

St. Thomas Aquinas School School Council Minutes

Date: January 31, 2023

Time: 7:00pm

‘Inspired by Christ on a Journey to Encounter, Nurture, and Serve’

1. Call to Order at 7:00 pm - Ian
Ian, Mike, Tara, Dallas, Cynthia, Trista, Jackie, Chantelle
2. Opening Prayer - Mike
3. Introductions- Mike
Approval of November, 2022 minutes - Mike
 - Review of the Agenda:
 - Motion to approve: Jackie
 - 2nd: Dallas
5. Principal Report: Ian
 - 5.1 - Update on student enrolment intention forms sent January 9th.
 - 5.2 - Questions arising from Principal’s Report: Please see attached report.
6. Trustee Report: Cynthia Leyson (Ian)
 - 6.1: AER trustees very happy with student results and kudos to teachers and parents
 - Policy 25- immunization policy; changes to #2, educators will not be phoning families about vaccinations, that is something up to the parents.
 - Opening of St. Lorenzo, Principal Rob Coumont and one VP TBA- St. Francis and St. Greg’s over capacity- St. Lorenzo will house Foundations and vulnerable learners
7. New Business
 - 7.1: Photography Update: Ian
 - STA has signed a one year contract with Edge Photography to begin in September 2023. We will remain under contract with Lifetouch for the duration of this school year.
 - This company’s references have been very positive and we are looking forward to this new relationship. We are hopeful this will allow us to provide better quality photographs at competitive prices to our parents. This will also enable us to examine the purchasing of yearbooks as this has become a constant challenge with Lifetouch. - <https://edgeimaging.ca/en/>

7.2: Sharing of Budget: Ian

- School Advisory Committee - 2022-2023
 - Co-Chair - Mark Haggas
 - Co-Chair - Jackie Cormier
 - Principal - Ian Stang - ian.stang@rdcrs.ca
 - School Secretary - Carl Duncan - carla.duncan@rdcrs.ca
- Budget illustrates that we will need to complete some fundraising this year to ensure that we have some reserve funds for the 2023-2024 school year.
 - Hoping for some spring fundraising to supplement funds and prepare for next school year

7.3: School Fundraising Committee- Mike

- At our last meeting, it was proposed that we consider looking into a cash raffle. I met with our secretary and treasurer and in order to run fundraisers like this a gaming license is required, which we don't have. This would be extremely difficult to navigate given we are not an association.
- School Administration had tremendous success with ice cream fundraiser in the fall. Considering this in the warm weather months near the end of the school year. Easy to organize, parents can assist with gathering supplies, scooping ice cream etc. For example - Two lunch hours in the fall generated approx \$750 less \$250 in supplies. - thoughts?

- For example - Poinsettia sales in the fall - potential volunteers to reach out to their council for next steps? [Parkland is less work but significantly higher prices.](#) [Evergreen is a bit more work but greater profit margin.](#)
- [Purdy's Chocolate-](#) pretty universal, overall profitable, all online sales- only drawback is that orders could not be allocated per student, 25% profit margin ([Purdy's Fundraising](#))

SCHOOL COUNCIL FUNDRAISER

WHEN
NOVEMBER
8th/9th
4:30pm – 6:30pm
(During parent teacher interviews)

WHERE
Holy Family
School Atrium

School council is selling vouchers for poinsettias from Parkland Nursery, you purchase the voucher from us and pick your own plant at the Nursery. The funds raised will be used to support the upcoming Christmas Craft Night, and a Winter family dance.

A table will be set up in the atrium for you to come and purchase vouchers. School council appreciates your ongoing support of our fundraisers and events.

EXACT CASH REQUIRED

REGULAR POINSETTIA
6" pot size and come in all the popular Christmas colours \$20/each

LARGE POINSETTIA
10" pot size. Multi-coloured or a range of colours, or all red \$60/each

REDEMPTION OF VOUCHERS AT PARKLAND NURSERY WILL RUN FROM NOVEMBER 19TH TO DECEMBER 22ND, 2022

- For example - [Created by kids art fundraiser](#) - would you like us to inquire?
- [Please keep collecting ideas for fundraising and forward them on](#)

7.4: Staff Appreciation- Mike

- Thank-you - STA staff hats to align with our Safe, Caring and Welcoming school focus.

7.5 - Counseling News - Safe, Caring and Welcoming School Focus Update - Tara

- Based on student data, from the June 2022 school-created Safe, Caring, and Welcoming survey, staff had the opportunity to collaborate and identified possible solutions to address the areas of need gathered from the results of the survey. Solutions included: bathroom refresh with inspirational and welcoming signage, bi-monthly school wide spirit assemblies, hat friday's, cultural heritage displays and celebrations and kindness week in February. Our school has also received funding to have hallway cameras installed in select locations within the school to decrease the incidence of vandalism and graffiti within the school. These cameras are set to be installed the week of January 31 - Feb 3.

To enhance Circle of Courage recognition, a positive behavior response ticket program was started, wherein staff can nominate students for exemplifying the attributes (Independence, Generosity, Belonging, Mastery) as they witness them. Additionally, weekly and monthly draws will recognize students in front of the school community and term recognition will continue to take place with a lunch for grade level nominated students.

7.6 - Alberta Education School Council Engagement Grant Feedback: Mike

- \$500 per School Council, we agreed in Sept to cost share with other RDCRS Schools
- - Shane Chisolm (Principal at Father Henry Voison) has been in contact with several presenter's/associations to inquire about presenting to our parents/school councils. Shane has been in contact with and is awaiting responses from the presenters listed below and has tentatively booked Sam Demma for May 30th for an in person presentation. As well, he is awaiting confirmation from Alberta School Councils Association on two in person presentations - Tools for Effective School Councils; The Work of School Council: It's NOT about the Meeting - one in March and the other in April. He is also in discussions with Rania Page from SPARC to set up a presentation on 'mental health literacy' for parents.
- Information/names of presenters Shane is considering is provided below. Shane is hoping to book 5 presentations starting in February (depending on costs and availability of presenters).

[Dr. Robyne Hanley-Dafoe](#)

[Darci Lang](#)

[Big Daddy Tazz](#)

[Sam Demma](#)

[SPARC - Red Deer](#)

[Joe Social Media](#)

[Alberta School Councils](#) - Tools for Effective School Councils; The Work of School Council: It's NOT about the Meeting

[Ann Douglas](#) - she presented online last year to our families

[Linda Crawford](#)

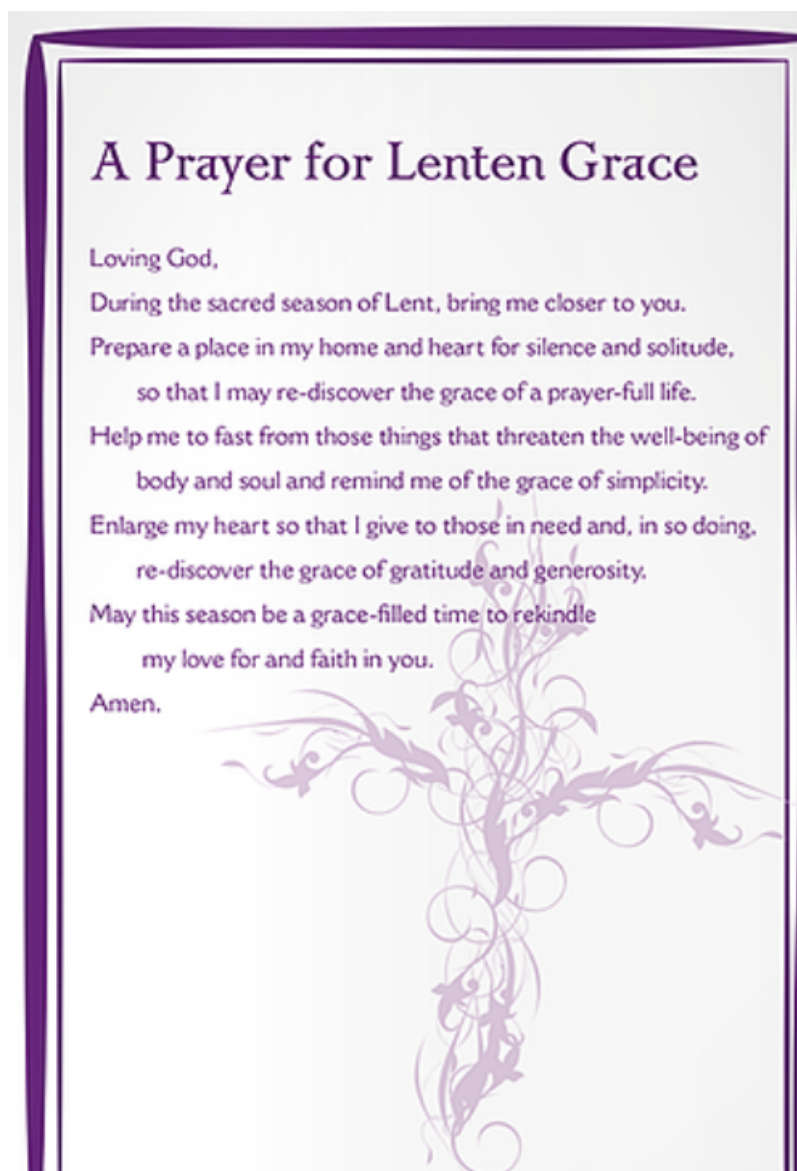
[Aaron Paquette](#) - Indigenous speaker and artist

8.1 - Next meeting date will be Tuesday, [April 4](#), 2023 - Mike

9. Closing Prayer: Ian

Shrove Tuesday - Feb 21 (STA Pancake Breakfast - Feb17)

Ash Wednesday - Feb 22



10. Adjournment: Ian [8:08pm](#)