

Our Lady of the Assumption Virtual School Council Meeting

October 21, 2020 - 7:00pm

Meeting Link: meet.google.com/wea-iguh-ger

1. Call to Order @ 7:00pm

2. Opening Prayer

3. Welcome and Introductions

Attendees: Meghan Calder, Matthew New, Robert Tratch, Ken Tratch, Michelle Dormer, Deena MacWilliam, Rhonda Norris, Michelle Tyslau

4. Review of the Agenda

5. Approval of the September Minutes - Rhonda Norris & Deena MacWilliam

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mOPkncxcwYTypLqJ7VuS4SEU1dGOexW2xKhoHCW848/edit>

6. Old Business

7. Trustee's Report https://docs.google.com/document/d/1J2o5zxBYS_lh5JPYqiva304rw_S1aM5Q/edit

Questions:

Rhonda: Inquired about how quarantine will impact school progression through the year. Teachers are preparing students and lessons to be able to slide in and out of the different provincial scenarios.

Rhonda: Inquired about how sick students have been. AHS is very careful with confidentiality. OLA has not had symptomatic cases and to date there has not been school transmission. Schools have been careful and perhaps a bit cautious. We are trying to reduce the number of cases/ spread.

Message from Ken Sampson was emailed to parents regarding positive test results.

Recently, Alberta Health Services (AHS) improved its methods for sending COVID-19 test results by relaying them via text message. This means that parents/guardians are often provided with this information well before the school or division.

As a result, we are asking that, if and when you learn of any positive test results in your home, please share this information with your child's school administration. This will allow us to follow up with AHS and provide notification to families as quickly as possible about the need to isolate.

We certainly recognize that this may be uncomfortable information to share. Rest assured that maintaining both your dignity and privacy is a responsibility that we take very seriously. Our aim is simply to reduce the spread of this disease and ensure the health and safety of our staff and students.

8. Financial Report - <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wKu20z0g42CGlOnKQN1kaZSp8potBnIR/view?usp=sharing>

- a. Financially not much of a change from last month. Michelle Dormer inquired about funds being available to possibly do other activities/ treats for future holidays.
- b. Rhonda - Camp fee was refunded
- c. Knights of Columbus - Ken is going to check with Alex to discuss the possibility of using Camp Columbus. Meghan to follow up after some reports that are due at the end of the month are completed.

9. School Reports:

- a. Principal
 - Expressed appreciation for parents calling to inquire about symptoms regarding their child attending school before sending.
 - Report Cards - November 19, 2020
 - Parent Teacher Interviews will be completed virtually or via telephone Nov 26 - Dec 4. Teachers will be scheduling these directly with families during times of mutual agreement.
 - Reminder for parents to send winter gear to be outside. Some items will be available in case items are needed.
- b. Associate Principal
 - October focus was on grace
 - OLA school challenge - poster to represent the qualities of each class
 - Students were challenged to "Act like Mary". Students would get a coupon and post it on a board
- c. Teacher - Mr. Tratch
 - Glad to hear Halloween will continue, with some treats
 - Parent Teacher Interviews will be conducted virtually
 - Christmas to be done virtually by teachers

10. New Business

- a. Remembrance Day – any special plans?
 - Service at 11:00 led by 5B. No special guests - closed campus Baptista is considering a guest via google meets but not yet confirmed.
 - Not being shared virtually as students with FOIP concerns would be unable to participate.

- Poppy/ Poppy box - nothing has yet been made available

b. Christmas – Should we start to discuss?

- No Christmas dinner or concert
- Mass planned for Advent (possibly Dec 10)
- Dress up days to celebrate the season
- Class presentations to be shared within the school and it is hoped it might become available virtually with families.
- Christmas treat bag from OLA School Council was discussed as something to be continued

Motion: OLA School Council to permit a expenditure up to a maximum of \$400 for Christmas treat bags for students

Motioned by: Deena

Second by: Rhonda

c. November calendar <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wk6E-NZN4uZRaxbruDPYFzeSZHqK4RGg/view?usp=sharing>

- Minimal events this year due to pandemic
- OLA is intentionally trying to have a spirit day at least once a month
 - A few companies are being compared to offer a clothing order/ school swag and OLA is hoping to arrange an order this year.

General Discussion:

Ken Tratch asked how teachers/ school staff are coping given he COVID situation.

- Teachers are feeling a bit overwhelmed, it is different and teachers are feeling the weight of the situation.
- Teachers are concerned about the health parameters and student progress given the weight of trying to keep school as normal as possible.
- Teachers want to use best practice and are trying to do their best while balancing health restrictions.
- Meghan is encouraging parents to reach out to teachers to let them know about the positives they are seeing as teachers appreciate hearing the feedback.

Michelle inquired about COVID protocol in terms of having the schools shut down.

- Provincially it is a goal to not have schools shut down.
- Schools are trying to balance schedules and cohorts to minimize risk.
- Shutting down schools as was done in the spring is only a strong possibility if there is not enough staff to run the school.

Reports of fighting have occurred during times when there is less structure and there is concern about supervision.

- Meghan has asked for specific cases to speak with her directly.
- Labour laws restrict the number of supervisors available

11. Next Meeting - Nov. 18, 2020 7:00pm virtual meet.google.com/fgu-acev-ppj

12. Adjourn @ 8:01pm