

St. Martin de Porres School
School Council Minutes- November 1, 2022@ 7pm.

1.0 Call to Order -Leah Christiansen, called the meeting to order at 7:02pm

2.0 Opening Prayer- Mrs. Arsenault

3.0 Review of the Agenda - The agenda was adopted as read.

4.0 **School Council Executive Elections:**

Chair- Leah Christiansen

Vice-Chair- Jennica Taylor

Treasurer- Erika Svanes

Secretary- Leah McPherson

5.0 Business

5.1.1 Read-a-thon Update

- We raised a total of \$17, 970.15
- Thank you to all the volunteers who helped with tallying money and creating the tax receipt spreadsheet Oct 24 and Oct 25th.
- We plan to have tax receipts picked up and to mail out remaining receipts.
- Wrap up Student Assembly occurred Friday, October 28th at 2:30pm
- Ice Cream parties will take place Nov 4 for 5P and 3K and on Nov 7 for 2S and Kindergarten
- Gift cards were given to top 3 fundraisers ; \$100, \$50 and \$25
- Read-a-thon Spirit Day ideas were a bit hit!
 - Cozy up with a good book - Pyjama Day!- Sept 28
 - Hats of to reading - wear your favorite hat, crown or toque Oct 5
 - Team Up with a Good Book- Jersey Day! Oct 12
 - Sock it to Reading - wear your favorite crazy/cool/fun socks Oct 19
- Fish for Schools funding for our school- A letter submitted by Ms. Paetz. [School Wish list \\$1500](#)
- [Fish Sponsorship](#) The fish tank would be located in the Learning Commons and would be a joint task for both grade 5 classes. This program also can connect to grade 3 as they learn about life cycles. At the end of the project, when the fish are able to be released, the grade 5 classes will go on a field trip to study a local stocked pond as a conclusion to the wetland unit and each student will release their very own Rainbow Trout.

6.0 Committee Reports/ Chairs.

6.1.1 Dawe Run - Sept. 20, 2022 (water and granola bars were purchased approx \$50- 70)

6.1.2 Fundraising- Read-a-thon- Campaign Sept 26- Oct. 24, 2022

6.1.3 Staff Appreciation- **Staff Meals** - PTI (Nov 8/9 - Mar 22/23) Increasing budget for Staff meals, Boston Pizza Nov 9th. Teacher Appreciation week (May 1-5)

6.1.4 Winter Fun Night / Family Dance- (2 chairs) No DJ. Leah to help.

6.1.5 Shrove Tuesday- (1 chair) - *Shrove Tuesday is Feb 21, 2023 which is during winter break this year so it will be celebrated in advance on Feb 14.

- 6.1.6 Family Fun Night/ Carnival- (2 chairs)- end of April date (last Thursday in April)..Amanda Dawson will help
- 6.1.7 Grade 5 Farewell-June 20 Sacred Heart Church @ 11am... Dianna will Chair. Leah will help.
- 6.1.8 Summer Fun Day at the Dawe (swimming Grades 3-5; splash park Grades K-2) Capstone as option for K-2- (1 chairperson, 1 staff member)
- 6.1.9 Hot Lunch- Heather McPherson & team... Dates include October 12 (Wednesday), Nov. 3 (Thursday), Nov. 23 (Wednesday), Dec. 15 (Thursday) Look into changing wording on the donation button.
- 6.2.1 Ask Parents if a recorder is needed before providing new ones in music.
- 6.2.2 Learn to Curl- option to purchase equipment and bring someone in to facilitate.
- 6.2.3 Trout Project- \$500 will be provided from School Council.
- 7.0 Treasurer's Report- Erika Svanes
Balance is \$6,207 (estimated balance) + Read aThon funds
- 8.0 Principal Report- Mme de Champlain (**included in this document**)
- 9.0 New Business:
 - 9.1.1 **Alberta School Council Engagement Grant. \$500 per School Council**
Initial discussions with RDCRS in the usage of the \$500 grant encompassed the idea of increasing the speaking series to 5 parent/speaker engagement sessions. These sessions would be provided to all parents of RDCRS and would be 5 subject areas based on RDCRS School Council feedback. Do we have any speaker ideas to share?

Is there an option to purchase online speaker videos instead of in person sessions?
Can we provide coffee in the mornings for parents as an option to engage parents in volunteer opportunities? Defer to email conversation.
 - 9.2.1 **Parent Letter to solicit volunteers**
A letter will be distributed to parents to solicit volunteers
- 10.0 Announcements/ Correspondence
 - 11.1.1 Next meeting will be Tuesday, January 17 , 2023.
- 12.0 Closing Reflection/ Prayer- Thank you Mrs. Arsenault
- 13.0 The meeting was adjourned at: 8:54pm

St. Martin de Porres Principal's Report - November 1, 2022

Faith in our School...

- A big thank you to Mrs. Walsh and her grade 1s for leading our Thanksgiving Liturgy on October 6 at the school. It was a beautiful celebration and once again it was so great to welcome back our St. Martin de Porres choir! We were so very proud of our students for being so respectful in sharing their faith with our school community!
- All Saints' Day is a Catholic - Christian festival which falls each year on 1st November. It is a time when Christians remember all of the saints who have died and the wonderful things they have accomplished. Today our students had the opportunity to encounter 5 different Saints by 5 guest presenters who visited our school. After our "Encounters With The Saints," individual classes participated in a sharing circle to share what they learned about saints, what saint was their favorite or how they can encounter saints in their lives? A BIG thank you to Mrs. Arsenault for leading this activity!

Parent Teacher Conferences

- Both our teachers and our parents were surveyed in regards to Parent Teacher Conferences options. Last school year we set up a hybrid model of Parent Teacher Interviews through in person and through Google Meet/phone calls. This provided families the flexibility of either being in person at the school or in the comfort of their own home. We are proposing to utilize a hybrid model for this November's Parent Teacher Conferences including the options of being in person or by phone call.
- A total of 143 parents responded to our survey with 39.2 % selecting in person conferences and 61.5% selecting hybrid model including the option of both in person and by phone. Due to the strong parent and teacher response we will continue with a hybrid model this year.


Fall Create

- Our first Fall Create was a huge success! This year, we paired up our Kindergarten and Grade 1 students with our Grade 5 students. It was a great way for our Grade 5s to show leadership in our school.

What's New at St. Martin de Porres

- We are preparing for our Christmas production of *Isaiah Jones*! Rehearsals are already underway and we are excited to see the finished product on December 21-22 at Red Deer Polytechnic. Please mark your calendars.
- We thank in advance Miss DeGraff, our director, Mrs. Arsenault, our choral director and Mrs. Nightingale, our choreographer. We certainly appreciate all the work they are doing behind the scenes!

Safety Campaign at St. Martin de Porres

- Thank you again to our parents for their patience with the road construction by the City of Red Deer. Although the construction is still not complete, we hope it will be complete soon.
- We have begun a parking lot and pedestrian safety campaign at our school. Students are being taught safety lessons within their classroom. Students are being taught safe places to walk, where to meet their parents and cross the street. In addition, students will be taught that the staff parking lot is a Danger Zone and that it is not safe to walk there.  Parking Lot/School Safety SMP 2022

Parent Communication

- Parents are always welcome and encouraged to address questions or concerns directly with the classroom teacher or the school principal.

Wishing our entire St. Martin de Porres School Community a blessed 2022-2023! God Bless!

