

ICSS School Council

Monday, June 9, 2025

Attendance: Marina Grant, Laura Hit, Sharla Hummel, Jodene Moradel, Nicole Williams

ICSS Representation: Matthew Bekkering, Danielle Friesen, Monica Loewen

Regrets: Carrie Boschman - Monica to take minutes

1. Welcome & Prayer - Marina
2. Opening Devotions - Nicole
3. Review Agenda & Minutes from Previous Meeting
 - Request to add Engagement Money to the agenda
 - Motion made by Nicole to approve the amended agenda, seconded by Danielle. Passed.
 - Motion made by Nicole to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Jodene. Passed.
4. Society Board Update - Monica
 - Been a good school year, busy planning for the fall
 - Several new families, excited about increased enrollment
 - Bits & Bytes tournament on Sept. 13; raises funds for both technology and capital improvements
 - High School Renovation project going well, will be completed over the summer
 - No construction projects at the elementary campus this summer
 - Question regarding capacity at each campus - both campuses have available capacity
5. Division Trustee Update - regrets
6. Division Executive Update - regrets
7. ICSS Teacher Update - Danielle
 - Wrapping up the year
 - 2nd annual house wrap-up activity for MS on June 20
 - Been a busy spring for high school students, including grad trip, Spring Musicales and Band/Choir concert
 - Questions/Comments:
 - i. Is MS going to Raymond Pool? Yes
 - ii. Are there activities after exams for MS students? MS students are not required to stay at school after they have completed their exam - parents are welcome to pick them up. For students who remain, there will be activities provided. Grade 6 students will not be at school on June 23 or 24.
 - iii. Are the grade 8 students going to Waterton? Yes, a paper permission form will go home on June 11, as well as an email providing details to MS parents regarding the next couple of weeks.
 - iv. Are parents able to come to the awards ceremony? Yes

- v. Thanks for the retro sports day for HS students, it was really fun for students.

8. ICSS Principal's Report - Matthew

- Chapel has wrapped up for the year, focusing on the theme of being peculiar. Final speaker was Danielle Friesen, sharing part of her story of God's faithfulness through difficulty. Also heard from Aaron Moore at Christian Ed Week chapel and from Marj Brouwer earlier in the year, also speaking to God's faithfulness during hardship.
- ICSS had several students submit artwork for Arts Alive & Well; congratulations to Jordyn Neels who received an honourable mention for her submission.
- Band/Choir concert took place last week and was a nice evening of worship
- Track & Field is now complete; Emmanuel Ishola participated in Provincials, earning a 7th place finish in the 200m.
- May 20 Professional Learning Day involved Jeremy Horlings of the PCCE, focusing on developing Habits of Learning; was a good day of reflection and clarification.
- Administration is currently developing the 2025/26 Assurance Plan; the 2024/25 Assurance Plan can be found on the ICSS website.
 - i. Looking at the results of the assurance survey, there is lots to celebrate.
 - ii. Areas of growth and focus in the upcoming assurance plan include:
 - 1. Student engagement in classes
 - 2. Essential questions, building on the work done in the Bible curriculum
 - 3. Focus on numeracy
 - 4. Building a sense of belonging at ICSS
 - 5. AI ethical guidelines
 - iii. Suggestions:
 - 1. Increased parent/family engagement and presence within ICSS, outside of athletics, more similar to opportunities at ICES (ex. Christmas Heritage Celebration).
 - 2. Supporting parents in helping their children with homework, specifically math
 - 3. Collaborating with Grade 4 & 5 math teachers on building math foundations needed for MS & HS math.
- Grade 12 graduation taking place on Wednesday, June 25 at 4:00 at Trinity Reformed Church
- Questions/Comments:
 - i. Is staffing remaining the same for the fall? Yes, the teaching staff remains the same, still sorting out details on support staff.
 - ii. Is there an expectation for teachers to update in Power School regularly? Not a prescriptive expectation, but there is an understanding that feedback is necessary.

- iii. Update on potential strike action? Affirmative strike authorization vote, strike vote results have not yet been released. While ICSS teachers will need to follow what the ATA recommends, the heart of ICSS teachers is to work and be with their students.

9. Division School Council Update - none

10. Members' Business

- Engagement Money Spending
 - i. Suggestion to purchase subscription to online math support (ie: ConMath) so that parents could access without having to pay
 - ii. Activity tied to open house in August, perhaps games, dunk tank, to encourage parents/families to linger at ICSS
 - iii. Matthew to confirm the deadline for spending the money.
- Does ICSS have a policy on the use of screens during breaks for MS, similar to ICES?
 - i. No, there are no strict guidelines.
- Concern regarding the shorts for the girls' volleyball team - they are quite inappropriate as they are too short.
 - i. Matthew to look further into this, with an eye to inseam length.
- Dress Code Policy - does the ICSS dress code apply to athletics? Does it apply to staff?
 - i. Yes, the dress code applies to staff.
 - ii. Different clothing is appropriate for different spaces/activities (ie: loose sleeves which would be fine in a classroom setting are not appropriate in the woodshop). What is appropriate for an athletic setting will look different than in the classroom.
- Suggestion for an activity - showing the Jonathan Haidt film (research on his book, The Anxious Generation) and making the opportunity available to the entire division.

11. Closing Prayer - Matt