



**Bishop David Motiuk**

Catholic Elementary/Junior High School

## **School Advisory Council & LF Fundraising Association**

**Meeting Date: November 13, 2025 @ 6pm in the Library/Teams online**

**Present:** Dwayne Vodden, Chair SAC  
Jessica Gordon, Secretary SAC/LFFA  
Jennifer Gallant, Volunteer Coordinator SAC  
Terry Volk, Principal  
John Edwards, Assistant Principal  
Joseph Estephan, Assistant Principal  
Christine Santin, Teacher Representative

**9 people attended the meeting (7 in person and 2 online).**

### **SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING #2 2025-2026**

#### **I. CALLED TO ORDER – 6:05 PM**

- A. Opening Prayer
- B. Treaty 6 Acknowledgement
- C. Roll Call
- D. Previous Minutes Accepted – Jenn G motioned to accept, and Jess G seconded
- E. Matters arising from the minutes

-Dwayne wanted to clarify if we needed to include the names of the council members present at the meeting in the minutes. It was agreed that we would keep the names as done in past years. Will continue to include a total number of people in attendance (both in person and online).

#### **II. BUSINESS OF THE MEETING**

##### **A. New Business:**

- 1. Volunteer Coordinator Report – Presented by Jennifer G.

-Lots of work goes in to coordinating volunteers for the school. Mrs. Breen and Jenn G have been working together to ensure volunteers are in place when needed. A spreadsheet was created and parents can email Mrs. Breen for access to the spreadsheet to sign up for different volunteer positions.

-Teachers can talk to Mrs. Breen to add their volunteer requests to the spreadsheet with specific dates, times and duties needed.

-Another email will be sent to all parents to invite anyone wishing to volunteer to reach out to Mrs. Breen for access to the volunteer spreadsheet.



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-Volunteer committee is new and evolving - Jenn open to suggestions!

### 2. Operating Procedures – Presented by Dwayne V.

-At our next school council meeting, we will be reviewing and making any amendments to our Operating Procedures. Operating Procedures can be viewed on the Bishop David Motiuk school website. Please reach out if there are any changes you'd like to make or you can vote to leave them "as is".

### B. Admin Report: Presented by Principal Volk

Normally we would be reviewing PAT and Assurance Survey Results right around now, but they are currently embargoed, so we are not able to discuss them. We can let you know that based on our marks from June, our results should be consistent with prior years. Marks from June were lower than what we hoped for in math. So, we are going to add that as a focus again in our School Plan.

Right now, we are dealing with items that have been impacted by the Teachers' strike in October.

### 1. Teacher Morale

One of our primary focuses right now is supporting teacher morale. Understandably, many teachers are feeling demoralized, unappreciated, and, in some cases, deeply discouraged. Our division chaplain, Fr. Glenn, has described much of what teachers are experiencing as a form of "moral trauma." Teachers entered the strike with sincere and principled intentions, advocating for class size and complexity concerns that directly affect student learning. There was a genuine belief that, even if negotiations stalled, things would eventually be settled through binding arbitration, which would involve some give and take on both sides. That did not happen and the notwithstanding clause was used to legislate teachers back to work.

Teachers are also deeply affected by the instructional time that was lost during the strike. Many are worried not only about helping students regain momentum, but also that after sacrificing that time for what they believed was a principled stand, they have little to show for it. The financial loss was significant, and many teachers know it will take years to recover. This has intensified the disappointment and fatigue some are feeling.

Despite these challenges, our teachers continue to show remarkable dedication. They are doing well overall, yet many feel underappreciated—particularly regarding extracurricular commitments such as choir, clubs, and teams. These activities rely entirely on teachers' volunteer time, often at the expense of time with their own families. Teachers care deeply about their students and remain committed to honouring their extracurricular responsibilities for this school year. However, we may see fewer teachers taking on these roles next year as they work to rebuild balance and protect their well-being. So one of our focuses will be on educating parents as to what a teachers' job actually entails, since there are so many misconceptions about what teachers do.



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Dwayne and Jenn G asked what can we do to help? Parents and students are encouraged to just keep letting teachers know that they are appreciated 😊 Special thank you to Mrs. Santin for representing the teachers at our SAC meetings!

### 2. IB Self-Study and Evaluation

As you know, our IB self-study and evaluation visit was scheduled for this year. With the strike, we lost a great deal of time in getting our initial paperwork ready. It is important that the process be authentic and that teachers have time to reflect on what we have achieved. The problem is that IB is already more work for teachers than is expected in a regular school and teachers are feeling demoralized and stressed right now, which complicates things. So, with the support of the division, we asked for and received an extension for our self-study and evaluation. Our paperwork will be submitted by June and our visit will be in October of next year.

### 3. Class Size/Complexity Information

We are currently working on gathering class size/complexity information to be submitted to the government. The timeline is tight – due next week. We are lucky in that our instructional coaches are ultra efficient and we have been keeping records of the type Alberta Education is looking for – which are quite complex. They include information such as:

Full Time Equivalents (FTE) for staff. This includes:

- • Full-time and Part-time teachers (certificated teachers only)
- • Principal/School Leader
- • Assistant/Vice Principal
- • Educational Assistants
- • Counselors
- • Curriculum/Learning Leaders
- • Inclusive/Diverse Education Coordinators
- • Coaches/Teaching Supports
- Non-teaching staff members

\*Clerical/Custodial staff are not included in counts.



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### Classroom Level Data

- Class size
- Class composition:
- Students with severe codes
- Students with mild/moderate codes
- Refugee students
- FNMI students
- EAL students
- Students waitlisted for assessments
- Gifted and talented students
- Other students with complex needs
- Incidents of Aggression or Violence (moderate or severe risk)

Many schools are asking their teachers to complete this data. We are trying to avoid that, since our teachers are already feeling overloaded (Mrs. Volk and Miss Abraham collecting and submitting data).

C. **IB Report:** Presented by Principal Volk with above admin report

D. **Calendar Of Events:** Presented by Joe E

#### **October**

Oct 2 – Cross Country Run MYP @ Rundle Park. Races begin at 12:30pm-2:15pm.

Saturday, Oct 4 – Band 7 Jumpstart program at Oscar Romero High School

Sunday, Oct 5 – World Teacher's Day

Oct 6 – First Day of Strike

Oct 9 – The government issues a lockout

Oct 27 - The Alberta government invoked the notwithstanding clause (Section 33 of the Canadian Charter) as part of its Back-to-School Act (Bill 2) on October 27/28, 2025.

Oct 29 – Teachers back to school.

Oct 31 – Halloween! We had a dance for each grade level in the gym. We also had a Spooky



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Haunted House set-up in our Drama classroom, hosted by the Leadership Club.

### November

IB Learner Profile of the Month – Inquirers

We continue to have student teachers from the U of A (Observation Field Experience, Introductory Field Experience, and Advanced Field Experience)

Teachers are graciously continuing to volunteer their time for sports, such as volleyball, and Choir, Gathering Circle, Dungeons and Dragons Club, etc. THANK YOU TEACHERS!

- Volleyball practices continue – Season starts Nov 19th (Boys) and 20th (Girls).

Regular Season consists of 3 games, and a Quarter Final playoff game. Semi-finals and Final will be determined on winning teams in the quarter final. Complete season ends December 17.

November 7 -School-wide Remembrance Day Ceremony led by Ms. Carignan, Ms. Barnett, Ms. Manji, and Ms. Pagé. Also, we welcomed guests, like Mr. Gallant and Father Julian, to support us in prayer and understanding what Remembrance Day is all about. It was also nice to have 3 of our students who are part of the Air Cadets dressed in uniform.

November 10-12 Fall Break

November 14 - Fish Scale Art project for all Grades K-6 students.

November 18 & 19 Grade 6 Immunizations

November 19 -Grade 4 Bible Ceremony – 9am in the Library

November 21 -School Picture Retakes

November 24-27 -Scholastic Book Fair

November 27 -Conferences (12:30-4pm) (4:45-6:45pm)

-PYP will do a student-led conference in their classrooms

-MYP will do a parent-teacher interview in the gymnasium

November 28- Dream Builders Movie afternoon. Fundraiser for the Edmonton Catholic Schools Foundation, Dream Builders campaign. Students will be treated to a movie, and with a small donation will receive a juice box or pop, with a bag of chips.

### December

IB Learner Profile – Open-minded

December 3 – Christmas Concert (this will be a one-night event) 6:30 PM Doors Open, Performance at 7pm at West Meadows Baptist Church.

December 16 - Advent mass at 10am @ St. Thomas More Catholic Church

December 18 -Full Day of classes (Thursday)

December 19 -Half-day of classes. Celebration and Christmas Caroling at 9am in the gym

December 20 – January 4 -Christmas Break (returning January 5)

\*There will be no Sleigh rides this year but we heard our Elf will be back and Santa will be making a visit\*

### III. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 6:51 PM – Dwayne V motioned to accept, and Jenn G seconded





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Next meeting will be on Wednesday, December, 10 2025, at 6:00 PM in the Library/Teams online.

### **LEWIS FARMS (LF) FUNDRAISING ASSOCIATION MEETING 2025-2026**

Secretary only member present, no meeting held. Next meeting will be Dec 10 at 6pm in the Library.