



## **Sister Alphonse Academy**

### **School Council Meeting Agenda**

**Wednesday, November 17, 2021: 6:30 p.m.**

**Virtual - Please see link on the school website: <https://meet.google.com/fpa-smhh-ejh>**

Attendance: Lindsay Martyna, Kim Shmyr, Marisol Teixeira, Carryl Bennett, Christine Samson, Cindy Phillips, Steve Ducharme, Jenna Hill, Marianne Schiedel, Mallory, Kim Willy, Karla Bergstrom, Jessica Caister, Nicole Kluthe

Welcome - Chair (1 minute)

SAA School Council Meeting

Acknowledgement - Principal (1 minute)

GSACRD and **Sister Alphonse Academy** acknowledge that we are meeting on the original lands of the Cree, those of Treaty 6, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation. Kinanâskomitin(KIN-a-hoompt-ee-no-tah)(Thank you Creator).

**Prayer - Vice Principal:** Mrs. Cindy Phillips

In honour of *Metis week* this week, we would like to offer the following prayer to start this meeting:



**Métis Week 2021**

# Litany For Healing And Reconciliation

<https://stpetesok.church/litany-for-healing-and-reconciliation-national-indigenousdayofprayer/>

Draw your Church together, O Lord, into one great company of disciples, together following our Lord Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving you in your mission in the world, and together witnessing to your love on every continent and island of your creation. We ask this in the name of the Risen Christ in whom we are one.

**All: Amen.**



## SAA School Council Meeting

### Introductions

### Review of Agenda (1 minute)

### Review and Approval of [October Agenda/Minutes](#)

- Approved by: Marianne Schiedel
- Seconded by: Lindsay Martyna
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[Trustee Report](#) - Mrs. Serena Shaw

### Reports

Chair Report - Lindsay:

**Administration Report** - Christine Samson, Cindy Phillips

Congratulations to both of our junior volleyball teams on an excellent season! Our Girls volleyball team took 1st place in the SAPEC tournament and then our boys took 2nd place!

Thanks to Mrs McKinnon, Mrs Teixeira, and Miss Hillier for all of their hard work!

**Update:** **The Alberta School Council Engagement Grant:** Our division applied for this grant and they are working on allocating this to schools. Good news as this has resulted in each school being provided with \$500.00.

The GSACS Education Foundation website has posted applications for the 2021 Group Grant Requests from the Futures Fund - Deadline November 22, 2021. In 2020, the second year of distributing funds, the Foundation received seven applications and was pleased to support the following three school initiatives:

- \$2,350      Ecole Father Jan – Technology (iPads/Chromebooks)
- \$2,500      JJ Nearing – Decodable Books (remedial reading program)
- \$2,350      Sister Alphonse Academy - Technology (iPads/Chromebooks)

Perhaps the GSACS Education Foundation might be able to help with an educational initiative at your school, that might otherwise go unfunded but would be of great benefit to student learning and/or engagement. 2021 submission deadline is: **NOON, Monday, November 22, 2021. All submissions should be sent by email to: [foundation@gsacrd.ab.ca](mailto:foundation@gsacrd.ab.ca)**

Also, proceeds from our 2nd 50/50 Raffle will be used to assist with funding of these initiatives. Tickets are on sale now and sales close December 3, 2021. Please share this information and support this important fundraiser and help some lucky winner take home some Christmas Cash - maybe that could be you!

Thanks,  
Deb Schlag  
Treasurer, GSACS Foundation

This was our [submission](#) last year, which may be used as reference.

**Friends update: Six chromebooks and a charging trolley have been ordered through our Learning and Technology Services and will arrive shortly. We will be able to provide you a receipt when they arrive on site. Once received we will share this information in our weekly newsflash.**

[SAA Wish List Items](#)

**SAA celebrated their first SAA Junior High Awards celebration during the afternoon of October 21, 2021.** Some of the awards presented included honour, honours with proficiency, the Recreation Academy award, Most Improved student awards, to name a few. Parents/Guardians of students receiving awards were invited to virtually participate in this exciting event. We are currently seeking sponsors for awards and we will be holding our awards ceremony in June of this year. Thank you to all of the parents/guardians who are partners in Catholic education at SAA!

**Staffing Update:** Recently we have been able to add areas of support to our school. As we have had an increase in enrolment we have been able to add a few more supports to SAA at this time:

**Kindergarten AM:** We welcome Ms. Jacqueline Wheeler, Educational Assistant to SAA! Ms. Wheeler comes to us with a lot of experience working with children in early childhood education and we know she will be a welcome addition to our Kindergarten classroom.

**Elementary level:** We welcome Educational Assistant, Ms. Dawn MacDonald to SAA on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons!

Ms. MacDonald was already working at SAA on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings, but now we have added her to the afternoons on these days as well! During this extra time Ms. MacDonald will be working with the Grade one and two students and teachers to provide additional support.

### **Junior High level:**

We welcome Ms. Jamie-Lee Oliva to our junior high! Ms. Oliva currently is our Kindergarten AM teacher, but she also has experience in the option area, so we are happy to have her teach some of our junior high options this year.

Currently Ms. Oliva has been co-teaching with Ms. McKinnon the Fit For Life, but will now take over this class as part of her assignment. In addition to this block Ms. Oliva will be offering homework/core subject support for diverse learners in Junior High and will be teaching a block of Religion 9. These additional blocks are being added to the Tuesday/Thursday afternoon schedule. During semester 2 and 3, Ms. Oliva will be teaching options such as Art to our Junior High students. Mrs. Phillips will also be checking on the progress of our junior high students during this time as well.

Mr. Parks will also be teaching a block of Advanced Academic Preparation block and an additional Health block to our junior high students.

Thank you to all of our staff for demonstrating this flexibility in supporting the learning needs of our students.

**Literacy Grant support:** Due to a literacy grant we have received due to our work with literacy interventions and Dr. Georgiou at the University of Alberta, we have been able to increase Mrs. Teixeira's time goes further into the afternoon so she is able to do some small group support for a few blocks with teachers in Grades 1 - 3 classes.

**Collaborative Response - Learning teams!**

We are pleased to share that the staff are actively working on a new *SAA Literacy Framework*, which includes reading interventions.

**St. Albert Catholic Parish:** We are happy to share that we collected over **900 items of food** through our food drive for St. Albert Catholic Parish! Thank you to all of the families who contributed to this worthy cause through our "We Scare Hunger" campaign.

**Anti-Bullying week: November 15 - 19th, 2021:** SAA has daily activities they are doing with their classes to discuss this important topic. Thank you to our counsellor, Mr. David Szykowski for sharing some great resources.

**SAA Leadership!**

We are also looking for fun activities to have during Advent/Christmas.

- Leadership group will be sorting hampers
- 12 days of Christmas

-Advent kicks off SAA Joy boxes!

-Marisol Teixeira, Kim Shmyr, Cindy Phillips will put together some extra boxes that are needed to circulate

**Committee Reports (5 minutes)**

- Partners in Prayer- met in October, will continue to meet every month or couple of months. Group prays for intentions. Email Nicole Kluthe if you are interested in joining.  
Next meeting: November 29, 1:45  
We aim to meet the last Monday of every month
- Compassionate Friends- supports families in need in our school community (ie. food for families in need). Contact Nicole Kluthe if you would like to help with this as well as if you know of a family that may need some assistance.

**Friends of SAA Fundraising Society - Steve Ducharme, Chair (5 minutes)**

[New Friends executive!](#) Welcome and congratulations!

**Parents can easily refer to this site when looking for a particular fundraiser or way to donate:**

- SAA Friends group is hoping to create a newsletter/means of communicating fund raising events.
- [SAA Wish List - 2021/2022](#)
- **CURRENT FUNDRAISER - Art Cards by Kids!!** Sent home Monday of this week. A quick reminder we will only have a week to order. **Orders due Mon. Nov. 22nd** (cards, puzzles, plaques, or ornaments with your child's individual artwork.) A couple of parents have already ordered!!! Teachers - we would love your help getting the word out. (class newsletter/email would be fantastic. I am sure the kids were excited to show their parents too.)
- **Up NEXT - Healthy Hunger - Hot lunches for your kids.** We all need a little break on packing lunches. Dec. 1 - pizza and Dec. 15 - Edo/Booster Juice. Ordering Link will be added to the Link Tree by Friday this week. (Marianne is confirming with the restaurants).
- If you would like to participate in the SAA Friends group, fill out the volunteer form on the above Link Tree. We will definitely need volunteers at lunch time for the hot lunches. <https://linktr.ee/FriendsofSAA>
- Farm to School fundraiser. Thank you for participating. We had over 50 bags of Fresh produce delivered to the local Food Banks.
- Next meeting **November 22 at 6:30 pm**, link is available on the above linktr.ee site

#### Staff Appreciation

- Christine Hoskins is looking to pass this on... any volunteers?
- **Karla Bergstrom volunteers to lead this!**
  - Jenna Hill [iamjennahill10@gmail.com](mailto:iamjennahill10@gmail.com)
  - Lindsay Martyna [Lindsaymartyna@gmail.com](mailto:Lindsaymartyna@gmail.com)
  - Jessica Caister [Jess.langer@gmail.com](mailto:Jess.langer@gmail.com)
  - Kim Willy [K2willy@shaw.ca](mailto:K2willy@shaw.ca)

#### School Council Meeting Dates for School Calendar-

<b>December 15 (cancelled)</b>
<b>January 12</b>

<b>February 16</b>
<b>March 16</b>
<b>April 13</b>
<b>May 11</b>
<b>June 15</b>

\*all meetings at 6:30pm

Other Items/Reports: (TBD)

Christine Hoskins attended the Alberta School Councils Association General Meeting in April. Possible initiatives that could be implemented as SAA include:

1. Solar for Schools Funding Program - solar panels are placed on the school (we would need to write a letter of interest and gather quotes)
  - a. Steve Ducharme is willing to take this on with the help of admin
  - b. An inquiry needs to be made to GSACRD first before proceeding
2. Developing more environmental initiatives at SAA (compost bins in classrooms)
  - a. Mrs Rawcliff's class (grade 4) have taken on the recycling program at SAA
3. Everactive Schools Program - it is a non-profit initiative that works with the school to implement physical activity through a variety of means. They also support School Travel Planning - encouraging active school travel (bike, walk, etc.) and work with AMA to develop a Safety Patrol Program
  - a. Mrs Samson will reach out to them to check in

-SAA will need parent champions that are interested in leading these initiatives alongside school staff

- How can SAA support students who are not able to take part in Rec Academy due to financial reasons?
  - Christine Samson will look into different groups that help support children in athletics
  - <https://kidsportcanada.ca/alberta/st-albert/>
  - <http://www.edmontondinneroptimists.com/>
  -

- Any parents interested in a paid position for lunch supervision (approx. \$23 per hour), contact Christine Samson
  - Duties: wear supervision vests outdoors to ensure students are safe, supervising students eat lunch, supervising gym activities etc.
  - Need to adhere to volunteer protocol

\*\*\*Check on the timeline/requirement for the Child Welfare Check as some parents have been waiting nine (9) weeks\*\*\* -Christine Samson

-School Council minutes are shared on the website and Christine will add this to the school newsletters as well.

-Discussion around creating other committees:

-events committee: this will be re-visited should covid guidelines and protocols open up

-volunteer committee: Friends group has a link up on their linktree for people to sign up; parents are currently waiting on welfare checks

-SAA Wish List items: was discussed during October staff meeting

- Chromebooks were purchased

- Additional iPads are needed to run the SAA robotics program: to be discussed by the Friends committee

Next Month Agenda Items: (TBD)

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Adjournment: 8:02pm

**Next Meeting - January 12, 2022**



