Covenant Christian School

School Council Meeting Agenda Sept 25, 2025

Introductions

In this place and this time, and across the prairies, we acknowledge the traditional territory of the First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples upon which we gather this morning.

Devotional

Candace Dreger

Run Your Race: on the theme of running—timely with school events like the Terry Fox Run and cross-country meets—to draw a parallel with the "race of faith." Life can be challenging, and we may feel tempted to give up, but Hebrews 12:1 reminds us to "run with perseverance the race marked out for us," surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses who inspire us through their faithfulness.

We are called to throw off anything that hinders us—whether sin, fear, or shame—and keep moving forward with perseverance, grace, and faith. The Christian life is not a competition but a shared journey where believers encourage and support one another.

Scriptures such as Romans 15:5, 1 Thessalonians 5:11, Hebrews 10:24–25, and Proverbs 12:25 emphasize encouragement, unity, and speaking life to one another. The speaker urges everyone to build each other up, honour God in words and actions, and help one another finish the race well.

The devotion concludes with a prayer thanking God for His Word and asking for strength, encouragement, and love to run the race faithfully and to His glory.

Approval of May 2025 Minutes - Approved

Introduction of current Officers:

A. Chair: Candace Drager

B. Vice Chair: Shauna Balehowsky

C. Secretary: Megan Switzer

Section of Officers (nominations)

A. Cindv Heber

B. Vice Chair: Lindsay Hummel

C. Secretary: Vicki Noble

Review of Bylaws, School Council's Mission and Vision

Mission Statement: Recognizing that God is the giver of all things, the School council aims to both celebrate the blessing of the Covenant Christian School and also to intentionally foster Christian community by positively exchanging information and resources between the community at large, the Leduc Society for Christian Education (LSCE). Executive,

the Black Gold School Division School Board, parents and the school staff.

Objectives:

- 1. Provide advice to staff, principal, & LSCE on School discipline policies, programs & directions, budget allocations to meet student needs.
- 2. Encourage meaningful involvement of parents and the broader community.
- 3. Facilitate collaboration and communication among all members of the school community as listed in the mission statement.
- 4. Uphold and support the common vision for the school.
- 5. Develop and carry out self-evaluation of the school council's performance.
- 6. Keep LSCE executive and Black Gold School Division Board informed of school needs.
- 7. Support the school's focus on essential teaching and learning tasks.
- 8. Facilitate communication between all participants involved with the school.

Note:

Technology

Brief overview of our 1 to 1 program:

Grades 5-9 (BYOED Program): Students are encouraged to participate in the Bring Your Own Educational Device (BYOED) program with their own Chromebook or laptop. Devices must be registered and connected to the school's secure, filtered network.

Availability: Chromebook laptops are available for students who cannot bring their own device.

Grades 2-4: Each classroom has a dedicated Chromebook cart for classroom use.

Kindergarten & Grade 1: These four classes share Chromebook carts, scheduling their time for access.

Other Resources: A cart of iPads is also available for checkout.

Screen Time and Instructional Focus:

- No Set Limits: The school does not set rigid screen time limits because technology is used purposefully as part of instruction.
- Focus on Quality: The emphasis is on quality over quantity. Teachers
 are encouraged to use technology to make learning interactive,
 engaging, and meaningful, viewing it as a tool to enhance and extend
 learning, not as entertainment or a distraction.

Key Ways Technology is Used:

- Supporting Diverse Learners (Assistive Technology): This is a high priority and benefits *all* students, fostering independence and confidence.
 - Access to Text: Tools like Google Read & Write and Immersive Reader read text aloud, provide picture dictionaries, and translate, supporting struggling readers and English language learners.
 - Expressing Learning: Speech-to-text and word prediction help students who struggle with handwriting or spelling effectively communicate their ideas.
- Curriculum Tools:

- Literacy: Teachers in Grades K-3 use RAZZ Plus for leveled books, interactive features, and progress checks.
- Math: Students use Reflex Math and Math Up to build fluency and problem-solving skills in engaging, adaptive ways.
- Organization and Collaboration: Many teachers use Google
 Classroom as a primary platform for students to access materials, submit
 work, and receive timely feedback. This also helps develop digital
 organization skills.
- Agreement and Consequences: Every student signs a Digital Citizenship Agreement. Violations lead to the suspension of their account for a determined amount of time, with a chance they may not regain access.
- **Education:** Students in Division 2 and 3 participate in the Media Smarts Digital Literacy program, actively learning about being ethical and responsible users of technology.

Does CCS have screen time protocols in place?

Guidelines for Movies and Videos in the Classroom

- Curriculum Link: All movies and videos shown must be clearly linked to the curriculum.
- Teacher Responsibility: Teachers are required to preview all material before showing it.

Videos During Unstructured Time (Eating/Lunch)

- Discouraged for Daily Use: Teachers are generally encouraged not to have videos during eating time on a regular day-to-day basis.
- Exceptions: Videos may occasionally be used on a Friday or as a special reward for a great week, and they should ideally be a story or have curricular content.
- Videos at eating times are not to be used as a classroom management tool and should not be relied upon regularly.

Overall, the school views technology not for passive consumption, but as a tool to engage students to become **producers**, **not consumers**, in their learning.

JOMO Campus Program:

- **JOMO** (Joy of Missing Out) is a faith-based program being considered.
- The goal is to move students from consumers to producers of technology.
- The program emphasizes discerning use so technology is a tool, not an idol.
- A conference call on Monday is scheduled to decide on implementation

JoMO: jomocampus.com

Update on new CCS Families

Interviews: LSCE approved society members for the families of 35 new students.

Emails: Have been sent by Emily B.

Back to School BBQ :The **Back-to-School BBQ** was a success, allowing the School Council to meet new families and encourage future volunteer participation

Principal Report

To be attached.

Questions/Comments?

Next school council meeting Scheduled for **October 28 @ 7pm** New time to make it more accessible to all.

Looking into having a zoom link for others who cannot be present in person.

Closing Prayer

Jennifer Lozeau