



School Council Meeting

Monday, March 2, 2026 / 6:00pm - 7:14pm / Divine Mercy School

In attendance:

Amy Cooper (Principal), Lindsey Fowler (Assistant Principal), Greg Hansen (Assistant Principal), Shelagh De Rossi (Chair), Stephanie Mauro (Vice Chair), Andre Santos (Casino Chair), Mena-Lee Pelkey (Secretary)

Virtual: Chelsea Dustin (Fundraising Chair)

Regrets: Caroline Sonen (Treasurer)

Society Meeting

6:06pm - Meeting Call to Order - Chair, Shelagh De Rossi

6:06pm - Prayer and Treaty Land Acknowledgement - Lindsay Fowler

6:07pm - Approval of Previous Minutes - approved unanimously.

6:07pm - Adoption of Agenda - adopted unanimously.

6:08pm - Treasurer's Update - Shelagh for Caroline

- **Tax Numbers:** Processing for individuals needing tax numbers is underway, specifically for four people.
- **Account Balance:** The School Council account currently holds **\$2,885.10**.
- **Recent Transactions:**
 - **Deposits:** Healthy Hunger deposits of \$251.32 (Jan 22) and \$242.21 (Feb 5).
 - **Reimbursement:** \$946.93 paid to Sheila for Shrove Tuesday expenses.
 - **Recent Deposit:** \$319.51 from Healthy Hunger (identified as "the church's").
- **Healthy Hunger Performance:** Events are averaging approximately **\$250** in profit each.
- **Upcoming Funds:** A casino deposit is expected in May.

6:11pm - Casino Update - Andre

- **Recap:** The recent event went smoothly with full volunteer attendance.
- **Future Planning:** The school has applied for all future quarters (except summer) to ensure consistent scheduling, as missing a cycle can result in a three-year wait.
- **Next Event:** Expected in approximately 1.5 to 2 years.

6:15pm - School's Requests

- **Field Trips:** Receipts totaling **\$23,825** were submitted for reimbursement from the \$24,000 promised budget.
- **iPads:** The purchase of new iPads for \$9,700 was confirmed and completed.
- **Chromebook Purchase (Urgent):** * **Motion:** To purchase **30 new Chromebooks** immediately to lock in current pricing before a projected **\$150/unit** price increase.
 - **Cost:** Approximately **\$6,000 - \$7,000** including the cart.
 - **Distribution:** New units will go to Grade 6, with older units trickling down to lower grades.
 - **Status:** **Motion passed** (Moved by Andre, Seconded by Kathy).

6:23pm - Fundraising Update (Chelsea)

- **Healthy Hunger:** Continues bi-weekly. Efforts are focused on maintaining a reliable volunteer pool.
- **Creekside Spring Baskets:** Launching next week via Google Form.
- **Fundraising Purpose:** Discussion held on earmarking funds for specific items (e.g., "Chromebooks" or "Library Books") to increase engagement. It was decided to label upcoming funds for "School Events" (Shrove Tuesday, Fun Day, Spring Carnival) to allow for budget flexibility.
- **Purdys Chocolatier Fundraiser**
 - **Current Progress:** Goal is \$1,500; currently at **\$702.50** (\$175.62 profit).
 - **Deadline:** Closes March 12.
 - **Pick-up Change:** Due to Spring Break starting March 27 (half-day), the pick-up date was moved to **March 26**.

Society Meeting Closed: 6:34 PM

Note: Meeting minutes were adopted from previous sessions by motion (Moved by Mena, Seconded by Andre).

Council Meeting

6:35pm - Meeting Call to Order - Chair, Shelagh De Rossi

6:35pm - School Annual Events: Shelagh

- **Shrove Tuesday**
 - **Feedback:** Generally positive, though there was initial confusion regarding pancake quantities per student (some received only one, while later groups received up to nine).
 - **Operational Lessons:** * The transition from ovens to microwaves significantly sped up the warming process for the 186 leftover pancakes.
 - Sausages took longer to warm than expected.
 - Volunteer coordination was noted as being more "calm" and organized than previous years due to staggered class times.
 - **Leftovers:** Remaining food was packaged and sent home with five families in need of support.
 - **Future Recommendations:** Consider renting a "convection toaster" or large-scale warming equipment next year.
- **Spring Basket Promotion**
 - **Marketing Strategy:** Amy to circulate a promotional blurb to all school parents next week to drive engagement for the Creekside Spring Basket fundraiser.

- **Social Media:** A reminder flyer featuring Purdys chocolates will be reposted to the school's Instagram account to encourage last-minute sales before the March 12 deadline.

2.4. Grade 6 Legacy Gift & Year-End Activities

- **Fundraising Efforts:** The Grade 6 students are currently organizing a hamburger sale to raise funds for their year-end field trip and legacy gift.
- **Inventory Utilization:** The sale will utilize leftover hamburger patties currently stored in the school freezer from a previous barbecue event. The council will cover the cost of purchasing fresh buns.
- **Pancake Breakfast:** It was agreed that the 186 leftover frozen pancakes from Shrove Tuesday will be used to host a special breakfast for the Grade 5 and 6 students closer to the year-end farewell events.

IV. Open House & Spring Festival Planning

1. Event Scheduling & Operations

- **Time:** The festival will be held in the evening from **4:30 PM to 7:00 PM**.
- **Date Selection:** The exact date is still to be determined, though **May 21** is currently noted as the preferred option.

2. Entertainment & Activities

- **Wagon Rides:** The council confirmed that the "Long Riders" wagon rides have been officially booked for the event.
- **Live Music:** Musical entertainment for the festival will be provided by the Father Michael Mireau Band.

3. Equipment & Concessions

- **Popcorn Machine:** A proposal to purchase a school popcorn machine for the festival was discussed.
- **Status:** After reviewing the budget, the council decided to table the purchase and reconsider the investment next year.

7:03pm - Principal's Report - Amy

- **Review of Previous activities**
- **Upcoming events**
- **Technology Lifecycle & Long-Term Planning**
 - **Device Aging:** The council noted that the current fleet of Chromebooks is expected to reach its end-of-life (age out) in approximately three years.
 - **Funding Challenges:** Due to projected budget constraints, the school will likely lack the capital to replace the entire fleet at that time.
 - **Future Alternatives:** Discussion was held regarding a potential transition to a "Bring Your Own Device" (BYOD) model down the road, though no immediate action will be taken.
- **School Enrollment & Class Structure Projections**
 - **School Growth:** The school is projected to expand next year, specifically adding one Grade 6 class and one Grade 2 class.
 - **Class Configuration:** The forecasted class structure for the upcoming academic year is as follows:
 - **Kindergarten to Grade 2:** Four classes per grade
 - **Grades 3 to 6:** Three classes per grade

- **Cart Allocation:** To accommodate the growth, a second dedicated Chromebook cart will be assigned to Grade 6. Grades 3 through 5 will continue to have one cart per classroom, while Grades 1 and 2 will share a single cart per grade (primarily for use starting in January).

Next meeting at 5:30 Monday May 25 ***POSTPONED to Monday June 8

With no other business, the meeting was closed at 7:29.