	Date Needed
1	Play Bill	TBD, \$500 last year	Spring 2026
2	2026 Graduation Gifts (Rosaries)	\$500	Spring 2026
3	2026 Graduation Fee Assistance	TBD, \$500 last year	April 2026
4	Teacher Retirement Gifts	TBD, \$285 last year	May 2026
TOTAL		\$1,785.00	

Expected Revenue:

#	Revenue Details	Amount	Date Expected
1	School fees deposit	TBD	November 2025
TOTAL		TBD	

- The \$25 custodian appreciation gift certificate for Shelly from last year was returned after unsuccessful attempts to connect with him.
- Tamara will be away on leave Nov 25, expecting a deposit for school fees prior to her departure.
- **Christa made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, Amber seconded. Motion carried.**

6). PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Joanne Polec shared highlights from her report, and insights from other discussions. Read the complete report here: [Principal's Report for November 2025](#).

- **Quarter 1 wrap-up & post-strike:**

Following the recent teacher strike, schools across Alberta have resumed normal operations. Mrs. Polec expressed gratitude for the patience, understanding, and support shown by students, staff, and families during that time. The experience has strengthened the community's commitment to learning and faith, reminding everyone of the value of working together with understanding and grace.

- **Academics**

Alberta Education updates:

- Quarter 1 diploma exams are optional, and all January diploma exams have been cancelled.
- CCH is reclaiming instructional days from November 3–7, with the final day of Quarter 1 classes on November 7.
- November 12 will be a transition day for teachers to prepare for Quarter 2; Quarter 2 begins November 13.
- Teachers are focusing on key learning outcomes and essential assessments to support student success and will be providing streaming recommendations where appropriate.
- CCH has a large Grade 12 class this year (363 students). Recent changes to post-secondary admission requirements (e.g., Science 30) are impacting high school timetabling.
- Joanne is collaborating with teachers to determine what final assessments will look like under the revised timelines.
- The target for each quarter remains 40 instructional days.
- Grad 2026 is not affected by the schedule changes. Joanne will review graduation information with students in December, with a parent info meeting scheduled for February 2, 2026.
- For Quarter 3, Alberta Education has not yet confirmed potential changes. Currently, English Part A and Social Studies Part A are scheduled during the Easter break. The division will need to arrange support staff and supervision, as teachers will be on break.

Revised 2025/26 School Calendar: [CCH 2025-2026 School Year Calendar](#)

- **Faith & Community:**

- Catholic Education Week moved to May 9–15, 2026; theme: “Anchored in Christ, A Beacon of Hope” invites the community to lead with courage, hope, and Christ-centred purpose.

- **Athletics:**

- A strong fall season featured cross country, golf, football, and volleyball.
- Congratulations to athletes who represented CCH in zones and provincials.
- Football and volleyball seasons are wrapping up; curling and basketball are next to begin.

- **Fine Arts & Clubs**

- Call backs for *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* earlier this week. Students can also participate behind the scenes (crew, costumes, hair, makeup, or front-of-house). Contact Mr. Dalton at daltonb@holyspirit.ab.ca for details.
- Athletic Leadership, Student Council, Robotics, and Yearbook are active and welcoming new members. Students can ask at either campus office for details.

- **Remembrance & Reflection:**

- As Quarter 1 closes, CCH pauses to honour those who served and sacrificed for our freedom.
- Remembrance Day and All Saints Day services will be held in classrooms on Friday, November 7, 2025.
- “We will remember.”

7). NEW BUSINESS

a. Santa's Anonymous

- The annual Santa's Anonymous Project is now underway, led by 55 students and aiming to support 50 families this year. Donations of food items and monetary contributions (no toys) are welcome. Hampers will be blessed on December 10, with a final donation deadline of December 19. Thanks to the School Board's approval, the program is able to use last year's surplus funds—raised through highly successful student fundraising—to help offset the shorter fundraising window this year. As a result, additional fundraising efforts may be needed next year.
 - For more information contact: Mr. New — newm@holyspirit.ab.ca
 - Donations Accepted by: Mrs. Wilson — wilsont@holyspirit.ab.ca
 - Also accepted through School Cash Online.
- **Christa made motion to provide \$350 for Santa's Anonymous, Amber seconded, motion carried.**

b. Awards Night

- Rescheduled for Dec 8, 2025 @ 7pm @ CCH East in the gym.
- Award letters and invitations for last year's Grade 12's have been mailed.

c. Student Enrollment Growth

- School Council has noted significant year-over-year enrollment growth, and it would be beneficial to continue discussing this and related challenges so parents understand the impact on the school. Under the current funding model, the school does not receive additional funding for these increased student numbers.
- Beginning at next month's meeting, Joanne will share information on the timetable, classroom compositions, learning supports, staffing, and current challenges to help provide clarity on classroom sizes, complexity, and current challenges at CCH.

d. Parent Guardian Library

- Joanne will work on having a Google Form created to streamline borrowing: parents will select a book from a dropdown list, with their name and email auto-filled. The form will also include an option to suggest additional titles for future consideration.

8). 2025/2026 SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING DATES

All meetings will be in the Library on East Campus at 6:00pm.

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| • Thursday December 4, 2025 | • Thursday April 30, 2026 (Graduation Rosaries) |
| • Thursday February 5, 2026 | |
| • Thursday March 5, 2026 | • Thursday June 4, 2026 |

9). CLOSING PRAYER

- Closing prayer led by Joanne Polec.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:07pm