

St. Martin de Porres School
School Council Agenda - January 20, 2025

1.0	Call to Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tony Skorjanc called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.
2.0	Opening Prayer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mme de Champlain read a beautiful prayer written by a grade 4 student to open our meeting.
3.0	Review of the Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added in new business
4.0	School Council Executive Elections	Chair- Jennica Taylor Vice-Chair- Tony Skorjanc Treasurer- Amanda O'Conner Secretary- Stephanie McLean
5.0	Committee Reports	<p>5.1. Staff Appreciation Parent-Teacher Interviews (March 19/20)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask the staff to make suggestions and "vote" on a place to eat <p>Staff Appreciation Week (May 5-9)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look at signing up online for a potluck document where we ask our parent community to sign up to bring items and to send requests out to parents 5.1.1: Volunteers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask parents to sign up <p>5.2 SMP Winter Wonderland Dance (Jan. 16)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Big thank you to Middle School Student, Olive McPherson, who made the playlist and to Tony for being our DJ! It was a big success! Next time, we will not be using snowballs as it encourages children to run rather than dance and could potentially be a safety issue. <p>5.3 Family Valentine's Day Skate and Sled (Feb. 13) Cancelled due to extreme cold weather</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 - 7:30 (Skate Shack will open at 5:30) Volunteers needed to run the evening (Tony will ask Jennica for the list of volunteers from last year and find out who made the hot chocolate) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open the Shack, Set up food/drink Clean up An idea was brought forth....having someone man the food/drink table and giving the student a stamp on their hand once they have received their hot chocolate and cookies to ensure everyone gets a treat! <p>5.4 Shrove Tuesday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> March 4th, 2025 Pancakes and sausages- please note sausages will be cooked the night before by parents Volunteers will be needed (Dorice will send an all-call for volunteers) <p>5.5 Grade 5 Farewell</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> June 18th @ Sacred Heart @ 10:00 a.m. Tabled until next meeting <p>5.6 Summer Fun Day @ Dawe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amanda will communicate with the City of Red Deer to secure the Dawe swimming pool.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dorice will look to the end of June dates and see what would work for Grades 3-5. • Stephanie will ask Grades K, 1 & 2s to see what they'd like to do.
	<p>5.7 Gaga Ball Pit Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is ordered and will be delivered in the Spring. • A committee should be organized in the future for the build. • Tabled to the next meeting.
6.0 New Business	<p>6.1 Art Enhancement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pound It Studios will be in Feb. 25 - Feb. 28 for a residency. • Cost will be \$1890 + GST <p>6.2 Joint School Council Meeting with Trustees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February 26th, 2025 6:00 - 7:30 @ Montfort Centre <p>6.3 Climbing Wall in Gym</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8ft x 20ft kits- would fit well on the Northwest wall (back of gym) • Tony found a company: Gopher (Everlast distributor) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Quote for a basic wall: \$8446.45 (including shipping, padding & hook system for it to fold up into the wall) • On January 31st this idea will be brought to the staff to discuss and ask for feedback. • This idea was supported by staff <p>6.4 Clothing for Kids</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could we make a Facebook Group/Page for parents to communicate with each other as a way for parents to share clothing items with other families or to give away things? • A volunteer will go to Penhold School to see how they organize their giveaway list. <p>6.5 Stage in the Gym</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are a Fine Arts School but we don't have a stage • We will table this idea and come back to it once we have proposed this idea to the Facilities Department for feedback and guidance.
7.0 Principal Report	<p>7.1 Enrollment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently at 279 students • Our gym is a busy place at lunch time! A big thank you to Mrs. Nightingale, Ms. Matier, Ms. Arsenault, Mrs. Walsh, Mme Kulczycki and Mr. Touchette for having so many activities for our students including Dance K-2, Dance 3-5, Choir 3-5 and Grade 5 Basketball for Girls and Boys!
8.0 Trustee's Report	<p>Nominations are now open for the next RDCRS Board of Trustees election. The City of Red Deer manages the election for RDCRS, so check their website for the appropriate forms and more information. Watch for information sessions to be held this spring. The election is Oct. 20, 2025.</p> <p>There are upcoming changes to transportation eligibility. The government of Alberta had previously announced a change in eligibility for K-6 students, from 2.4 km to 1 km; and for 7-12 students, from 2.4 km to 2 km. RDCRS implemented these new distances this past September. The government has again changed the eligibility distances, however, for K-6 students, from 1 km to 1.6 km (7-12 students remain at 2 km). This will be in effect for the start of the 2025/26 school year. Watch for communication from RDCRS about this change.</p>

	Trustees have an upcoming meeting with local MLAs as part of our regular advocacy work. Topics of discussion will include transportation changes, class size concerns, budget concerns and pressures, new early learning testing, and a new school in Sylvan Lake. 2025/2026 school calendars have been approved; find them here .
9.0 Announcements/ Correspondence	9.1: Next meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• TBD
10.0 Closing Reflection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thank you to everyone who came out on this cold evening to join us. A special thank you to Mrs. Anne Marie Watson, School Board Chair, for coming to our meeting and joining us!
11.0 Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Our meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.