



MINUTES

St. Francis de Sales School
Parish Education Committee
PEC Meeting 2025-3

Date:	10/23/2025	Chair:	Ms. Joselyn Navarro
Time:	6:30pm	Recorder:	Ms. Rossa Sung
Location:	SFdS Staff Room	Guests:	None
Attendees:	Father Mark McGuckin Mrs. Irene Wihak Mrs. Naomi Panganiban Ms. Joselyn Navarro Mr. Anthony Tillman / Mr. Jonathan Geronimo Ms. Rossa Sung Ms. Leah Canete	Regrets:	Ms. Paula Ramor Ms. Jacqueline Lamasan

Meeting opened at 6:35 pm by Ms. Joselyn Navarro.

1	Opening Prayer & Reflections Faith Development: Living, Celebrating and <i>Proclaiming our Faith!</i> An excerpt from Archbishop Richard Smith's pastoral letter for World Mental Health Day (Oct. 10)... Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ: On this World Mental Health Day, I am reminded of the prevalence and particular suffering experienced by those with mental health challenges. Burdens of the mind are often unseen, misunderstood, and too frequently met with silence. Mental health struggles can show in quiet ways: a parishioner withdrawing from community, a friend burdened with sadness, a child living with anxiety, a senior feeling lonely. Emotional wounds are just as real and painful as physical ones, yet shame often prevents people from seeking help within their faith community. Depression, anxiety, trauma, and other mental burdens—diagnosed or not—are not signs of moral failure or punishments from God. Mental health is a reality that affects us all, albeit in different ways. These challenges are a common part of the human experience and should be met with understanding, compassion, and hope. Scripture reminds us that Christ himself was “a man of sorrows, acquainted with grief” (Isaiah 53:3). He embraced our full humanity, sharing in our suffering and offering a love that can heal the deepest wounds of the heart. Jesus listened, he wept, he healed, and he continues to call us to do the same. The Church has a significant role in reducing the stigma and isolation that are often associated with mental health issues. Too many people suffer alone, fearing judgment or misunderstanding. We must speak openly and honestly about these struggles, reassuring each other that there is no shame in seeking help. Our Catholic parishes are meant to be places of refuge where all are welcome and the weary find rest. We should strive to foster a community where vulnerability is tenderly received, and suffering is met with compassion. Accompanying God's people in their whole human experience is inherent to our mission as a Church. In these early stages of Mental Health Ministry in the Archdiocese of Vancouver, I ask for your prayers, that the Holy Spirit may guide our efforts. May we hold firm to the words of our Lord “Come to me, all you who labour and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” (Matthew 11:28) For those who are currently carrying the weight of mental health struggles — you are not alone. The Lord walks with you and the Church stands beside you. There is hope.	Fr. Mark	10 min
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	There is healing. There is enough grace for every sorrow. May Our Lady, Mother of Hope, be with us on our journey, and may God bless you, strengthen you, and grant peace to every heart.		
Insert Info Here			

2	Adoption / Review of Minutes MOTION to accept minutes (Mr. <i>Jon Geronimo</i> , Mr. <i>Anthony Tillman</i>)	Joselyn	2 min

3	Adoption / Review of Minutes MOTION to adopt agenda (Mr. <i>Jon Geronimo</i> , Ms. <i>Rossa Sung</i>)	Joselyn	2 min

4	Reports ● Pastor – Father Mark McGuckin * Youth Night ◆ Led by Catherine and Patrick Dwan ◆ Geared towards 15 - 25 youth ◆ Advertised on parish bulletin, social media and word of mouth ◆ Mixing social with faith formation ◆ Last Monday of each month for 4 months and review the results * Alpha Marriage ◆ Registration is full ◆ School parents can receive volunteer hours ◆ Childcare provided * Swahili Mass (East African Mass) ◆ Inagural Swahili Mass (11 am Mass once a month) ◆ Led by Anthony ◆ 3 Swahili-speaking priests to rotate (Fr. Jiva) * Parish Hall renovation of a small room (Ongoing) * Christmas Drive by St. Vincent de Paul Society ◆ Accepting donations of grocery store gift cards ◆ Principal - Mrs. Irene Wihak * Altar server training in November (Nathan Cabalfin and Marguerite Goldsmith) * GIVERS: The first meeting is pushed to the first week of November * Safety concern: Coyote sighting at Renee Memorial Park * Field trips: increased budget for field trips * Kindergarten enrollment * Preschool: Full license, so now can take full-time care * Student Code of Conduct draft document review * Teachers' Representative - Mrs. Naomi Panganiban * Chair – Ms. Joselyn Navarro * Treasurer - Mr. Anthony Tillman; Mr. Jonathan Geronimo * Budget Review ◆ Increased budget for field trips ◆ Bursary for educators (teachers as well as EA) for faith formation ◆ Vice Chair – Ms. Rossa Sung ◆ Parish-School Community Building Initiative – Ms. Rossa Sung * SFdS students well attended safe at home and Babysitting training at St. Edmunds despite the short-notice (13 out of 21 participants)	All	45 min
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	* Proposed onsite training at SFdS: Mrs. Wihak is following up with the facilitator for a possible March date (Third week of March) * Secretary - Mrs. Jacqueline Lamasan (Regrets) * Community Engagement - Paula Ramor, J. Lamasan (Mrs. Wihak provided updates) * Walkathon: Final total of approximately \$47K (Kudos to Gr. 7)		
	• Facility and Maintenance/Tech - Mrs. Leah Canete * Kitchen stove safety ◆ Gas leak in October ◆ Installed in 1996. Time for an upgrade due to safety concerns ◆ Approved: a temporary solution and revisit in Feb 2026 * Water bottle filling station: 1 station purchase approved unanimously		

New Business

5	Revised Code of Conduct • Document control number required (Rossa to provide an example) • Clarify the process timeline, mirroring CISVA policy 408	Ms. Wihak	

6	Drinking Fountain Purchase • Refer to “Facilities and Maintenance”		

7	Preschool Update • Refer to “Principal’s Report”		

8	In-camera		

Meeting concluded at 8:02 pm

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, November 26, 2025 @ 06:30 PM



OUR MISSION	OUR VISION	OUR VALUES
We are a Christ-centered parish school that seeks to serve the whole child (intellectually, academically, spiritually, physically, and emotionally) through the development of faith, family and community. We use dynamic learning opportunities to produce resilient Catholics who lead by example and thrive in a global community.	We are a Catholic school, instilling the knowledge of Christ's love and mercy in our community. Our students ignite their passion and potential to love and serve others as Jesus would, in our safe and inspiring learning environment.	FAITH: Confidence and trust in the love of God LEARN: Developing creative and critical thinkers ACHIEVE: Commitment and focus MERCY: Love and forgiveness of Jesus with one another ENGAGE: Choosing to be actively involved SERVE: Seeking and accepting the call to act

IGNITING THE SAINT WITHIN

Our Core Values

- F – Faith:** Living actions that show confidence and trust in the love of God
- L – Learn:** Developing creative and critical thinkers whose actions contribute to a better world
- A – Achieve:** Committing and focusing on reaching your goals
- M – Mercy:** Demonstrating the love and forgiveness of Jesus with one another every day
- E – Engage:** Choosing to be actively involved in the life of our school
- S – Serve:** Seeking and accepting the call to act for the greater good