

CALGARY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL – ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COUNCIL

October 25, 2017 @ 1:10pm

Purpose of Meeting:

Receive update on past and present Initiatives led by school administrators.

IDENTIFY goals for the 2017/18 school year to support the mission and vision at CCES.

Welcome & Opening Devotion

Josephine Tite (chair)

- Introductions
- Devotion Luke 9: 49-55

Administrator's Report

Mike Thiesen (Elementary Principal)

- Update on new behavior plan

Proactive: Second Step - Kindergarten to Gr 6. Developmentally appropriate for the age level. 1) Skills for learning 2) Empathy 3) Emotional management 4) Problem solving.

Reactive: Red slips - are a reminder for behaviour. This has had a beneficial effect.

- Update on lunchroom monitors

Grade 5-6 students go to Gr 1-3 classrooms. Kindergarten doesn't participate at so much learning takes place around lunch time at this level. Volunteer 8 times, then they're off for 4 weeks - only students who want to sign up participate in the supervision. They're doing a great job! Principal Thiesen meets with them and gives instructions to the LunchRoom Helpers. Parent Comment: daughter likes to participate!

Executive/Development Office Communication

Ken Dewyn (Executive Director) Thanks for coming out, so great to see the engagement of parents! One of the things mentioned in the parent interviews with new families.

Update on rebranding

Goal 1 - we are looking to tell our story better! We're looking to better communicate who CCS is. We have hired a firm, Intercor, who will assist with this process.

A direct survey will take place between Nov 1 -17. An advance list of questions will be available soon. There is a separate section for parents, alumni and for your children. A task force will be working on this project, along with Intercor.

A new logo, new colours, identify our values! This will be revealed at the Spring Society meeting in May 2018.

Partners In Learning

Parents play a vital role in our community. We're looking to find your skills, talents. There is an experience block at the Secondary and we're looking for people to enrich that time. Nov 21, 22, 23. A cool skill, activity or talent that we can share with our students. Posted under the Secondary tab.

Introductions from Parents

Chair of School Council

Josephine Tite

- Follow up of previously proposed School Council initiatives
 1. Requests to place garbage cans outside - the goal is when events are taking place, then portable garbage cans would be put out. This would be a better solution than permanent ones.
 2. Requests for bench locations around playground. - Where should they be placed? A suggestion: near the lower playground as that it is close to where children are playing. As long as it doesn't interfere with playing on the field.

- Hot Dog Days

Update from Principal Thiesen - really does help our school, raised over \$20,000 last year through this program. Assists with funding "Artist in Residence". Trying something new with classroom reps and working with your students grade! If there are no reps for a certain class - then the other class reps can take that on class as well.

- Parking Lot

Update from Principal Thiesen - the parking lot at Emmanuel is going generally well. The street on 49th is more tricky as parents tend to drop off. We have enlisted the help of parents to prevent stopping in that area. There have been some progress but we're definitely not at perfection yet!

From one of our parents: until we find something better - please, please be kind and respect each other!

Parent question: there is lots of space, is there a way for the signs to be moved as the buses don't take up as much space. Would allow for more parking and/or drop off. Mike will look into this further with Society/Building and Grounds. A thank you Jill, thank you Sandy for being willing to monitor that area of 49th.

- Review Mission and Vision of CCES, along with the 5 pillars.
- Review School Council goals from 2016-17 school year:

Support and enhance student learning.

A voice for parents.

Builds collaborative relationships between education partners.

Impact learning success for our students.

Not for fundraiser, or to listen to complaints.

1. Increase attendance at council meetings

2. Build Community

-Alternate between daytime and evening meetings, which has been done in the past.

- Additional goal suggestions for the current school council

-Question re: reading support with students not on an IPP. Level literacy is in Gr 1-3, additional support for reading. This is something to connect with Principal Thiesen.

(Support Learning)

-Fundraising hike - seems hard to ask for money for such a small hike. Could we look at doing apples or a different fundraiser? Explained the money went for leveled reading books, as well as ipads and chromebooks. Would like to still like to get more. Plus 10% goes to a school we support in Belize.

We recognize the need for fundraising. But is this the best way to do it?

Closing Prayer led by Josephine

