

Saint Francis de Sales School

Parish Education Committee

Agenda

November **20**, 2024 **6:30** pm

Meeting called to order at 6:37 pm by Mr. Franco Caligiuri

Opening prayer and reflections - Faith Development: *Living, Celebrating and Proclaiming our Faith!* (10 minutes)

1. **Prayer - Fr. Mark**

For Reflection Time: (brief time of sharing)

**An excerpt from Pope Francis' ENCYCLICAL LETTER - DILEXIT NOS
"He loved us" (Oct. 24, 2024).**

1. "HE LOVED US", Saint Paul says of Christ (cf. Rom 8:37), in order to make us realize that nothing can ever "separate us" from that love (Rom 8:39). Paul could say this with certainty because Jesus himself had told his disciples, "I have loved you" (Jn 15:9, 12). Even now, the Lord says to us, "I have called you friends" (Jn 15:15). His open heart has gone before us and waits for us, unconditionally, asking only to offer us his love and friendship. For "he loved us first" (cf. 1 Jn 4:10). Because of Jesus, "we have come to know and believe in the love that God has for us" (1 Jn 4:16).

Special Section on St. Francis de Sales...

114. In modern times, mention should be made of the important contribution of Saint Francis de Sales. Francis frequently contemplated Christ's open heart, which invites us to dwell therein, in a personal relationship of love that sheds light on the mysteries of his life. In his writings, the saintly Doctor of the Church opposes a rigorous morality and a legalistic piety by presenting the heart of Jesus as a summons to complete trust in the mysterious working of his grace. We see this expressed in his letter to Saint Jane Francis de Chantal: "I am certain that we will remain no longer in ourselves... but dwell forever in the Lord's wounded side, for apart from him not only can we do nothing, but even if we were able, we would lack the desire to do anything".

115. For Francis de Sales, true devotion had nothing to do with superstition or perfunctory piety, since it entails a personal relationship in which each of us feels uniquely and individually known and loved by Christ. “This most adorable and lovable heart of our Master, burning with the love which he professes to us, [is] a heart on which all our names are written... Surely it is a source of profound consolation to know that we are loved so deeply by our Lord, who constantly carries us in his heart”. [104] With the image of our names written on the heart of Christ, Saint Francis sought to express the extent to which Christ’s love for each of us is not something abstract and generic, but utterly personal, enabling each believer to feel known and respected for who he or she is. [...]

117. [...] Faithful to his teaching on the sanctification of ordinary life, Francis proposes that this experience [prayerfully drawing close to Our Lord’s loving heart] take place in the midst of the activities, tasks and obligations of our daily existence. “You asked me how souls that are attracted in prayer to this holy simplicity, to this perfect abandonment in God, should conduct themselves in all their actions? I would reply that, not only in prayer, but also in the conduct of everyday life they should advance always in the spirit of simplicity, abandoning and completely surrendering their soul, their actions and their accomplishments to God’s will. And to do so with a love marked by perfect and absolute trust, abandoning themselves to grace and to the care of the eternal love that divine Providence feels for them”. [109]

2. Approval of Agenda (5 minutes)

MOTION: Accept the Agenda (Mrs. Paula Ramor, Mr. Anthony Tillman)

3. Adoption / Review of Minutes (5 minutes)

MOTION: Accept the Minutes (Mrs. Leah Canete, Mr. Anthony Tillman)

4. Reports (45 minutes)

Pastor	Father Mark McGuckin
Assistant Pastor	Father Medard Kamanzi (regrets)
Principal	Mrs. Irene Wihak
Teachers' Representative	Mr. Greg Chapman
Chair	Mr. Franco Caligiuri
Treasurer	Mr. Anthony Tillman
Vice Chair	Ms Rossa Sung
Policy/Procedures	Ms Rossa Sung
Secretary	Mrs. Jacqueline Lamasan
Facility and Maintenance/Tech	Mrs. Leah Canete
Community Engagement	Mrs. Paula Ramor Mr. Chris Chung (regrets)

Reports

Fr. Mark McGuckin (7:01 pm)

- Grateful for the thoughtfulness and meaningfulness of the recent Remembrance Day Assembly
- Inspired as classes choose their patron saint for the Advent season
- Recent priest study week in Harrison, BC. Great opportunities for insight and sharing.
- Archbishop's Dinner this past Monday. Theme of Catholic Education. Archbishop Michael Miller's last dinner and he spoke about his highlights during his tenure in the Vancouver Archdiocese.
- Three weeks left for Fall Alpha and RCIA is going well
- Increased student participation serving at Mass on weekends
- Census 2024: our parish has grown 6% since last year
- Will be preparing for the St. Francis de Sales Feast Day on Jan. 24

Mrs. Wihak (7:09 pm)

- As per report sent out in advance
- School Safety report: recent playground drill practiced with success. Drill was observed by an RCMP member for feedback. Recommended to use an Air Horn in the future. A future drill will be done as a surprise for further practice.

Mr. Chapman (7:18 pm)

- Teachers are currently working on reporting and communication of learning
- Group of teachers from SFdS will be marking the FSA's

- Sports updates. Currently basketball season.
- Upcoming Pro-D sessions are being planned

Mr. Anthony Tillman (7:19 pm)

- Budget discussed
- SFdS logo clothing discussed. Opportunity for students, coaches, parents.
- Motion to approve the financial statement for Oct. 31: (First: Mrs. Paula Ramor, Second: Mrs. Jacqueline Lamasan)

Mrs. Jacqueline Lamasan (7:37 pm)

- The PEC's role in correspondence procedures was discussed. The PEC will put inquiring families in contact with the corresponding committee directly
- If the inquirer is unsatisfied, then they can reach out to the PEC
- The PEC does not give specific guidelines to the committees as each event is unique and is known best by the event coordinators
- Action: let the PEC know if you are increasing your price by a large amount. Please increase by a small percentage each year so that people are not surprised by a large increase.

Ms. Leah Canete (7:50 pm)

- As per report sent out in advance
- No major maintenance issues
- Regular maintenance updates discussed
- An insurance company inspector will come and assess safe practices
- Parish is prepared with salt for the upcoming winter season

Mrs. Paula Ramor and Mr. Chris Chung (7:55 pm)

- As per report sent out in advance
- Working on finding some additional volunteers for Readathon
- Solicitations Team is still in the planning stages
- Walkathon Ad Hoc hours are still being approved
- Very appreciative that the Walkathon Committee thanked parishioners at the weekend Masses

Mr. Franco Caligiuri (8:09 pm)

- Had the first bi-annual meeting with the teachers this year
- The PEC will now be represented by Mrs. Rossa Sung at these meetings
- The PEC wants the staff to feel heard
- New teachers are feeling very welcomed
- The increase in the field trip budget has been appreciated by staff

5. Correspondence (5 minutes) - one item discussed at length

6. Policy Review - Mrs. Rossa Sung #302 revision (15 minutes)

- Discussed the revisions to policy 302 (the policy for Major Complaints)
- Significant change is that the Associate Superintendent of HR needs to be copied on communication regarding Major Complaints
- New CISVA Board of Directors process regarding Major Complaints
- This policy will continue to be researched and will reach out to the policy contact at CISVA for further clarification

7. Ongoing Business/Action

- Paula: Continue working on the Solicitations Team (likely to be in effect for the next school year)
- School safety will be discussed as a regular agenda item
- Community, fundraising event: 3v3 basketball tournament, 5v5 soccer tournament
- How to support visual arts programming has been brought to the staff for more detailed discussion

-Staff discussed at a staff meeting. Many teachers are in agreement. They are in the process of committing to one project per class this year.

- Continue discussing SFdS logo merchandise
- Continue discussing how to support staff members with continued education

8. New Business (30 min)

A. Bringing back the Volunteer of the Month recognition (Mrs. Unger)

B. December meeting discussed

9. In Camera - two items discussed

Closing Prayer

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 18 @ 6:00 pm

Meeting concluded at 9:45 pm.

Phase A of the Strategic Plan – Our Ideal Future State:

Our Vision - 2025

We are a Catholic School, instilling the knowledge of Christ's love
and mercy in our community.

Our students ignite their passion and potential to love and serve others
as Jesus would, in our safe and inspiring learning environment.

Our Mission Statement

We are a Christ-centered Parish School that seeks to serve the whole child
– intellectually, spiritually, physically and emotionally – through the development of
faith, family and community.

We use dynamic learning opportunities to produce resilient Catholics who lead by example and
thrive in a global community.

Our Core Values

F – Faith: Living actions that show confidence and trust in the love of God

L – Learn: Developing creative and critical thinkers whose actions contribute to a better
world

A – Achieve: Committing and focusing on reaching your goals

M – Mercy: Demonstrating the love and forgiveness of Jesus with one another every day

E – Engage: Choosing to be actively involved in the life of our school

S – Serve: Seeking and accepting the call to act for the greater good

Our Rallying Cry

“Ignite the Saint Within”

