

**Archbishop MacDonald High School
School Council & Parent Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 20, 2024**

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

In Attendance:

Parents: Jennifer Harvey (President), Ivanka Simonovic (Vice-President), Jennifer Maskoske (Treasurer), Kat Pederson (Secretary), Cynthia Burkard (Casino Chair), Cara Dosman (Parent)
Faculty: Theresa Antonakis (Principal), Elaine Thorne (Vice-Principal/Grade 11 Advisor)

Meeting Called To Order: 6:33 PM

Approval of March 20, 2024, Agenda: Jennifer Harvey

Second: Cara Dosman

Motion Carried.

Amendments to January 24, 2024, Minutes:

- Cynthia asked about snacks for the volunteers, which was deferred to Jennifer H., who was Treasurer at the time. It was indicated that no cheques were written to cover snacks at past casino fundraisers, just the volunteers' meals.

Approval of January 24, 2024, Minutes as Amended: Kat Pederson

Second: Cynthia Burkard

Motion Carried.

❖ **Treasurer's Report (Jennifer Maskoske)**

- **School Council General Account update** – Balance as of March 1 is just over \$8,400.
- **School Council Casino Account update** – Balance as of March 1 is \$20,683.38. Still to come out are fees for the music festival, bussing, the Easter mass, and choir apparel. The invoice for the smartboards came in and is under budget. The casino report came in last week and is due back by May 12.

Motion: Ivanka motions to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented at the March 20, 2024, meeting.

Second: Cynthia Burkard

Motion Carried.

❖ **Casino Chair's Report (Cynthia Burkard)**

- Overall, everything went well. Our volunteers were amazing, and MAC SAC thanks them for their help. Cynthia will update the fundraising notes, which will also include the Starlight charges an 18% gratuity plus GST on the volunteers' meals. There was also a discussion about putting aside monies to purchase snacks for volunteers.

- A request for our next casino fundraiser date has been submitted. We don't have the date yet, but we do have confirmation that we will be back at the Starlight Casino.

❖ **Principal's Report (Theresa Antonakis)**

- *Grad Update*
 - A division-wide survey went to parents of Grade 10 and 11 students to get an idea of what they would prefer for a grad model moving forward. The deadline to mail in the survey is March 22.
 - Grad tickets will be going on sale after Spring Break, with info posted on both the website and upcoming newsletter. Mass/commencement tickets are \$10 each, with a limit of 8 tickets. Banquet tickets are \$100 each, with a limit of 10 tickets. Tables are pre-selected and guaranteed. Both events will be held in Hall A of the Edmonton Convention Centre, with doors opening at 6 PM and the events starting at 7 PM.
 - Grad formals and handshake photos have been completed and went well.
- *Peer Support*
 - A "Smile Because You're Beautiful" initiative will run for the month of April. Students will be greeted daily in the atrium with bulletin boards and positive messages.
 - There will be a Scooby-Doo scavenger hunt and donair lunch happening in the next few weeks in honour of teacher Jon Harkins.
 - Application forms and interviews for current Grade 10s to join Peer Support will be happening soon.
- *Open House*
 - Was really spectacular; over 2,000 people attended. Both the French immersion and IB programme were very well showcased and busy with visitors the entire night.
- *IB Update*
 - Some of the IB students who completed their assessments were treated to an ice party to celebrate. Internal assessments are still ongoing, with IB exams April 25-May 17. The exam schedule is on our website. Teachers are working hard, holding revision PLTs and collaborations for students to help them prepare.
 - Every 5 years Mac undergoes a review of their IB programme. It finished early last week and was very, very well received with excellent feedback. Congratulations to all our IB teachers and students!
- *2024-25 Registrations*
 - Grade 10 applications have gone out. Over 600 Grade 9 students applied.
 - Internal registrations for Grades 10 and 11 to pick their courses for next year have been completed. There is a very limited window if any changes need to be made.
- *School Events Recap*
 - The year end play, Shakespeare In Love, ran from February 15-17, and received rave reviews.
 - Mac hosted its first ever Black Students Association Conference February 22-24. Around 100 Edmonton area high school students attended.

- Mac hosted the debate regionals, with one of our teams qualifying for the provincials in southern Alberta.
- Mac's Model UN team attended the University of Alberta High School Model United Nations Conference from February 22-24 and came back with 7 awards. We're hosting our 3rd annual Mac MUN on April 13 which will see over 100 students from ECSD and EPSB attend.
- Our senior band was rated Superior and won a Gold Award at the Alberta International Band Festival that ran March 11-15.
- Mac's Night of Music was last Friday evening and was fantastic.
- Some of our Grade 12 students and staff are leaving for Switzerland and Italy March 22-31 for their school trip with EF Educational Tours.
- Adjudicators from the Edmonton Music & Speech Arts Festival are coming to Mac this Thursday to grade our bands.
- Taste of Mac was yesterday, which saw students both showcase food and performances from all over the world. Tomorrow will be the fashion show to close the festivities.
- The Mac honour band is going on a concert tour/roadtrip as of tomorrow.
- Coming up in April is Drama Fest. Stay tuned for details.
- *Athletics Recap*
 - Mac saw a successful athletics season – three of our basketball teams made it to playoffs, but no banner this year. Next up is badminton, soccer, slow pitch, track & field, and golf.
- *Mac Council*
 - Organized another school dance on March 8, which saw around 450 students attend.
 - Organized Pi Day festivities on March 14.
 - Organized Mac's 1st ever bike-a-thon, which is taking place April 24-25. There are 40 teams of 10 registered.
- *Easter Season*
 - We had our Ash Wednesday liturgy on February 14, which set the tone for our upcoming bike-a-thon and where the funds are going to.
 - Lent has begun, and students were invited to participate in confession and a reflective activity.
 - Easter Mass will be held at St Joseph's Basilica on April 3 with Archbishop Richard Smith.

❖ **Old Business**

- *Stained Glass Window Project Fundraiser*
 - As of today we have raised \$5,140 in donations. Another K-12 swift cash call will go out next week.
- *Staff Appreciation Breakfast*
 - Will be held on May 16. Jennifer M. brought forward some fun ideas, along with menu suggestions and a bakery who is willing to donate individually packed baked goods. Ms Antonakis will reach out to her staff about food allergies/preferences.

- *Feedback on ECSD Community of School Councils Meeting*
 - Cara Dosman and Jennifer Harvey reported back on the ECD Community of School Councils Meeting they attended on March 6. Some of the takeaways was the importance of a priest on site, the importance of parents supporting their children, and things schools do with respect to preparing students for making sure they meet graduation requirements (i.e. different types of diplomas, grad coaches, preparing for careers, how to help discern which classes are needed to further a student's education). Also highlighted were different programs ECSD has with respect to Indigenous students.
- *Alberta School Council Engagement Grant (ASCE)*
 - Cara Dosman and Jennifer Harvey have contacted Dr Shawn Reynolds (Registered Psychologist) and Mike Landry (Catholic Schools Veteran Youth Minister) about giving a presentation on Nurturing Faith Development in Teens. Ms Antonakis will forward their bios for approval and invitation creation and let the Parent Advisory Committee know if there are any issues.
 - The date set for the talk will be April 17 in the evening. The proposed agenda is 630 PM registration, presentation from 7-8 PM, and question period from 8-830 PM. The presentation will be free for Mac parents to attend (no kids, please). A discussion was had about extending the invitation to feeder schools as well and possibly sharing the grant with another school to increase the amount of compensation to the speakers.
 - A discussion was had about providing snacks and refreshments for the attending parents. Cynthia Burkard will price items out.

Motion: Jennifer Harvey motions to utilize up to \$500 from the General Account to provide snacks, beverages, plates, and cups for the Nurturing Faith Development in Teens presentation on April 17.

Second: Ivanka Simonovic

Motion Carried.

- ❖ **2023-24 Meeting Dates** - Meetings are held on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM in the SRC every other month. All parents are welcome. Our last meeting for this school year will be on May 22.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 22, 2024, at 6:30 PM

Meeting Adjournment: 7:31 PM