

## Calgary Christian School Council November 2015 Meeting

Meeting:	CCS School Council – MS/HS	Date:	November 25, 2015
Chairperson:	Erin B	Time:	7 pm
Secretary:	Hendria N	Location:	HS IRC

Attendees – Erin B , Jason K, Dayle V, Ken D, Leona S, Lesley H, Phil B, Hendria N and 10 other parents.

Item	Description
1	<b>Welcome and Prayer</b> – Erin
2	<p><b>Jason Kupery - Principal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>Grade 6 to 7 Transition</u></b> Last year did an overnight event which was lots of fun but decided it is not the best to start with setting up possible discipline issues. This year did an evening event which was easier and better. First few weeks have many big changes to adjust to. Have focussed on making the students comfortable and assuming they figure everything out as they go. Parents are requesting more purposeful and repetitive teaching of organizational skills: tracking homework, getting to class on time, study skills, agendas, managing different teachers expectations. Even coming into the building is intimidating at first with high school students congregating around the doors. Consistency for teacher communications would be helpful as well: e-teacher, calendar, remind app. Dayle V, MS VP, has spoken to grade 7 students about what they feel would be helpful.</li> <li>• <b><u>10 Day Schedule</u></b> Will likely stay with it. Was late with the rollout but there are some definite positives: the double blocks allow for activities such as field trips, project and labs; shorter afternoon classes also benefit attention.</li> <li>• <b><u>Grade 9 to 10 Retention</u></b> There is always a number of students who leave and come but generally numbers balance. This last year approximately 30 students left and only 15 new came in. Formal exit interviews have not been done but reasons are known informally: sports, options, special programs, social group changes, larger community and school reputation. Considering how to better communicate what CCHS offers and address perceptions of students and parents that factor in decisions to leave.</li> <li>• <b><u>Grade 9 Passion Project</u></b> Have implemented a Grade 9 Personal Legacy Project based on through-lines and led by Erin F. Similar to the Grade 12 senior project but smaller scale and more guided. Recognizes that Grade 9 is a transition and encourages personal ownership and application of faith. Will be celebrated in the spring.</li> <li>• <b><u>Theme “Speaking the Very Words of God”</u></b> Focusing on the speaking portion of theme verse 1Peter 4:10-11 during first semester and the serving portion second semester. Dwayne Peace presentation and small groups very good. Phil Boyte spoke of choices, mindset and interactions. Student leaders attended Palliser student organized event in Lethbridge. Symposium “Do Hard Things” speakers on change and choices. Hoping to follow-up with a student-run volunteer club.</li> <li>• <b><u>HS helping MS</u></b> HS students with spare classes can earn credits by spending time helping MS students, especially with reading. Uses time productively and builds relationships.</li> <li>• <b><u>Ideas for Speakers or Volunteering</u></b> contact Mr. Kupery or School Council.</li> </ul>

3	<p><b>Parent Questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>Rumoured drug use at school</u></b> Specific information should be communicated directly and timely to Mr. Kupery. Searches and suspensions are possible. Difficult to get designated School Resource Police Officer to have a presence at CCS because more issues at other area schools. Special events are clearly promoted as zero tolerance. Student leadership can have positive peer influence. Parking lot supervised before and after school but not during the school day. Looking at improving video surveillance.</li> <li>• <b><u>Cell Phones</u></b> MS put in “parking lot” pockets during class. HS can keep at teacher discretion. CCS can block unwanted sites with firewall on school WiFi but cannot control cellular access. Some parents prefer no phones at school at all, however, they are also a useful tool that students use regularly for their schoolwork and time management. Parents can choose to control phone access themselves. Parents and teachers should become educated on how to manage the issues. Unfortunately, students often do not think of consequences and consider inappropriate uses “not a big deal.”</li> </ul>
4	<p><b>Ken DeWyn – Executive Director</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>Education Assistant Funding</u></b> Society has taken on necessary funding to maintain the same EA support as previous years since this is no longer all paid for by Alberta Education. Chaplain position is also CSCE funded.</li> <li>• <b><u>Building space needs</u></b> Board committee is considering options. Likely have specifics information available for spring 2016 Society meeting.</li> <li>• <b><u>Support for students with special needs</u></b> is being reviewed.</li> <li>• <b><u>Volunteer Bond</u></b> in some form is being considered.</li> <li>• <b><u>One to One Chromebooks for MS</u></b> coming next year 2016/17. Working on specifics of plan and policies. Details will be provided in the spring. Requested to provide as much information as soon as able to families in preparation. Basic cost approximately \$350 and financing may be available. Designated staff will train other teachers to use effectively. Technology infrastructure for network has been upgraded over last few years. Plan replenishment of technology every five years. IRC will be renovated to be a more flexible and interactive space - will include a 3D printer and old equipment will be disposed of. HS will continue to use their own devices if they choose for now.</li> <li>• <b><u>Community Events</u></b> Christmas Fair – Dec. 5 – Many volunteers needed. Golf tournament and Game Time in spring.</li> <li>• <b><u>Re-enrolment</u></b> packages are coming to families by mail. Forms and deposits due back by Jan. 8. Opens to new families Jan. 18.</li> </ul>
5	<p><b>Other Items</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>Palliser School Council Sharing Meeting</u></b> on Nov. 23 was attended by Erin B.</li> <li>• <b><u>MS/HS Staff Appreciation</u></b> options were discussed. Lesley H and Becky V volunteered to coordinate but will need lots of help.</li> <li>• <b><u>Graduation Committee</u></b> Kendra N and Sheila R will help.</li> <li>• <b><u>Lunchtime Chess Club</u></b> is happening! Other ideas for or volunteers to lead lunchtime clubs contact Mr. Kupery.</li> <li>• <b><u>MS Spanish</u></b> plan for next year is not determined. Enrollment affects teacher funding. Grade 10 Spanish ADLC program is going well.</li> </ul>

6

**Closing Comments, Prayer and Adjournment**

- Upcoming School Council Meetings:
- **Tuesday, January 26 - MS/HS Round Table Discussions**  
Potential Topics:
  - Cell phone/technology controls/firewall
  - Society communication
  - Teacher communication
- **2016 Planned Meetings:**
  - MS/HS at 7 pm – Mar. 17 - Commons
  - ES at 11:30-1:25 - Jan. 29, Mar. 18 (Secretary needed!) - ES Library
  - All School at 11:30-1:25 – April 22 - ES Library
  - All School at 7-9 pm - June 7 – Commons