

**Immanuel Christian Secondary School
School Council - April 14, 2025**

Attendance: Marina Grant, Nicole Williams, Sharla Hummel, Joseph & Jodene Moradel, Kevin & Agnes Juds, Tanya Koster, Monica Loewen, Danielle Friesen, Matthew Bekkering. Online: Carrie Boschman, Laura Hit, Michelle ___ and 2 more unknown

1. Marina Grant welcomed everyone and opened the meeting in devotions and prayer.
2. Marina presented the agenda for approval - the following additions were made to Members' Business: AI Guidelines, High Scheduling regarding Fine Arts, Club and Off Campus Opportunities. Danielle moved to accept the amended agenda, seconded by Sharla. Motion passed.
3. Marina presented the minutes of the November 13, 2024 and February 10, 2025 meetings for approval. Sharla moved to accept these minutes as presented, seconded by Nicole. Motion passed.
4. Monica presented an update from the Society office:
 - Spring Bazaar was a great success, thank you to everyone who volunteered and took part! Funds raised will total between \$75-80,000, to be directed towards the High School Modernization and Accessibility Project.
 - Christian Education Week - May 12-16, including all-school chapel on Monday, May 12 at 10:00, Legacy Staff Breakfast on Wednesday, May 14 and school community BBQ on Thursday, May 15.
 - High School Modernization and Accessibility Project beginning during Easter break with removal of bathrooms and will continue on, with the plans to be finished for the beginning of the new school year.
5. Division Trustee Update - Genny Steed sent regrets.
6. Division Executive Update - Christine Lee sent regrets.
7. Danielle presented an update from the ICSS teachers:
 - Students excited for spring
 - Middle School Clubs are running again in April, with many kids participating. Also a good opportunity for teachers to get to know middle school students that they might not teach otherwise.
 - Lots of ICSS staff volunteered at the Spring Bazaar; thanks to the SCESA staff for their work to put on this event.
 - Currently halfway through the semester, staff pleased with how the students are remaining focused on their work.
 - Basketball has wrapped up for the year - congratulations to senior high girls on their 3rd provincial win.

- Badminton is also wrapping up, with one middle school student participating in zones last weekend and senior high students participating in zones on Wednesday
 - Now beginning soccer practices, with track and field to begin soon.
 - Travel club for current grade 10 & 11 students continues to move forward, with a little less than 20 students currently interested. They will begin fundraising for their 2026 Easter trip to Greece in May/June.
 - The draft exam schedule has been published, with teachers providing feedback. When it is finished, it will be sent out to parents.
 - High school students, those going into grades 10-12 in the fall, are encouraged to register for courses. If they have questions, they should speak to their advisor or Mr. Bekkering/Miss Witten.
8. Matthew presented the ICSS Principal's Report:
- The PCCE Leadership & Governance Day took place recently, with workshops on a variety of topics, including a keynote from PCCE ED Gayle Monsma on trends in Christian education. One of these trends was that of AI, which is a conversation ICSS staff is currently having.
 - Recent chapels have included:
 - i. Theme chapel on pro-life - Monica Loewen, former ED of Lethbridge Pregnancy Care Centre
 - ii. Theme chapel on faith in work - panel of Society parents
 - iii. Theme chapel on Christian education - AJ Crocker, recruiting director from Briercrest
 - iv. Easter chapel upcoming on April 15 - Rev. Van Eyk, Trinity URC
 - Bible program review continues - has been shared with staff, program continues to be refined. Also having conversations regarding the student habits of learning desired from ICSS students.
 - Looking towards the fall, enrollment is a bit stagnant across the Division, with good growth projected at ICSS, from current enrollment of 321 to projected enrollment of 3555-360 for the 2025/26 school year.
 - Congratulations to Mrs. Cortnie Cave and Mrs. Glenda Postman, two ICSS support workers in receiving Spirit of 51 awards for their work.
 - Recent high school student activity highlighted St. Patrick's Day.
 - Bands and choirs from high school and middle school participated in Lethbridge Music Festival and did well.
 - Grade 9/10 parent/student orientation took place last week, and was reasonably well attended.
 - EPIC (Exploring Possible Industries & Careers) Day on Wednesday, April 16 at Lethbridge PolyTechnic; 30 grade 9 students attending
 - Coming up:

- i. Spring Musicales - May 8/9
 - ii. Grade 12 grad trip - May 8/9
 - iii. Christian Education Week - May 12-16
 - iv. Mechanics Open House - May 17
- Question regarding opportunity for students to improve a course grade - retakes are available, but not often utilized. Would need to be done via distance learning or Victoria Park High School, with the higher grade being used as a final grade.
- Question regarding student access to MyBluePrint and MyPass - will be encouraged for student use in the fall; Mr. Bekkering to demonstrate at the June School Council meeting.
- 9. Division School Council Update - Carrie reported that the ASCA resolutions are now posted on the website. ICSS is not a member of ASC, but encouraged reading the resolutions.
- 10. Members' Business
 - Nicole reported that the event with Cpl Heather Bangle was well attended and contained very valuable information.
 - Discussion regarding potential parent engagement activity:
 - i. Matthew has not been able to get a response from the City of Lethbridge regarding renting pickleball courts.
 - ii. Matthew is not available on Saturdays during May
 - iii. Discussion regarding adding potential activities to the SCESA Community bbq during Christian Ed week, with suggestions including softball tourney, soccer game, dunk tank (Nicole to call Central Church of Christ to check availability of dunk tank)
 - AI Guidelines - request from Nicole that guidelines be developed that parents are made aware when a teacher uses AI to reply to an email, develop lesson plans, test preparation, etc.
 - i. Rationale includes transparency to parents, to teach parents what AI looks like, and ongoing integrity and legitimacy, as there are concerns that AI is not a safe resource
 - ii. Matthew stated that there are ongoing conversations with staff regarding AI and that staff are already behind students in this area; staff need to learn how to use AI in order to teach ethical use to students; note that there are no current Division guidelines or policies on AI.
 - HS Scheduling regarding Fine Arts - Nicole noted that there are not many grade 12s in band or choir and wondering if these options conflict with cores

- i. Matthew shared that often the students who are interested in Fine Arts are also the more academic students. For these students in grade 12 to take all of their 30 level courses, including 3 sciences, there just isn't time in the timetable for Fine Arts.
 - ii. There are ongoing conversations between Matthew and Mr. Martin regarding creative opportunities for all students who are interested to take part in Fine Arts, including possibilities outside of the timetable.
 - iii. There was also discussion regarding a potential drama production - Matthew indicated that there needs to be the right teacher to drive a project like this and that when he is hiring, this is something that he looks for.
- Clubs - Nicole made a suggestion of a health and fitness club, that could possibly include diet and exercise tips, as well as proper lifting techniques.
 - i. Matthew spoke about the workout room available to high school students, including the orientation and safety practices around this space.
- Off-Campus Opportunities - Marina wondered about how often students are being made aware of off-campus opportunities, and in what grades they are being told about all of the opportunities at Lethbridge Polytechnic, UofL, other post-secondary institutions?
 - i. Danielle shared that these things are presented in Grade 10 CALM by a number of different presenters.
 - ii. Matthew said there is information on the website and he will continue to place information there.
 - iii. There was a question whether it would be good to have Andrew Krul speak directly to students about the different opportunities.
- Fundraiser Idea - Nicole wondered about the idea of a Show'n'Shine as a fundraiser, as an opportunity to include students who maybe otherwise "fall off the radar".

11. Next meeting - Monday, June 9, 2025 at 7:00.

12. Monica closed in prayer.