

## **SCA Elementary School Council Meeting**

**March 5, 2025 7:15pm**

**In Person (Art/Science Room)**

**OUR MISSION:** To invite students, through Christ-centered education. To know Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, in order to pursue a life of godly character in service to others and achieve their academic potential.

**Attendance:** Jonathan Elzinga, Jon Alstad, Erin Tomkins, Lindsey Heerema, Kevin Semenjuk, Jen Reirson, Darren Driedger, Deanna Craig, Laura Volkman, Teresa Tessier, Chris Hammond, Kelly Tebay, George Varkey

### **1. Welcome – Lindsey Heerema**

### **2. Introductions – Everyone**

### **3. Devotional and prayer –**

- Gratitude
- Chaotic time of year for many, sometimes it's easy to focus on to do list than things to be thankful for.
- 1 Thessalonians 5:18
- When we see life from God's eternal perspective, we see the many blessings found in everyday life.
- Philippians 4:8
- Enter our daily routine with gratitude. Switch from "have to" mindset to "get to" mindset.
- Today is first day of Lent. Often a time of sacrifice, give up something and focus on our faith and Jesus' time on the cross.

## **Reporting**

### **1. Approval of Minutes of January 15, 2025**

- Motion, Seconded, All Approved.

### **2. Approval of Agenda –**

- Motion, Seconded, All approved with additions.

### **3. Budget/Accounting – Kevin**

- Hot lunch funding came in, chip day expenses. Currently a healthy bank balance. Still have a few expenses to cover for remainder of the year.

### **4. COSC – No current update.**

### **5. EIPS Trustee Report – Trustee Cathy Allen**

- EIPS will sponsor the registration fee for school councils to participate in the ASCA school council conference in April 2025.
- The Board received information for the School Status Report for 2023-2024.
- The Board received a report on the Division's 2024 Occupational Health & Safety Certificate of Recognition audit report. They scored a score of 91%, exceeding the 60% requirement.
- Student transportation eligibility will change next school year from residing 1km+ away for elementary students to living 1.6km+ away. The 2km+ resident radius will remain in place for secondary school students.
- The provincial budget was released in February. The Board has upcoming scheduled meetings and discussions regarding the upcoming EIPS 2025-2026 budget and it will be approved at the May board meeting.
- Board participated in annual 3-day Board Retreat in February and it went well.
- EIPS audit committee needs 2 community representatives, more info can be found on the EIPS website.
- 2 years identity protection is being offered to all families in EIPS affected by the cyber security incident with PowerSchool.
- Contact Cathy with any questions 780-417-8109 or [cathy.allen@eips.ca](mailto:cathy.allen@eips.ca)

### **6. Society Report – Teresa Tessier**

- Reviewed Society mandate and ministry planning.
- Round Table discussion took place at the last Society Board meeting. It was very successful, great discussion with staff, Society, pastors, and more.
- Reviewed programming and missions. Strategies for 2025/26 – developing student leaders, supporting staff supporting parents.
- Reviewed budgets and where funding is allocated this current year.

### **Information Items:**

## 1. Administration Report:

- Jon Elzinga reiterated that the incident on the playground that took place last week was taken very seriously, reported to the RCMP and the individual was found to have no ill intentions. Any questions can be directed to him.
- **Re-Registration** – EIPS registration has closed. Calling all new families. Interest and excitement for the school continues to abound. Class sizes will increase a bit, trying to keep them at a normal level. Approximately 28 kids (grade 1-3) and 30 kids (grade 4-6).
- **School Fees** – Modest increase of \$1 per field trip fees for next year due to increased bussing fees.
- **Spring Choir** – One of the largest choirs with 56 kids. Practice Mondays after school, lots of energy. Attending Oil Kings game, Legislature, Palm Sunday at SPAC.
- **Parent/Teacher Interviews/Meals** – Coming up soon, child care will be available, meals for staff.
- **Reading Day (March 20)** – Marty Chan is the guest author that will be in attendance, hot chocolate for the kids, great day for everyone. This will also be a pajama day for all students.
- Staff/Student floor hockey game end of January was good, ended in 5-4 staff win.
- **GOA Assessments** – Last number of years these have taken place for K-grade 3. Numeracy and literacy tests in September and in January and then for struggling students a final assessment at the end of May. This has led to additional funding in the past.
- **Mexico Missions Update** – Initial plans were made to send 3 staff down to the orphanage over spring break but there was a travel advisory put in place for Mexico and EIPS did not sign off on the trip so it had to be cancelled.

## 2. Counsellor's Report – Mrs. Tomkins

- **Pink Shirt Day** – encouraged kids to wear pink, got kids to think about bullying and the positive impact that students can have. Staff snack to enjoy time together.

## 3. Campus Pastor Report – Pastor Driedger

- Basically Babies drive was successful and got a tour of their facility which was very great to see.
- Coffee drive for the Mustard Seed in April.
- Easter chapel coming up before we break for Good Friday.
- Putting together plans for end of year chapel. Have a fun special guest in attendance.
- Praying Grandparents group is a force to be reckoned with. We have many grandparents praying. 18 in person that meet weekly, about 60 by email.

## **Action Items**

### **1. May Meeting/Executive Election**

- AGM and elections for next year. Leah Unrau is stepping down from Vice Chair. If you have an interest in stepping onto Executive team, talk to Lindsay Heerema or Jon Elzinga.

### **2. Parent Resource**

- How can we help support parents? Neat resource idea to put together some type of item to give parents to help conversation starters, how to pray with their kids, dive into their faith. Examples include a magnet or bookmark or button, possibly. If you think of ideas, bring them forward in May at the meeting, have it ready for September distribution.

### **3. ASCA Conference**

- If you want to attend, talk to Linday Heerema.
- Virtual AGM conference from 8:30am – 4:00pm.
- EIPS pays registration.

### **4. Millwoods School Council**

- They asked for some resources for their new school council. They are trying to replicate what we have here at SCA.

### **5. Kleenex**

- School council has sponsored Kleenex in the school in the past. Motion to fund \$200 for Kleenex.

### **6. Pizza Lunch**

- School council will fund pizza lunch for staff in June for \$250.

**7. Hot drink delivery for staff**

- Possibly for March 11, funded by council.

**8. Staff Support**

- Looking for suggestions on ways to support staff during this last phase of the year, talk to Jen if you have ideas.

**9. Bible Memory – Big 5**

Closed in prayer.

**So in everything do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the law and the prophets. Matthew 7:12**

**Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind,” This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: “Love your neighbour as yourself.” All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments. Matthew 22:37-40**

**Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 28:19**

**But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23**

**For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16**