

Calgary Christian School Council March 2015 Meeting

Meeting: CCS School Council
 Chairperson: Gwen Russell & Hendria Nielsen
 Secretary: Alicia Airey/Hendria Nielsen

Date: March 5, 2015
 Time: 1:30 – 3:30pm
 Location: ECRC

Attendees – Gwen Russell, Hendria Nielsen, Alicia Airey, Gwen Uittenbosch, Jason Kupery, Leona Schaap and 10parents.

Item	Time	Description
1	1:30	<p>Welcome and Prayer – Gwen Russell</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Song Lyrics <u>With Every Act of Love</u> by Jason Gray.
2		<p>Approval of School Council February 2015 Meeting Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motion made and carried.
3		<p>Marit Cup</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> March 24, 10:30-12:00 Teacher vs Student hockey game at C.O.P. arena attended by Grades 4-12 Fundraiser and community celebration honoring CCS Graduate Marit Mackenzie who passed away six months after graduating. Background information on CCS website under Fundraising. This year supporting The David Foster Foundation and Right to Play. Sponsorships would be great to cover costs for bussing, mascots, icetime, etc. A letter requesting sponsorship that can be used to approach donors is available from Corrin Brouwer. Will be collecting spare change in support. Curtis Kellar, a six year old transplant patient, will drop the puck and Scott Ouelette, an organ recipient who now plays hockey, will speak at the Secondary campus.
4		<p>Call for Secretary, Co-chairs for next year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New leaders are encouraged and welcome. There will be support and help. School Council is mandatory. The actual format, topics, and initiatives are somewhat flexible. Hendria's youngest son will be in grade 10 next year so it may be better to have someone with MS and HS students as the secondary representative. <p>Tentative Meeting Schedule for next year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed to reduce the number of meetings next year. Monthly meetings seemed too close together during those times of the year when there are breaks off school or very busy months. Plan to have meetings every six weeks to two months, having five business meetings during the school year, varying daytime and evening. Hopefully, this will mean that attendance is more a priority for parents and also more effective use of time for everyone. It does mean meetings will not be a set time of each month. Actual dates will be published near the end of the school year when school calendar, principals' commitments and meeting room availability are firmer. The general plan so far: Early Sept - Welcome Back Tea Early Oct - afternoon Mid/End Nov - evening

		<p>End January - afternoon Early/Mid March - evening Early/Mid May – afternoon</p>
5		<p>Child care at meetings?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was an inquiry about having childcare at school council meetings. The ECRC nursery is available for the daytime meetings. Will try to arrange a couple students from HS for future daytime meetings. Students need volunteer hours. Morning meeting are better for parents with younger children than afternoons. Coming agendas will note if there will be childcare. • Led to a discussion of why more parents not attending meetings. There’s lots of reminders through website, newsletters, calendar, Facebook, emails but more awareness and personal invitation still needed.
6		<p>Bullying: School and Parents working together</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are many great positive initiatives at CCS to create a loving, supportive community. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Month of February focused on Friendship. - Pastor Layne helping a student make video. - Heritage Christian Academy will present a drama in April. - MS/HS ‘Legacy Starts With Me’ theme. - Service opportunities. - Mentorship: Grade 12s sharing experience with Grade 7s. - Parenting seminars through Tamara Menzies. • Grades 1-3 typically more exclusion, 4-6 tends to become more intentional. MS/HS becomes more complex, often online and reluctant to report. • Teacher/principal gather information and parents of both bully and victim contacted. It is most effective when follow-through supported in partnership by both school and family. Please discuss concerns about the plan privately with principal, not in front of students. Don’t always need to rely only on the school; it can be helpful if parents can address issues directly with the other child’s parents. • Kimberly Eckert, of the Eckert Center, has a good presentation “How to Raise an Assertive Child” that will be looked into being provided to CCS parents.
7		<p>New Topics, Questions, Comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GameTime Fundraiser – Friday, March 13. • Musical Drama Production “Chitty, Chitty Bang, Bang!” March 18-21. Tickets at HS. • HS Vice-Principal position for next year to be determined by budget limits. May have to continue with one VP. • CCS hosting first “Palliser Student Leadership Conference” on March 20 for grades 9-11 student leaders at Abundant Life Church. Special guests: Sheldon Kennedy, abused child advocate, and Scott Hammell, record holding suspension straight jacket escape artist. CCS students presenting TED-like talks. Will be a mix of Christian and non-Christian participants. • Waiting on approval from Palliser of next year’s school calendar. Will be posted when received. • Lego Showcase: May 1 Gr. 1-3, May 22 Gr. 4-6. Children may invite a guest to stay for tea and a worship chapel. Chapels are moved from Tuesdays to Fridays these weeks. • Jump Rope for Heart – raised approximately \$6000 for Heart and Stroke Foundation. Some parents did not get information. The online donation option and immediate receipting was

		<p>appreciated. Parent feedback that the music and format at the kickoff event hosted by H&S was not really age appropriate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent preference to not have videos played in classrooms during lunch. Adds screen time for young children and for some a distraction from eating. Some students do eat better with it on. Guided conversation starters suggested as an alternative that help develop conversation skills. Led to discussion of teacher workload and alternatives for supervision to provide teachers with a break. Parent volunteers for lunch supervision very appreciated – contact individual teacher to arrange timing/frequency. Volunteer or paid older students suggested. • Some MS/HS students have been volunteering with “Brown Bagging For Calgary’s Kids.” BB4CK works in partnership with Calgary schools to make and deliver healthy lunches for students who would otherwise go hungry. Some of these lunches go to schools near to CCS. Bonita Halford and Gladys Wolters will investigate how CCS students can support this program in an ongoing way by preparing lunches at CCS. Different grades could rotate responsibility. Food handling safety rules must be followed. • Glenbrook School has a grocery card program that CCS parents could support. Buying gift cards from them helps fund their swimming program.
8	3:20	<p>Closing Comments, Prayer and Adjournment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next Meeting - Wednesday, April 15 @ 7 pm. HS Commons.