



School Council Meeting

Wednesday, December 3, 2025 / 6:00pm - 7:47pm / 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), Chelsea Dustin (Fundraising), Mena-Lee Pelkey (Secretary), Julie Wong (Helping Hands), Caroline Sonen (Treasurer)

6:00pm - Meeting Call to Order - Chair, Shelagh De Rossi

6:01pm - Prayer and Treaty Land Acknowledgement - Amy Cooper

6:03pm - Approval of Previous Minutes - approved unanimously.

6:03pm - Adoption of Agenda - adopted unanimously.

6:05pm - Round Table Introductions - All

6:07pm - School Annual Events- sponsored and supported by School Council - Shelagh

- **Winter/Spring Festival**
 - The council discussed the feasibility of a Winter Festival, noting the significant amount of work required and the conflict with the upcoming Casino event.
 - **Decision:** It was agreed to postpone the festival and explore a **Spring Festival (April/May)** instead. This allows for better weather for outdoor activities and can be used as an incentive for Casino volunteer recruitment.
 - **Action Item:** A motion was passed to explore a Spring Festival, and a planning committee will be formed after the holiday season. The event will be used to encourage Casino volunteer sign-ups, offering free family admission to those who volunteer. The secretary will send out communication soon.
 - **Suggestion:** Instead of a hired vendor like previous years, the council considered purchasing a barbecue grill for future self-catered events on the school patio.
- **Shrove Tuesday**

- The traditional Shrove Tuesday breakfast was discussed, noting the increasing cost and requirements from previous sponsor, Denny's.
- **Action Item:** The council will contact Denny's to inquire about a potential discounted rate or explore other options, such as purchasing pancakes in bulk or making them in-house, to keep costs reasonable and reduce family fees. The sausages were very popular and will be kept, while the juice boxes will be removed due to the associated waste and sugar.

6:27pm - Principal's Report/Welcome - Amy

- **Staffing Update:** Mrs. Pugh is leaving for a position in ECSD HR and will be missed. Mrs. Trojanowicz will return from maternity leave to take over a class.
- **Budget Update:** The school is currently facing a **\$50,000 operating deficit**.
- **PAT Results:** The school had excellent results for English Language Arts and Social Studies, significantly above the provincial average for both acceptable standard and excellence. Math results were challenging, with the acceptable standard score being only 38% provincially.
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - Dec 4 - Demo of Learning: 1-4 PM and 4:45-7 PM. Teachers' dinner hour is 4:00-4:45 PM and should be respected.
 - Dec 5 - Break a Rule Day: Supporting the ECS Foundation Dream Builders' Challenge. Costumes and breaking small rules for a donation.
 - Dec 11 - Kinder Christmas: 11 AM
 - Dec 15 & 16: 4:30 PM starts. Half of the school attends each night.
 - Dec 18 - Movie Day: Supporting the Sign of Hope. Chips and chocolate bars provided by the Society.
 - Dec 19 - Advent Celebration: Will include a farewell for Mrs. Pugh
 - Jan 12 - Retakes/Class Photos: Scheduled to allow new students to be included in class photos.
 - Feb 5 - PD Day/Open House: The open house will be K-6 this year for a final push to fill classrooms before future open houses are K only.
 - Feb 17 - Shrove Tuesday: Pancake Breakfast
 - Mar 20 - PD Day: Rescheduled from two missed PD days in October and November.

There being no other business, the Council Meeting ended at 7:14pm.

The next meeting will be held on **Monday, January 19, 2026**.

Society Meeting

7:14pm - Meeting Call to Order – Chair, Shelagh De Rossi

7:15pm - Adoption of Previous Minutes - approved unanimously.

7:15pm - Adoption of Agenda - Adopted unanimously.

7:16pm - Treasurer's Update - Caroline Sonen

- **General Account:** \$\$2,546.19.
- **Casino Account:** \$\$6,345.41
 - Need to reserve approx \$2000 for Casino Advisor Fee

7:25pm - Casino and Fundraising

- The next casino is **February 10 and 11, 2026** at the Argyll Casino. Approximately 35 volunteers will be needed for 8-hour shifts over two days.
- Incentives will be offered to volunteers.

There being no other business, the Society meeting ended at 7:47pm.