



JOAN CARR

Catholic Elementary/Junior High School

1140 Keswick Drive SW
Edmonton, AB T6W 4J4
Phone: 780-670-2944

Email: 2435web@ecsd.net
Website: joancarr.ecsd.net



Joan Carr School Council

Minutes

November 2, 2022 – 6:00pm

Meeting held at Joan Carr Catholic Elementary/ Junior High School and online via Zoom

1. Call to Order: Chair Jonathan Seib called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm
2. School Report: Principal Darrin DeForge reported on highlight events from the school over the past 2 months:
 - a. Terry Fox Run raised \$826.00
 - b. Cohort involved in New Curriculum Professional Learning Sessions (ongoing)
 - c. Meet the Staff and Curriculum Information Evening Sept. 22
 - d. Elementary XC run
 - e. Soccer
 - f. Orange Shirt Day & School Opening Celebration Sept. 29
 - g. Read-In Week Oct. 3-7
 - h. Grand Opening celebration Oct. 6
 - i. Fire drills X2 and lockdown
 - j. Volleyball
 - k. Empower Reading groups started (10 students grade 3&4)

3. School Vision and Mission

Principal DeForge led school council in a recap of the results to date of Vision and Mission exercises completed by the school. As Joan Carr proceeds with its inaugural year, a school Vision and Mission statement must be developed. To this end, School faculty have undergone exercises to identify concepts, ideas, and values to be incorporated into the Vision and Mission statements. Students also participated in contributing to the Vision and Mission statement. Principal DeForge noted that the results of both sets of exercises seem to be providing consistent themes.

Principal DeForge, then asked members present in the meeting to take some time to brainstorm other ideas, themes, and proposals for the School's Vision and Mission statements. Following this individual brainstorming sessions, ideas were shared with the group and discussed. Some ideas included being welcomed, safe, inclusion and supports for students.

4. Mental Health Survey Results (feedback)

Principal DeForge distributed the results of a recent Mental Health Survey conducted among JCS' students. This survey asked various questions regarding student's current state of mental health and students' awareness of resources available to support student mental health. JCS' results were identified to be largely consistent with those found across the School District. Metrics where JCS' students trended below the Division's average were not statistically considered to be substantially concerning while several metrics were in fact, somewhat higher than the district average.

School Council discussed ways in which student mental health could continue to be advanced and potential causes. This included noting that many concerning aspects of mental health related to students' ongoing adjustment to regular school routine and social immersion following 2 years of disruption due to the COVID-19 epidemic and the remote schooling environment. Awareness of mental health resources (such as KIDS Help Phone) could be improved through posters or mention by teachers in classroom etc. Principal DeForge noted that he would work with faculty to identify ways in which these metrics could continue to be improved.

5. Operational Procedures

As recommended by the Alberta School Council Association, Joan Carr School Council requires operational guidelines to adhere to best practices with regard to its formation and organization. To this effect, Chair Jonathan Seib proposed to strike a subcommittee to draft a set of Operational Procedures to be presented to School Council at a subsequent meeting for discussion and ratification.

The following members volunteered to join the Operational Guidelines Subcommittee: Joanne Nash, Chantal Brimner, Cheylyn Nemeth, Brian Caveny, Patricia Lofiego

6. Upcoming Events For Information – The following information was provided for information to School Council

- a. Book Fair – JCS' Book Fair will run from November 18 to the 28th. Volunteer's are needed to setup and take down the Book Fair as well as to assist with selling books during the Demonstration of Learning on November 24.
- b. Facebook Group – Chair Jonathan Seib indicated that in an attempt to promote and make access to information easier, School Council would be establishing a private Facebook Group for members who wished to receive information regarding School Council activities can receive information. Parents/ School Council Members can request to join the private group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/joancarrsc>.

7. Additional Issues for discussion.

- a. Hiller Road and Keswick Drive Intersection - Chantal Brimner expressed concern on behalf of parents she'd recently spoken to regarding the lack of traffic control at the nearby intersection of Hiller Road and Keswick Drive. Since the start of school there has been increased traffic at that intersection from parents turning to drop students off. This has created concerns for parents/student who are walking across that intersection. Given that Hiller Road is a main thoroughfare it is expected to only continue to be a dangerous intersection without traffic lights / some form of traffic control. Jonathan Seib indicated that School Council could draft a letter and reach out to Tim Cartmell, the City Councillor for the area to discuss as an initial first step.