

Madonna Catholic School Council

Meeting called to order at 7:02pm, September 29, 2021, taking place online via google meet

In attendance:

Karen A	Jenness S	Kristie P	Melissa S	Laura E
Allie W	Erin C	Kerstin A	Rebecca K	Isabel R
Agnes W	Kim M	Le-Ann E	Sue-Ann D	Vanessa S

7:07 pm Karen A opened with prayer & Treaty Acknowledgment

7:08 pm Approval of last minutes by Erin C, seconded by Laura E

7:08pm Kerstin A introduced our Trustee, Le-Ann E., who gave a bit of educational and personal background. Le-Ann E would like parents to know that their trustees are listening. Please continue to contact your trustee anytime!

7:14pm Karen A introduces new staff members at Madonna:
Allison N is the new Family Wellness Worker
Agnes W is the new Collaborative Response Coordinator
Kristie P is the new Assistant Principal

7:19pm Teachers report presented by Kristie P.

Kristie P started by first thanking parents of Madonna school & expressed her love for the school already. She was previously the Assistant Principal of ABJ

- **Pathways** Pathways is having a great first month in learning our classroom routines. We are enjoying exploring the outdoors and making crafts with objects found in nature. We have also been introduced to Mat Man which helps us with early printing skills.
- **Kindergarten** Kindergarten has enjoyed taking time this month to talk about us! We have enjoyed sharing photos of our families, mixing colors to find our own perfect shades, reading books with diverse characters, and making our own "Happy Dreamer" self-portraits. We have been exploring numeracy as we learn about ourselves-graphing and surveying to learn things about each other- how many siblings we have, have we watched virtual mass before, have we been to the library?

We are working hard on our sound walls and making connections between words and sounds. We are really starting to see the seasons changing and will start to explore more about the science of fall, we have our first two field trips this month, mindful movement with the Seven Sacred Teachings, and Fabulous Fall with Strathcona Wilderness Center. Both of these field trips will take place in or around the school.

September flew by and we have loved getting to know your children over the last month. I know we are going to have a wonderful year ahead!

- **Grade 1** September has been all about getting to know each other and establishing routines. The grade ones have really come a long way already. We are learning how to share, line up and problem solve.

We have started to dive into our animated literacy review of all the characters. This week is Actress Annie. This program is an excellent way for the students to learn sounds and blends using sounds and actions.

In science we have begun our building unit. We are using fairytales to go with this. The children enjoy this a lot.

We are learning how God is our family and how we are all connected. They are learning about how God is our creator and created the world.

- **Grade 2** We have been getting into our routine of what it looks like to be in Grade 2 such as doing morning work, playing nice on the playground, and having classroom jobs. In science, we are learning about bugs and insects and what some of our local animals are in Alberta.

In mathematics, we are learning about patterns and finding the pattern rules. We even looked at patterns that we see in our own classroom.

We are exploring in social studies what a community is and the difference between a rural and urban community. This is also connected to our Religion class where we are learning that we are all unique.

In music, we made our own maracas where we painted them and put rice, noodles, beads, or sand in them to help us learn rhythm and beats

- **Grade 2/3** September has been full of classroom routines and getting to know our classmates. We have been getting a lot better with our lining up, quickly and quietly getting ready and keeping our supplies together. We have already had a visit from the desk fairy for those students who had extremely clean spaces.

We have been reviewing our vowel sounds as we continue to grow our sight words and vocabulary. We have been working on our reading stamina this month and it has already greatly improved!

In math we have been working on numbers 1-100 (gr.2) and 1-1000 (gr. 3), we have been counting forward and backwards using a variety of skip counting methods.

In Social we have been learning about communities and Canada! We have reviewed the directions, the provinces and where we live.

In Science, the grade 3's have been learning about the different types of rocks. Grade 2's have been learning about small crawling and flying animals and the animal groups they belong to. We have taken many opportunities to go outside to find as many insects as possible before it gets colder.

In religion we have been discussing our Catholic Community and talking about how we can be valuable members in that community

- **Grade 3** This month has been about establishing our classroom routines and expectations and the kids have been doing a spectacular job.

In Language, we are reading Charlotte's Web and learning how to ask questions as we read. Representing numbers to 1000 is what we are working on in Math. We have just begun looking at Peru in Social Studies and are learning about rocks in Science.

Our class has been leading our weekly school Faith Assembly, so we have been preparing those and learning all the parts of a Mass

- **Grade 4** The Grade 4's spent a beautiful day at Camp Van Es for the Grade 4 Retreat where we were able to celebrate mass with Father Jim and each student received their blessed Bible.

We have welcomed new friends this year, and a new teacher, Rachel Carr who will be joining us to teach Science 4.

In October we will be going to the Fort Sask Heritage Precinct.

7:30pm

"Loose Parts" presentation by Adrian X

- Jump Start charity gives a grant. This allows Loose Parts to connect with school communities
- Adrian X presented a detailed slideshow explaining what Loose Parts is
- It develops fine motor skills for kids
- Everything has been vetted to ensure it's safe for kids to play with
- Evidence-based
 - Child-directed, freely-chosen, intrinsically motivating
 - Increased levels of innovative, constructive & imaginative play
 - Children are better able to mitigate risk
 - Facilitates social & emotional learning
 - Improvements in children's physical literacy, physical activity levels and gross motor skill development
- Kids are not forced to play with any of the parts
- Observable outcomes
 - Critical thinking
 - Problem solving
 - Managing information
 - Creativity & innovation
 - Communication
 - Collaboration
 - Cultural & global citizenship
 - Personal growth & well-being
- We will continue accepting items from families & the community
- Guidelines

- Make your own fun
- Be safe with yourself
- Be safe with others
- Be safe with nature
- Be safe with the loose parts
- Loose parts stay in the boundaries
- Covid protocols being taken into consideration

7:53 pm Principals report by Karen A

- All of the kids have been tested & beginning Friday, letters will be going out to student's families who she will be working with
- October will bring a lock down practice
- As of this meeting's date, there have been 4 covid cases, which is more than last year
- Division policy is mask wearing
- 184 kids attending school this year

8:08 pm Council report by Kerstin A

- CPAC motto this year is "Called to More"
- Trustee election is upcoming on October 18
- This year school boards are left to make rules regarding covid
- \$500 grant to every school council. Unsure on how to access this money just yet
- Parent council has purchased 500 child sized disposable masks to be kept at the school for any child that is in need of one
- Reminder that Save on Foods (Wye road location only) and Cobs Bread (Wye road location only) is still fundraising. Please keep & hand in receipts from this Save on Foods and let Cobs know you are with Madonna when shopping there
- Hot lunch is a go this year! First lunch is Friday, October 8
- We have a new Instagram page! No photos of kids will be posted. Updates and important reminders will be shared. Parents, please follow the page if you have instagram @Madonna_catholic_parentcouncil

8:14 pm Kerstin A opened the floor

- One parent would like to know how to go about donating more child disposable masks
 - Contact Karen A for information regarding donations
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8:18 pm Meeting adjourned by Kerstin A