

**Saint Francis de Sales School**

Parish Education Committee

Minutes

January 16, 2025

Meeting commenced at **6:30** pm by Mr. Franco Caligiuri

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

1. Prayer/Reflection - **Fr. Mark (lectio divina)**

An excerpt from SPES NON CONFUNDIT ("Hope Does Not Disappoint") by Pope Francis

**For the JUBILEE YEAR 2025: Pilgrims of Hope**

11. Signs of hope should also be shown to the *sick*, at home or in hospital. Their sufferings can be allayed by the closeness and affection of those who visit them. Works of mercy are also works of hope that give rise to immense gratitude. Gratitude should likewise be shown to all those healthcare workers who, often in precarious conditions, carry out their mission with constant care and concern for the sick and for those who are most vulnerable.

Inclusive attention should also be given to all those in particularly difficult situations, who experience their own weaknesses and limitations, especially those affected by illnesses or disabilities that severely restrict their personal independence and freedom. Care given to them is a hymn to human dignity, a song of hope that calls for the choral participation of society as a whole.

12. Signs of hope are also needed by those who are the very embodiment of hope, namely, *the young*. Sadly, they often see their dreams and aspirations frustrated. We must not disappoint them, for the future depends on their enthusiasm. It is gratifying to see the energy they demonstrate, for example, by rolling up their sleeves and volunteering to help when disasters strike and people are in need. Yet it is sad to see young people who are without hope, who face an uncertain and unpromising future, who lack employment or job security, or realistic prospects after finishing school. Without the hope that their dreams can come true, they will inevitably grow discouraged and listless.

Escaping into drugs, risk-taking and the pursuit of momentary pleasure does greater harm to them in particular, since it closes them to life's beauty and richness, and can lead to depression and even self-destructive actions. For this reason, the Jubilee should inspire the Church to make greater efforts to reach out to them. [...]

13. Signs of hope should also be present for *migrants* who leave their homelands behind in search of a better life for themselves and for their families. Their expectations must not be frustrated by prejudice and rejection. A spirit of welcome, which embraces everyone with respect for his or her dignity, should be accompanied by a sense of responsibility, lest anyone be denied the right to a dignified existence. [...]

May the Christian community always be prepared to defend the rights of those who are most vulnerable, opening wide its doors to welcome them, lest anyone ever be robbed of the hope of a better future. May the Lord's words in the great parable of the Last Judgement always find an echo in our hearts: "I was a stranger and you welcomed me" for "just as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you did it to me" (*Mt 25:35.40*).

2. Approval of Agenda (5 minutes)

**MOTION:** Accept the Agenda (Ms. Rossa Sung, Mr. Chris Chung)

3. Adoption / Review of Minutes (5 minutes)

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

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
Parish - School community building initiative	Ms Rossa Sung
Secretary	Mrs. Jacqueline Lamasan
Facility and Maintenance/Tech	Mrs. Leah Canete

Community Engagement

Mrs. Paula Ramor

Mr. Chris Chung

## **Reports**

### **Fr. Mark McGuckin (7:00 pm)**

- We had our Confirmation Initiation last weekend. Gearing up for confirmation in the spring.
- Fr. Medard has returned home from Rwanda
- Gearing up for our SFdS Feast Day festivities – School Mass and Potluck
- Fr. Mark heading to a conference in Texas – Priests for Apostolic Age
- In the initial planning for our 4th session of Alpha beginning in the first week of Easter. Will discuss opening parent volunteer opportunities.
- Anticipating 12-13 people to be baptized this Easter
- CWL elections coming up in February
- Share Lent Caritas Development and Peace starting up again
- Our Seminarian was back for Christmas and had a wonderful time visiting the parish
- On an upcoming School Mass, a students will have a Rite of Reception into the Faith

### **Ms. Wihak (7:09 pm)**

- As per report sent out in advance
- School safety discussed
- Policy changes discussed (Staff Mileage and School Completion Certificate)
- Open house was attended by 27 families last night
- French instruction discussed

### **Mr. Chapman (7:20 pm)**

- Technology discussed
- Mr. Chapman is enrolled in a course offered by UBC – AI in K-12 Education
- Gr. 6-7 students took part in a Safer Schools Together presentation
- Spoke with Real Hip to initiate our merchandise webstore
- Will ask Real Hip about samples and store credit (to purchase for coaches)

### **Mr. Franco Caligiuri (7:37 pm)**

- Met with Spring Fair Coordinator
- Discussed having 3:3 basketball tournament in coordination with the Spring Fair
- The basketball games will begin shortly before the fair and the food trucks will be closer to the basketball area
- Spring Fair layout was discussed
- Saturday May 24 is Spring Fair and Saturday Mass will be postponed to 7pm

**Mr. Anthony Tillman (7:44 pm)**

- Updated financials discussed
- Fundraising totals discussed

**Ms. Rossa Sung (7:54 pm)**

- Creative ways to bridge the school and parish community
- Proposal for a social event for the community: The UBC Longest Day Race
- Community building opportunities
- Proposal for an SFdS group – SFdS Saints in Training (Friday, June 13 at 6:00 pm)
- Organization and potential coordinators discussed
- Dinner included (BBQ) in the registration

**Mrs. Jacqueline Lamasan (8:17 pm)**

- Nothing to report

**Mrs. Leah Canete (8:17 pm)**

- Maintenance discussed as per report sent out in advance
- Leak in boiler system and repair discussed

**Mr. Chris Chung and Mrs. Paula Ramor (8:22 pm)**

- As per report sent out in advance
- 19 families still do not have check marks for fundraising
- Met with Spring Fair Coordinators, looked at parent volunteers. Still in need of 30 volunteers.
- We did not receive the grant from the City of Burnaby. Looking at updating the wording of the grant for next year.
- Event guidelines presented and discussed
- Fundraising totals discussed
- Will reach out to last year's coordinators for Book Swap and Plant Sales
- Spring Fair Coordinator Roles will be released.
- Home reading bags will be discussed

5. Correspondence (5 minutes) – None

6. Parish - School community building initiative - (15 minutes)  
-Discussed above

7. Ongoing Business/Action

- 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

## 8. New Business (30 min)

- A. Volunteer of the Month recognition discussed
- B. Registration Package Updates approval
- C. Tuition for next school year (CISVA mandated range is \$416-\$463); \*Overall 5%

2023-24; 2024-25	CATEGORY 1	CAT 2 (11 students; 10 families)	CAT 3 (3 students; 3 families)
1 child	\$364 \$400 <b>\$420</b>	\$527 <b>\$580</b>	\$623 <b>\$685</b>
2	\$655 <b>\$721</b>	\$948 <b>\$1043</b>	\$1116 <b>\$1228</b>
3 or more	\$828 <b>\$911</b>	\$1337 <b>\$1471</b>	\$1574 <b>\$1731</b>

\*Fees will not increase (\$1200 + \$800)

\*Tech fee, General fee etc. will not increase

- Vote: all in favour for the tuition increase of 5% and no changes to fees

\*\*Next meeting: formalize teacher education bursary

## 9. In Camera - one staffing item discussed

## Closing Prayer

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 19 @ 6:30 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”***