

- b. We welcome Mrs Jessica Matus in Grade 8, Mrs Kayla Helmer in Gr 7, Miss Sharon Snyder and Mrs Kamryn Leavitt-Bonazza in Grade 6 and Mrs. Angela Overgaard in grade 4, Miss Titford in grade 3, Mrs Soenen for Pre K support to our team. We also welcome Chandra Lamontange for our music/band program.
- c. Our theme for the year is "Inspired by Christ on a journey to Encounter, Nurture and Serve"
- d. We will have an informational meeting for Grade 6 parents on Sept 20th.
- e. Our school is in the process of having parents sign up for Schoology accounts as this is our new Learning Management System for the division. We have sent out the letters to all parents Kindergarten to Grade 8 on Friday Sept 8th. We are looking at ways to communicate with our families until we have everyone signed up.
- f. Our student council is hosting a Week of Welcome for the middle school students Sept 19th - Sept 22nd with different activities happening for the week.
- g. We are having our opening mass September 20th at 1:30 in the School Gym with Father Raj
- h. We continue to keep students entrances and exits the same this year as well as a staggered lunch.
- i. Volleyball tryouts, and cross country run have begun for our students please check out our calendars on our website
- j. We sent out information this week to our school community on Confirmation this week Wednesday Sept 13th at 7:30pm. First Holy Communion should attend a parent meeting on Sept. 15, 2023 at 7:00PM in the church
- k. September 30th the day of Truth and Reconciliation is a day off this year students will participate in activities within their classrooms Sept 29th.
- l. Hot Lunch will begin in October.
- m. Our annual Terry Fox Run for the school will take place on Friday Sept 22nd, the elementary classes will pick their time and place to walk and the middle school will do their traditional bike/scooter/walk or run in the afternoon.
- n. We have a new process for Criminal Record checks, if parents are working with students they will need a criminal record check, if they are coaching a sport or on an overnight they will be required a vulnerable sector check with includes a criminal check. We have 2 different letters depending on the type of volunteer connect with the office
- o. We are again requiring volunteers for the Nutrition for Learning Program at the school, this is an incredible program which provides food 5 days a week funded by donations and Grants
- p. Donna Noble continues to lead the Friends of St Matthew for the playground.
- q. Our superintendent will be sending out communication to our parents Monthly you will receive this communication the first Monday of the month around 4:00pm.
- r. The division is looking for bus drivers if you know of anyone interested in this please let the office know and we can get them information.
- s. We are moving forward with an online payment system which will be ready to go.
- t. We have the bid for tenders out for our portable classrooms so the process is moving ahead
- u. We are continuing our Alberta Education literacy and Numeracy Screens

10. Trustee's Report

- a. A warm welcome to the 2023-24 school year. It is exciting to be returning to school with such an amazing group of students and staff within our school communities. So much appreciation goes out to our families and staff as they venture into the new school year with our beautiful students. I am looking forward to engaging with you in this coming school year. Here are a few of the highlights from our most recent Board Organizational and Regular meetings. Our next Regular Board meeting is Tuesday, September 26th at 5:30 p.m.
- b. ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING: Trustees were appointed to Committees of the Board, and school liaisons were chosen. The schools that I am liaison for are St. Matthew, St. Dominic and Ecole Our Lady of the Rosary School in Sylvan Lake. The most enjoyable part of my job as a Trustee is to be welcomed into these school communities. The Committees that I am on this year include TEBA (Teacher Education Bargaining Association), Audit Committee, and Local ATA Negotiation Committee.
- c. ARCHBISHOP DINNER: The Board of Trustees and Senior Administration have received an invitation to attend the Archbishop's Dinner event on October 6, 2023. The Archbishop's Dinner brings together members of the Catholic community including priests, deacons, and parishioners from all parishes across the Edmonton Archdiocese, as well as leaders from healthcare, education, and social services. The Superintendent recommended that in keeping with the Division's Strategic Plan to cultivate partnerships with Catholic agencies, individual Trustees and members of the Senior Administration team are encouraged to attend the Archbishop's Dinner on October 6, 2023 as representatives of the Red Deer Catholic Separate School Division. I plan to attend this dinner.
- d. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT SESSION: The Superintendent shared that Board Policy (Policy 19 - Board Operations, articles 7, 7.1, 7.2) has established that on an annual basis, the Board will convene with stakeholders regarding planning and budgeting in alignment with the Board of Trustees' strategic plan. Working in conjunction with the Annual Board Work Plan, the Board will review and plan for stakeholder engagement. Based on this policy, a stakeholder engagement session will be hosted on November 22, 2023, in both an online and in-person format. More details about this event will follow.
- e. CWL FALL GENERAL MEETING: The CWL Fall General Meeting will be held on September 30th at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Spruce Grove. The theme of the meeting is Hand in Hand with our Youth on Their Faith Journey. I will be attending and if anyone would like any further information, please contact me. (403) 844-0263
- f. CONFIRMATION MEETING FOR PARENTS SEPTEMBER 13: Parents of youth in grades 6-9 who would like their kids to receive the sacrament of confirmation should attend a parent meeting on Sept. 13, 2023, at 7:30pm in the church. At that meeting we will go over the requirements and expectations for confirmation. This is a parent meeting; youth need not attend. For more information, contact Peter van Kampen at 403-848-0955 or peter.vankampen@rdcrs.ca. Registration forms are available in the parish office, or on the website.

- g. FIRST COMMUNION MEETING FOR PARENTS SEPTEMBER 15: Parents of youth in Grade 2 who would like their child to receive their First Holy Communion should attend a parent meeting on Sept. 15, 2023 at 7:00PM in the church. Registration forms are available on the parish website. www.rocky.caedm.ca Printed forms will be available at the meeting. For more information, please contact the parish office. 403-845-3457
- h. 2023-24 SCHOOL FAITH THEME POSTER: Grade 5 student, Dawson Ames, from Father Henri Voisin School created our inspiring division theme poster this year. This is his explanation of his artwork: This year's theme, "Inspired by Christ on a Journey to Encounter, Nurture, and Serve" is represented in my artwork with a strong focus on nurture. The word nurture means caring for and encouraging the growth of something or someone. My first thought was to show that by drawing a life cycle of a plant. First, you must plant seeds and give them plenty of water. Secondly, the seeds need lots of sun and time. As you continue to provide the seeds with water eventually they will sprout and bloom into fully grown flowers. For a flower to stay alive you must continue to nurture it, and that takes patience, time and hard work. This is just like having a relationship with God, in order to grow your faith you need to put Jesus first. You can do this by praying and being kind to others. Your relationship with God is growing every day. At the bottom of my picture I have also included four friends that are holding hands around the tree which is also in the shape of a cross. This symbolizes community, it takes many people not just yourself to enrich and nurture your faith, such as your school, church, family and friends. I wanted to show how every single person is unique and special in their own way, just the way God made them. God loves everyone no matter what you look like or where you're from. We are all children of God and have different gifts and talents. I hope this artwork inspires you to be nurturing to the people and things in your life.

11. New Business

- a. Fundraising
 - i. Teresa discussed the various fundraising options
 - 1. Big Chief - Fall
 - 2. Moms Pantry- in conjunction with Big chief or Plant Ranch
 - 3. Plant Ranch fundraiser- no longer is available but we will look into Growing Smiles (this will be tabled until next meeting)
- b. Nutrition for Learning Program
 - i. Looking for Volunteers to head the program for the school
 - ii. Motions:
 - a) Need motion to cover up to 15\$ per student for year end field trips if the council has the funds Vanessa L motioned and Larece Seconded All in favor Approved
 - b) Need school council to to pay the hot lunch monthly on the school visa Kim G motioned, Vanessa L seconded it All in Favor - Approved

- c) Motion on the floor to transfer 8904.62 from the hot lunch account to the school council account leaving 1000\$ for start up costs Kim G motioned, Novaley Seconded it All in favor - Approved
- d) Grade three field trip motion to cover bussing up to 3000\$ as per the letter submitted Vanessa L motioned, Donna N seconded it - All in Favor - Approved

c. Bouquets

- Bouquet to the school for amazing communication - all information is available on every possible platform, schoology, facebook, website, teacher communication, paperwork send home
- To all the staff for the amazing smooth start up very appreciated
- Coaches who are volunteering their time to support running and volleyball

d. Next Meeting

- i. **Proposed Dates: Nov 13 time to be 5:30 - 6:30**

Jan 22nd

Mar 18th

May 13th

- e. Adjournment / Prayer: Teresa led the council in a closing prayer and meeting was adjourned at 6:03pm