

**Immanuel Christian Secondary School Council Meeting
Thursday, September 22, 2022**

Meeting was held in the Learning Commons. Seven people were present.

Lisa Freyling welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

Marina Grant opened with prayer and a devotion.

Marina Grant reviewed the Minutes from June 2 meeting. Virtual meeting option was noted as business arising from the minutes and added to Members Business.

Mitchell Muizelaar provided the Society Board update. Highlights included:

- Executive Director, Monica Loewen, was hired.
- Director of Discipleship (DOD) hiring is in progress. The hiring committee will meet next week to review candidate applications.

Division Trustee & Executive Reports – Tyler Demers and Mike Nightingale were not present.

Principals Report – Matthew Bekkering

- Secondary school population of 278 students.
- Seven new staff were hired for this school year. Three teaching staff, 1 educational assistant, 1 school councilor, 1 office admin, 1 student support worker.
- Professional learning in October – In person teachers conference
- Kitchen renovations progressing well – possibly complete by Christmas
- Chapels continue with a variety of Pastors attending and speaking – all parents are welcome to attend
- CORE theme will be used again next year – focusing on building good habits spiritually and academically.
- Student activities have resumed, including grade 8 retreat to SABC, grade 9 potato picking
- A homework club has been established for students who require time and space to complete their homework under the supervision of teaching staff
- Explanation of why school council exists, our role and purpose was given to those in attendance.

Division School Council Update – Lisa presented an opportunity to join with District schools to host a speaker on Thursday, November 3. *Save the Kids* promotes a healthy balance between screens and human connection. Each school receives a \$500 parent engagement grant. It was agreed to allocate \$100 of this grant towards this event.

Note the following links for parent involvement:

- Parents can listen to school board meetings and participate within protocol

<https://youtube.com/channel/UCVBqwcL4AUmbkFF4IhIqPkA>

- Access to minutes via website <https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/board/board-meetings>

- Community Engagement website lethsdcommunityengagement.schoolsites.ca

Next Division School Council Meeting - October 3.

Members Business

- 2021-2022 Parent Engagement Grant (\$500) was used to purchase books and create a parent resource library. Six books were purchased and presented. A larger quantity of Faith for Exiles books have been purchased and will be given to parents attending the November 17 meeting and presentation by Matthew Bekkering.
- Parents knowledge and understanding of School Council was discussed. Suggestions on how to inform parents of School Councils purpose were made.

ACTION: Matthew to develop a short statement which explains why we have School Council. Email this to parents prior to next meeting.

- Discussion regarding Division Executive and Trustee appointments
- Chapel and new lyric slides were complimented
- Discussion regarding the Homework Club
- Powerschool was discussed – primary tool for teachers to communicate to Secondary school students and parents
- November 17, a virtual attendance option will be provided for parents.

ACTION: Matthew to create meeting and send link.

- Written request given to Principal Bekkering regarding the inclusion of hymns in each chapel.

Next meeting Thursday, November 17 at 7pm.

Lisa closed in prayer.