

# **École Notre Dame Elementary**

## **Parent Advisory Council Meeting Minutes**

March 19, 2025

Minutes by Brittani McDonald

Attendees: Kelsey Hynes, Brittani McDonald, Lorne Pedersen, Jessica Miniaci, Jenna Brown, Michelle Baril, Noreen Radford, Sarah Petryshyn, Monica Langmaid

### **1.0 Call to Order**

- Meeting called to order at 6:02pm

### **2.0 Opening Prayer and Land Acknowledgment**

- Led by Kelsey Hynes

### **3.0 Approval of Previous Minutes**

- Approval of February 2025 minutes by Sarah Petryshyn, seconded by Kelsey Hynes

### **4.0 Approval of Agenda**

- Additions: none
- Motion to approve agenda – approved by Sarah Petryshyn, seconded by Brittani McDonald

### **5.0 Reports**

#### **5.1 Trustee Report – Mrs. Noreen Radford**

- The Board of Trustees endorse the nomination of Brooke Lesoway from Bertha Kennedy Elementary School as the division's nominee for the 2025 Edwin Parr Award. This award is for outstanding first year teachers.
  - Education Foundation
    - Golf Tournament – Friday, June 6, 2025, at Cardiff Golf Club
    - Seeking volunteer candidates for currently vacant positions:
      - Secretary
      - Up to three student positions available
      - Community Member from the Town of Morinville
      - One Professional Legal Community Member (lawyer or paralegal)
      - One Community Member of the Greater St. Albert Roman Catholic Separate School Division (preferred candidates from within District Services Centre)
- \*All positions listed above have a two-year term (2025-2027) except for the student positions, which are only a one-year term.

- Building Futures Program
  - An immersive one-year program for grade 10 students – students are able to earn credits toward their diploma while working with qualified tradespeople to build a house from the ground up
  - The garage of a new home under construction is transformed into an onsite classroom where students learn academic courses from certified teachers employed by GSACRD
  - Students interested in this program can register at Morinville Community High School, École Secondaire St. Albert Catholic High School, or St. Gabriel Education Centre – students will be required to participate in an interview and provide references as part of the application process
  - A \$300 fee per student is anticipated and will be re-evaluated yearly and adjusted as needed
  - The program will aim to accommodate 24-30 students
  - By offering this program through GSACRD, it demonstrates the following:
    - a. A commitment to trades education for students
    - b. A desire to help grow the Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) – the RAP program is a cost-effective way to provide trades education while also preparing students for the world of work
    - c. Opportunity for GSACRD students to pursue trades education in a faith-based environment
    - d. Strengthened presence in the community as innovative educators
- Alberta Catholic School Trustees Association (ACSTA)
  - ACSTA has released a revised handbook for the upcoming election – member boards are encouraged to link it to their website, share with prospective candidates, and distribute through their communications channels
  - 2025 ACSTA MLA Reception is being held the evening of April 15<sup>th</sup> at the QEII Building in Edmonton
- Student Engagement
  - On Dec.18/24, the Board of Trustees established an ad hoc Student Engagement Committee to discuss the establishment of a formalized process for board and student engagement.

- The goal of the initiative is to enhance student voice and participation in the governance process by creating opportunities for meaningful dialogue between students and trustees.
- The committee identified several key considerations for the initiative:
  - a. Focus on grades 7 to 12 students – each school will nominate two students
  - b. Frequency of meetings – the group will meet twice per year (once per semester)
  - c. First meeting details – possible date for the inaugural meeting is April 22/25 at the Division Services Centre – food and drinks will be provided
  - d. Student nomination process – the superintendent will request school administrators to submit the names of two student representatives from their respective schools
  - e. Purpose of initial meeting – to serve as an introduction to the role of trustees, an overview of the board’s responsibilities, and an explanation of the student engagement initiative – also provides an opportunity to gather student ideas and input for the committee’s future direction

## **5.2 Administrator’s Report – Mrs. Michelle Baril**

- Hoping parents will register their students for the upcoming year sooner than later as staffing is directly impacted by this – share with parents via social media and chat groups
- Dr. Gelmini – science performance on April 20<sup>th</sup>
- Raised \$1,445 for Jump Rope for Heart
- Mrs. Grekul will be returning on April 7<sup>th</sup>
- Important Dates:
  - Apr. 4 – L’UniThéâtre is coming to perform a play for French Immersion students
  - Apr. 8 – Open House
  - Apr. 10 – Student Faith Retreat
  - Apr. 11 – PD Day
  - Apr. 16 – PAC+PFA Meetings

## **5.3 Teacher Report – Mrs. Miniaci (Grade 3 English) and Mrs. Brown (Grade 2+3 split English)**

- Students went to the Royal Alberta Museum today to learn about earth systems as part of the science curriculum.

- In math, students are working on multiplication and division and are using math games to enhance fluency.
- Students have been using new apps and games for descriptive story writing in English.
- Social class is currently focusing on local citizenship.
- Emphasis on making learning fun!

#### **5.4 Chair Report – Kelsey Hynes**

- Xylophones purchased through Music Grant have been received
- Will plan to have representatives of PAC + PFA at this year's open house
- Teacher Appreciation – will take place May 12-15 – will have an activity each day – possible activities include a candy cart, coffee & tea cart, potluck, and a bulletin board with blank notes for students to write why they appreciate staff
- Resilience Presentation by Kwesi Millington (ASCA Grant) – May 13 at Georges H. Primeau School – Michelle has received some promo material from Kwesi that she will send to parents along with an RSVP form – promo material will also be added to the Facebook page – Kelsey will reach out to Primeau to see if there is anything we can bring to the event since they are hosting

#### **6.0 New Business**

- None

#### **7.0 Adjournment**

- Meeting adjourned at 6:32pm.

#### **8.0 Next Meeting**

- April 16, 2025 at 6:00pm.