St. James & St. Ann's Regional Education Committee

~ Approved Minutes~

Wednesday May 6, 2026 | Start Time: 6:30pm

Location: St. James & St. Ann's Elementary School

Present: Fr. Richard, Jake Turek – Chair, Libimol Devasia: Secretary, Greg Steinbichler – Maintenance, Andrew De Verteuil – Treasurer, Danika Adam- Community Relations, Fathanee Lenchuk - Parent Participation, Sheena Lewis: Vice Principal, Onika Bryson: Principal

1. Faith Formation – 15 minutes - *Fr. Richard*

2. Call Meeting to Order at 6;49 pm.

We acknowledge that St. James and St. Ann's school is located on the unceded and traditional lands of the Sumas (sue-mass) and Matsqui (mats-sqwee) First Nations people, and the Stó:lō (staw-low) people." With this, we respect the longstanding relationships that Indigenous Nations have to this land, as they are the original caretakers.

3. Amend / Adopt the Agenda - Amended the dates of the Agenda.

    a. Andrew motioned, Greg seconded -all in favour, none opposed.

4. Appreciations

    a. Onika expressed appreciation to those who took on the additional tasks for the Mother's Day celebration.

5. Correspondence

6. Review and Approve Feb & April Minutes

    a. Feb- Jake motioned, Fathanee seconded.

    b. April- Fathanee motioned, Andrew seconded.

7. Policy Manual Review – *Nick*

    a. Nick was not present.

8. Main Reports:

    a. Archbishop's Rep. Report – *Fr. Richard*

        - First Communion is scheduled for May 30.
        - Confirmation will take place at St. James in June 27.
        - Children may receive their sacraments at their own parish, and a letter of permission will be provided.
        - School Mass is celebrated twice a month.

    b. Chair Report – *Jake*

    c. Principal Report – *Onika* -As submitted

    d. Treasurer Report – *Andrew* -As submitted

9. Additional Reports:

    a. Teachers Report – Lilian Todo

        - Lilian Todo presented the Teacher's Report. Highlights included the Kindergarten Mass, the Mother's Day tea celebration, and student participation in Speech Arts. She also noted ongoing First Communion preparation, the Grade 5 visit to a local care home, and Zimbathon. She concluded with a brief update on the Art Club.

    b. Maintenance Report – *Greg*

- Greg presented the Maintenance Report. He noted ongoing efforts to locate a water leak, likely caused by an older metal pipe. He reported that excavation work will be required to access the affected area. Greg is currently seeking quotes from three companies and confirmed that scoping will be necessary before repairs can proceed.

c. Fundraising Report – *Kristine*

- Kristine presented the Fundraising Report. Preparations for the Zoobathon are underway, and the gym will be decorated for the event. She noted that additional pledges are still needed to reach the $30,000 goal, with approximately $17,000 raised so far. Kristine reported that raffles for the children are being organized, and that Panago Pizza and Meridian Farm Market are the sponsors so far. She added that more donors are needed to contribute prizes for the children and that a prize will be awarded to the class with the highest number of pledges.

d. Parent Participation Report – *Fathanee*

- A training program is coming up.
- Transitioning from the legacy system to the current process is underway.
- Teachers are encouraged to make use of this opportunity if they require any help or support.

e. Community Relations Report – *Danika*

- Café au Play was successful.

10. Old Business

a. Playground - *Onika*

- Grants were reviewed; one is a 4-month cycle and the other is 10–12 months.
- The next funding cycle is in 2027, which may be better suited for a larger project.
- Smaller grants ($5,000–$10,000) may not be worthwhile for the scope of the project.
- A quote should be selected so the project can move forward.
- One parent has agreed to act as project manager at no cost and may be able to provide excavation equipment.
- Another parent, who works in lumber (Country Lumber), may assist with materials and site preparation, estimated at $20,000–$30,000.
- It is recommended not to proceed with Green Play due to concerns with their backend processes.
- Westplay's proposal includes additional items: two bucket spinners, a panel, and an accessibility swing.
- Total cost is approximately $68,000 plus GST.
- Current funds available are $75,000.

    - ✓ Andrew motioned to engage Westplay Group to supply and install the playground equipment.
    - ✓ Greg seconded. All in favour.

11. New Business

    a. None

12. Our next meeting: June 3rd, 2026.

13. In – Camera

14. Closing Prayer

15. Meeting Adjourned at 7.26pm