

Blessed John Paul I
SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
 (2025 / 2026)

Date: March 18, 2026 5:45pm

Meeting: #2

Location: Blessed John Paul I

Attendance: Lilibeth Benitez - Chair, Melissa Doroshenko - Vice Chair, Jennefer Guillen - Treasurer, Monica Tinajero - Secretary, Rosanne Boutine - Principal, Olivia Hernandez - Assistant Principal, Brandi Sochr - Former Chair

Meeting chaired by: Lily Benitez - Chair

M I N U T E S

	Agenda Item		Time
1.-	Call to Order	Chair Lily called the meeting to order.	5:45 pm
2.-	Welcome	Introduction of newly elected board members 25/26: Chair: Lilibeth Benitez. Vice Chair: Melissa Doroshenko. Secretary: Monica Tinajero. Treasurer: Jennefer Guillen.	5:41 pm
3.-	Prayer - Treaty 6	Prayer shared by Olivia. Treaty 6 shared by Rosanne.	5:47 pm
4.-	Approval of Agenda	Monica motioned to approve the agenda of today's meeting. Brandi seconded. Motion carried.	5:48 pm
5.-	Approval of Previous Minutes	Brandi motioned to approve the minutes of the prior meeting. Monica seconded. Motion carried.	5:49 pm
6.-	Principal Report		5:50 pm

6.1 School Updates - Principal Rosanne Boutin

- Students enjoyed **Zumba** sessions with Cheryl from *No More Excuses*, creating energy and a sense of community in the gym.
- Mr. Fitz Ford facilitated **proactive circles** in classrooms, building on his previous visits about being an up-stander and the importance of words. These circles foster positive relationships, communication, and classroom community.
- Students will learn about **smudging ceremonies** with Indigenous Consultant Gary Gagnon, one of Alberta's Métis representatives who met with Pope Francis in 2021 to discuss reconciliation. This supports ongoing Indigenous education and cultural understanding.

- The school is considering changes to the Spanish Bilingual program next year, including removing French as a Second Language to dedicate more instructional time to Spanish Language Arts and English Language Arts within the Spanish Bilingual program. Spanish instruction minutes would increase to align with the ISA partnership in Spain. In this model, English Language Arts would include Spanish language and culture as a second language to provide deeper language learning experiences. A survey will be sent to families to make them part of this decision.
- Grade 6 students are preparing for digital **PATs**, with teachers providing practice opportunities to ensure confidence with the new format.
- **Student-led clubs** continue to thrive. Guided Drawing Club recently concluded, and Beading Club begins this week. These clubs allow students to explore interests, develop skills, and connect with peers.
- A **wellness dog**, Yoghurt, will visit every other Friday for classroom and small group sessions; consent forms have been sent home.
- Kindergarten registration is underway, with enrollment growing.
- The school is exploring Lifetouch as a new photography provider for next year, which would offer families more options and flexibility.
- Students will be engaging in our **new mascot ideas** next week. We want to hear their voices about which animal they think best represents our school community.
- The school has been approved to receive funding for a complexity team, providing 2 additional Educational Assistants and 1 Teacher to support student needs.

6.2 Spanish Bilingual Updates - Assistant Principal Olivia Hernandez

- School divisions offering Spanish Bilingual Programs renewed its commitment to the International Spanish Academies (ISA) by signing the **General Protocol Agreement** with the Ministry of Education of Spain in February. The Agreement underscores our longstanding commitment to the ISA and the ongoing development of our Spanish Bilingual Programs. The Chief Superintendent signed on behalf of ECSD.
- Plans are underway to organize a **district-wide** Spanish Bilingual student **Fun Day** next year, bringing together students from elementary, junior high, and high school for games and activities that celebrate our program.
- Spanish Bilingual teachers continue to engage in ongoing professional learning, including collaboration days within the division. Some of our teachers (Mr. Rassi, Sra. Gonzalez, Srita. Hoepfner) contributed to pacing guides created by the division. *Encuentro de Profesores de Español de Alberta* will take place on Saturday, May 2, 2026. We will have two of our teachers present: Mr. Rassi and Mrs. Gonzalez.
- Our grade six teacher Mr. Rassi has been recognized by the school division for his excellent teaching practices and therefore he will host Cree language teachers this Friday that will observe his Spanish class. They are observing the strategies used for second language learning. As well he will host a group of Spanish Bilingual teachers in April participating in guided observations.
- Our **Forkloric Dance Group** has been meeting twice a week and will soon be ready to present their dances. We are looking at possibilities for performances both at school and outside of the school, possibly at Lumen Cristi. We have a very dedicated group of teachers leading this group: Sra, Gonzalez, Srita. Hoepfner, Srita. Nieto and Sra. Blanco.

7.-	Old Business, New Business, Pending Business	6:01 pm
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7.1 Old Business.

- **Bylaws Update.** An updated version of the council bylaws was previously shared for review. Members were asked to review the document and provide any feedback. As no requested changes were received, the document will be signed by the Chair and Secretary prior to submission. **Brandi motioned to approve. Motion Carried.**

7.2 New Business.

Several new items were brought forward for discussion:

1. **Multicultural Day.** It was confirmed that the event will take place on **May 29.**
2. **Staff Appreciation Lunch.** SAC members confirmed this event will continue to be supported and organized by the council and held on **June 18.**
3. **Grade 6 Farewell.** This event will be on **June 19.**
4. **End-of-Year Fun Day.** **June 22** was selected as the date for this event.

7.3 Pending Business. Planning for all events will continue at the next meeting.

8.-	Woodvale Report	6:10 pm
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8.1 Woodvale Community League Bingo Volunteer Program.

- **Melissa** was appointed as our new **school representative** and she reported that she reached out to Natalie, the Woodvale Bingo Coordinator. This program offers a matching grant to the school for the purchase of items that benefit students. For every bingo shift covered by BJP1 families, the school receives \$500, up to a maximum of \$5,000 per school year. It was noted that 4 out of the 10 required shifts have already been completed. Melissa will be covering the Sunday, March 22 shift.
- Remaining bingo dates have been shared in the school's monthly newsletter.
- A discussion took place regarding sending an email to families outlining the importance of volunteering for bingo events and encouraging participation.

9.-	Next Meeting Date	6:12 pm
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9.1 The 2 remaining meeting dates for the current school year were set and approved:

- Meeting #3 on **Wednesday, April 29**
- Meeting #4 on **Wednesday, June 17**

10.-	Adjournment	6:13 pm
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10.1 Lily motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:13 pm. Motion carried.

Blessed John Paul I
FUNDRAISING SOCIETY MEETING
 (2025 / 2026)

Date: March 18, 2026 5:45pm

Meeting: #2

Location: Blessed John Paul I

Attendance: Lilibeth Benitez - Chair, Melissa Doroshenko - Vice Chair, Jennefer Guillen - Treasurer, Monica Tinajero - Secretary, Rosanne Boutine - Principal, Olivia Hernandez - Assistant Principal, Brandi Sochr - Former Chair

Meeting chaired by: Lily Benitez - Chair

M I N U T E S

	Agenda Item		Time
1.-	Call to Order	Chair Lily called the meeting to order.	6:14 pm
2.-	Approval of Agenda	Monica motioned to approve the agenda of today's meeting. Brandi seconded. Motion carried.	6:15 pm
3.-	Treasurer's Report		6:16 pm

3.1 Accounts Balances - Treasurer Jennefer Guillen

As of March 18, 2026, the accounts holdings are:

- **Casino Account:** \$43,803.24
- **General Account:** \$9,432.68

3.2 Transactions (Income / Expenses).

No funds in or out since last meeting.

4.-	Casino Update		6:17 pm
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4.1 Updates.

- The school will be hosting a **Casino Night**, which is the most important fundraiser for our school and takes place approximately every two years. The next casino is expected to take place around **March 2027 at Pure Casino.** (Date TBD)

- A **Casino Representative** (Chair) has not yet been appointed. This role is required to coordinate volunteers and organize shift scheduling, including setting up the online booking system.
- A parent shared a potential option to use Casino Angels, a service that helps supply volunteers for casino events. It was also noted that hiring a Casino Representative is an option; however, this would involve a cost.

5.-	Fundraising Committee	6:22 pm
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6.1 Fundraising Ideas. For the remainder of the school year, we would like to organize three simple fundraising initiatives:

- **Bottle drive** - It was agreed to hold a bottle drive on **April 17**. A small prize will be awarded to the class that collects the most bottles (popsicles were selected). The committee will contact Millwoods Bottle Depot to book the drive. A poster with event details has been prepared and will be shared with parents next week.
- **Popcorn sale** - It was determined that the sale will be launched through Healthy Hunger. Date to be confirmed.
- **Flowers sale** - Options for suppliers are currently being explored. It was discussed the possibility of launching the sale through Healthy Hunger, with a tentative timeline of May 14, ahead of the long weekend and aligned with Mother's Day.

6.2 Healthy Hunger Program: It was agreed to reinstate the Healthy Hunger program for the remainder of the school year on a bi-weekly basis. Heather will be contacted to provide login credentials and access to the school account in order to begin setting up menus. Jen and Lily will be responsible for receiving and distributing the hot lunches.

6.3. Partnerships: It was discussed reconnecting with local businesses to explore opportunities for promotional codes that would support the school community. Brandi will reach out to companies that have previously partnered with the school, such as Cobs Bread and Papa John's, to re-establish these arrangements.

6.-	Funding Requests	6:41 pm
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6.1 Updates.

- The school administration previously presented a Wishlist of requested items and initiatives requiring funding, including programs and equipment. All items from the list were approved at the last meeting, and we are currently moving forward with purchasing and funding allocations.
- The new gym projector was purchased and installed on March 18.
- The importance of promoting funded items during fundraising initiatives was highlighted, as a way to increase parent engagement and demonstrate the impact of fundraising efforts.

- **Staff Appreciation Lunch Budget:** The budget for the Staff Appreciation Lunch was discussed. It was approved to allocate \$23-\$25 per staff member, based on approximately 30 staff, for a total estimated budget of \$700-\$750.

6.2 Casino Account - Wishlist 2025–2026

1. Alberta Musical Theatre Company – \$997.50
2. Zumba with Cheryl (No More Excuses) – Full day \$900
3. Buses for Mass – \$504.00
4. AMA Patrol Picnic Bus – \$238
5. Grade 6 Camp Bus – \$600
6. 5 Teacher Desktop Computers – \$12,000
7. FM Systems – \$4,000
8. Gym Projector – \$5,000
9. Wood for Drama Cubes – \$500

Total Requested: \$24,751.50

6.3 General Account - Wishlist 2025–2026

1. Clothing Uniforms (T-Shirts) with New Logo – \$8 each
2. Staff Appreciation Lunch – \$750

Total estimated cost: \$3,550

7.-	Motions	6:50 pm
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7.1 Motion #1. Brandi moved to allocate up to \$750 from the General Account for the Staff Appreciation Lunch. Melissa seconded. Motion carried.

8.-	Next Meeting Date	6:54 pm
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8.1 The 2 remaining meeting dates for the current school year were set and approved:

- Meeting #3 on **Wednesday, April 29**
- Meeting #4 on **Wednesday, June 17**

9.-	Adjournment	6:56 pm
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9.1 Lily motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 pm. Motion carried.