

**Gateway Christian School**  
**School Council & Red Deer Society for Christian Education Minutes**  
**November 15, 2016**  
**(GCS LIBRARY)**

**7:00 - Welcome and Introductions** - Dave- call to order, introductions & attendance sheet

**7:03 - Devotions** - Corinna

About wisdom and keeping our eyes focused on Christ.

**7:07 - Adoption of Agenda(s)** - Dave

All in favour

**7:09 - Adoption of Minutes:** October 18, 2016

All in favour

**7:10 - Caring and Sharing**

- Remembrance day ceremonies were memorable and so well executed. What a effective assembly.
- We rejoice with Carolyn Stolte who accepted a full time teaching position at Gateway. That means some changes for the society team, but we will adjust and continue to cheer Carolyn on in her new adventures!

**7:20 - Student Council/Leadership Report**

- We were unable to set up a council member to do a report. Next meeting!

**7:30 - Treasurer's Report**

- Surplus spending plans
- Potentially invest some into the sport of curling since it's quite an expensive sport
- Suggestion to have a Spring BBQ to kick off the end of the year (could include bouncy castles and other fun thing) and use surplus funds on that

**7:40 - Feedback/Discussion**

- Gateway Christian School Results Report
  - Data overview provided from Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs) and Diploma Exams
    - Grade 3, Language Arts, Math
    - Grade 6, Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies
    - Grade 9, Math, Language Arts, Science, Social Studies
    - Grade 12, English, Biology, Social Studies, Math
  - Test Results haven't always been regarded due to the low numbers completed per grade levels here at Gateway
  - Teachers and Staff at Gateway are being intentional about spending more time analyzing test results and implementing changes in teaching practice based on findings
- Lifetouch Follow Up
  - Report on conversation with lifetouch about quality of photos and some dissatisfaction with service from Lifetouch

- Subsequent meeting led to some new options provided by lifetouch regarding spring photo packages and format
- Lifetouch would like to be given another chance as our service provider to rectify some of the issues we have had in the past
- Request to propose that Lifetouch go back and correct the poor quality of last years grad photos (should they still remain on file), and possibly have a meeting with representatives from last years grad class
- Suggestion to at least explore other provider choices (Jostens or private provider)
- **Playground Follow Up**
  - Discussions about the process of building a new playground have occurred with the necessary city, provider, bylaw, and other associated parties
  - Next steps ought to be how we will partner with separate entities as a Christian school with both a society and school board within Red Deer Public school system
  - School council will have to do a lot of the footwork for this process
  - A small committee ought to be formed along with hot lunch providers, school administrators, a school council/board member as a small committee in this process to report to the society and school board as a larger group (Nov 25 at 10am will be the first meeting) - we collected volunteer interest proposals
  - Some funds have been provided thanks to the lunch program and other contributors

**7:50pm - Alberta School Council Association report - Brad Vonkeman**

- Webinars are available covering various topics that the school council association are reviewing
- Next city wide meeting is happening at Fairview Elementary on November 22

**7:59 - City Wide Meetings for 2015-16 (open to all parents in the district to attend)**

Monthly meeting where schools in district get together to share what is happening in the schools

- Tuesday, November 22, 7-9pm @ Fairview Elementary School 5901 55 St
- Tuesday, January 24, 7-9pm @ Mattie McCullough Elementary School, 26 Lawford Dr.
- Tuesday, March 7, 7-9pm @ Gateway Christian School, 4210 59th St.
- Tuesday, May 9, 7-9pm @ West Park Elementary School, 3814 55 Ave

**8:00pm - Adjourn - School Council**

**8:05pm - Open Red Deer Society for Christian Education Meeting**

**8:05pm - Strategic Plan**

- **Review Community Building Strategic Plan**
  - Discussion about informing the parent population and our broader community about the role of the Gateway Christian School Society within Gateway
  - Prioritization should be given to the various goals so that we have direction and a focus
  - Suggestion to pass out current teachers and grades taught list to direct us in praying for teachers - a list was provided to all society members
  - Give opportunity for teachers to post prayers request to the society to be passed to prayer partners
  - Discussion about updating/operating different social media outlets that report on Gateway Christian school - should we have a goal to have an operator for the (currently inactive)

Facebook Page, Twitter Account, and Web page? We would likely need to delegate an operator of these different avenues, or add a specified duty for the executive director

- Follow up of these topics will be required at a later Society Meeting

### **8:45pm - Communication & Updates**

- Bus
  - Advantages of society continuing to own the bus VS advantages of selling the bus to Red Deer Public was discussed
    - Insurance rates are better if the bus is owned by Red Deer Public School system
  - Lucille Snyder put forward a motion to vote to sell the bus to Red Deer Public School District for \$1
    - Discussion about how various groups are impacted based on bus ownership
      - Students would not be affected by who owns the bus
      - Since Gateway pays for owning and maintaining the bus regardless of who owns the bus, who owns the bus essentially doesn't impact Gateway
      - If the bus gets sold, access to the bus could
  - All in favour of of selling the bus
- Auction
  - Tickets are almost sold out with very few left unsold
  - Everything seems to be in order to have a great evening
- Reminder: Board Member Hosts for Christmas Concert Dec 15 & 16 (there are both afternoon 1:30-2:30pm & evening 7-8pm performances)
  - Carolyn will send out invitation to trustee Bill Stuebing on behalf of the Society/School Council.
  - John Jenkins will be at both performances and willing to host Bill Stuebing

### **9:00pm - Adjourn meeting**

- Motion to adjourn accepted

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

#### Upcoming Dates

- Friday, November 18, 2016, Annual Fall Auction @ First CRC
- Christmas Concert - Thursday, December 15 and Friday, December 16.

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Board Chair, School Council and Society

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Secretary, School Council and Society

### **Upcoming Board Meetings & Devotions:**

- December 13 (Society Only) - Lucille Snyder
- January 24 -
- February 28 -
- March 21 -
- April 18 -
- May 16 -

- June 20 (Society Only) -