

**Archbishop Jordan High School
Parent Advisory Committee February 24, 2021 Meeting**

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6568116136>

Wednesday February 24, 2021

Attendees

Executive for the 2020-2021 Parent Advisory Council

Shelley Borowski - Chair
Marianna Kowal - Vice Chair - regrets
Margareth Mauro - Secretary

Archbishop Jordan High School Staff

Greg Lakeman - Principal

Elk Island Catholic Schools Board of Trustee Member

Ted Paszek

Archbishop Jordan High School Student Council

Cassidi P.
Shaun H.
Sarah R.

Archbishop Jordan High School Parents

Carolina
Charles
Cristina
Debbie H.
Jane D.
Maria S.
Marie L.
Nancy F.
Pamela S.
Shauna
Zaeton

1. Welcome & Introductions

Shelley Borowski called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.
Marianna Kowal has stepped down as Vice Chair. Shelley Borowski thanked Marianna for her time, work and support to the PAC. The Vice Chair position will remain vacant as there are only two meetings left in the year.

2. Opening Prayer

Student Council member Cassidi P led the opening prayer.

3. Approval of Agenda

Shelley Borowski added the following two items to the agenda:

- College of Alberta School Superintendents (CASS) First Nations, Metis and Inuit Education Gathering
- Upcoming Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Feedback Requested on Vaping

Motion: To approve the February 24, 2021 agenda with the two additions.

Moved by Pamela S.

Seconded by Zaeton.

Motion carried.

4. Minutes from November 30, 2020 Meeting

Motion: To adopt the November 30, 2020 meeting minutes as presented.

Moved by Nancy F.

Seconded by Marie L.

Motion carried.

5. Highlights from the Elk Island Catholic Schools Board of Trustees

Ted Paszek congratulated ABJ administrators, teachers, students and parents for their resiliency and continued adaptability during the COVID pandemic. The Minister of Finance will reveal the budget to the public tomorrow. There are feelings of anxiety regarding what the budget will look like given that this government wants to reduce its spending in the public service sector. Ted Paszek will attend the February 25, 2021, meeting the Minister of Education has with education school boards. Next steps will be to discuss how the school boards and parents advocate for education.

6. Student Council Activities

Cassidi P. presented information about what Student Council is doing to engage students in a fun and safe way.

- February 24 is Pink Shirt Day to represent anti-bullying. This is a day when people wear a pink shirt to symbolize a stand against bullying. Pink shirts were distributed to students at the school's entrances this morning. There was a high degree of participation by students and teachers. The February writing contest hosted by the Council's Writing Sub-Committee is coming to a close. Students submitted their short stories or poetry; the sub-committee members will review all the submissions and determine a winner. The winner will receive an ABJ Scots face mask.
- March will focus on mental health. Planned activities include sending online grams to friends (like the ones sent as part of Christmas activities); sticky notes of motivations and quotes will be posted all over the school.
- May 8 will be Hats on for Mental Health. Stories, motivational quotes, activities to boost mental health and the mental health hotline will be posted on Instagram for students to access. Student Council is in the early planning stage of organizing a virtual question and answer session with Dr. Jody Carrington. A virtual ultimate scavenger hunt using the GooseChase app is being planned. Classrooms will compete for prizes with the goal of boosting moral in the classroom.
- All current and upcoming Student Council activities are COVID friendly.

7. ABJ Indigenous Lead Report

Janelle Millious provided an update regarding Indigenous Education at ABJ ([Appendix A](#)).

- In September, a google doc activity took place each day as Orange Shirt Day approached (September 30). History, events and prayers tailored to Orange Shirt Day framed the activities.
- Metis week was celebrated in November following Fall break. It occurs after the anniversary of Louis Riel's death. A PowerPoint presentation of the Metis people was shared with teachers; the presentation included general history, fiddle music, a jigging tutorial and a Metis sash creation video.

- In December, the focus was on post-secondary entrance dates. Specific Indigenous program information from the University of Alberta, MacEwan University and NAIT were shared on Google Meets.
- Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) was the focus in January. Profiles of local women and girls (read by committee members) were played on the announcements and class visits were completed to create awareness of the Red Dress campaign.
- Elder Doreen visited a few classes in February. She shared teachings about Residential schools, medicine plants, The 7 Sacred Teachings and storytelling.
- In March, a giant map (35 by 26 feet) will be arriving at ABJ and placed in the lower common area. The map does not have the provincial markings. The map marks the different Indigenous and language groups and Residential schools. There is a timeline that shows the initial contact made on North American soil all the way to the present day. Classes can book time at the map and complete a variety of activities.
- Profiles of professional Indigenous people will be highlighted in April via posters, announcements, virtual speaker engagements and recorded interviews.
- Lance Cardinal is scheduled to visit ABJ from May 1-7 and do a live art installation, a large mural with Indigenous symbolism. It is exciting to have him engage with students and provide teaching for classes regarding Indigenous men in the Arts and entrepreneurship.
- Graduation and National Indigenous People's Day will be the focus in June. Eva Stang will meet with graduates prior to the actual graduation. Will work with Eva to create a medicine pouch that holds the necessary items for a smudge ceremony; each graduate will receive a medicine pouch. The feasibility of hosting a peer aged drumming team or Pow-wow dancers in the football field is also being explored.
- Collaborating with an Indigenous photographer (Crowfoot Photography) to create a background image for the land acknowledgement banner. It is appropriate that the banner includes a picture of Elk Island National Park.

8. Administration / Principal Report

Greg Lakeman provided an update regarding the following:

- Accountability Pillar and EICS Assurance Surveys are completed and results will be shared at the next PAC meeting.
- Preparations for online registration for the upcoming academic year are occurring. New courses are being proposed including: animal sciences, lifeguarding, environmental stewardship, guitar and early bird physical education. The sport for life course continues to be approved but will not be offered for the upcoming year. There are two semesters for the 2021-2022 academic year; however, this may change to quarters if necessary.
- The ABJ Open House will be delivered virtually on Friday February 26 and posted on You Tube. Everyone is welcome to visit each department at their leisure. The theme for the Open House is "ABJ Around the World". A huge thank you to Mr. Marc St. Jean, Assistant Principal, for creating and executing an impressive video with ABJ staff. An excerpt of the open house video was shared at the meeting.
- ABJ school counsellors are planning to visit the grade 8 classes of feeder schools in two weeks and walk them through the online EICS registration.

- The Ash Wednesday mass was successful, thanks to Father Jim and OLPH Parish staff. A Q-tip was used to place ashes on a person's forehead to remain compliant with COVID restrictions.
- There have been no changes to ABJ's COVID protocols and no positive COVID cases to date.
- Formal announcements regarding noon hour intramurals and training sessions on school grounds while respecting COVID protocols will be made as necessary.
- There are no 2021 Graduation plans to share at this meeting. [Grad Information](#) is posted on the ABJ website. There are many different options to consider but no answers or decisions have been made. Greg Lakeman will invite a Grad Committee member to provide an update at the next PAC meeting.

Additions to Agenda

College of Alberta School Superintendents (CASS) First Nations, Metis and Inuit Education Gathering

- This is the fifth Gathering being offered. It is open to Superintendents, system leaders, school administrators, teachers, trustees, education support staff, parents, Elders and all members of the education community. The cost is \$195 per individual.
- The [2021 VIRTUAL First Nations, Métis & Inuit Education Gathering](#) is on March 15 (evening), 16 (morning) and 17 (mornings). Visit <https://cassalberta.ca/conferences-workshops/2021-first-nations-metis-inuit-education-gathering/> to register and for additional information.

Upcoming Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Feedback Requested on Vaping

- Health Canada is now engaging in a public consultation to gather feedback on the [Proposed Concentration of Nicotine in Vaping Products Regulations \(CNVPR\)](#), in addition to considering restricting flavours in vaping products and requiring detailed information on sales, ingredients, research and development.
- The public consultation is now open and closes on March 4, 2021. Feedback can be provided by following this link, which provides detailed information including with how to submit feedback <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/programs/consultation-proposed-concentration-nicotine-vaping-products-regulations.html>

9. Upcoming Meeting Dates

April 12 and May 31, 2021

10. Closing Prayer

Shelley Borowski led the closing prayer.

11. Adjournment

Shelley Borowski adjourned the meeting at **7:28** p.m.

Indigenous Ed. Update for PAC

Year Plan:

Month	Area of Focus	Implementers
Sept / Oct	Orange Shirt Day	Google Doc shared with activities and prayers for each day leading up to it
November	Metis Week	Poster printed for classrooms with QR codes to Metis info; Google Slides shared with history, fiddle music, jigging tutorial, sash info, finger weaving, etc for each day
December	Post Secondary Focus	Specific Indigenous program information from: U of A, Grant Mac and Nait on Google Meets
January	MMIWG	Profiles of local women and girls (read by committee members) were played on the announcements
February	Elder Doreen Visits	Elder Doreen met with a few of our classes on Feb. 10th & 12th to share teachings on Residential Schools, medicine plants, The 7 Sacred Teachings, and storytelling.
March	Giant map	Booked 15th - 19th (lower common area), classes will book time activity with it
April	Highlight Profiles of Indigenous Professionals	Virtual speakers, highlights on announcements, TPT posters, pre-interview Lance Cardinal, invite Jesse Thistle again, will start in Q4 (after April 21st)
May	Mural	Lance Cardinal live art installation, May 1-7th, Staff session on the 7th (PD day)
June	Grad & National Indigenous People's Day	Eva Stang will meet with grads, one week later is actual grad; Teen Pow-wow dancers in football field (if possible)

Ongoing things:

- Land Acknowledgement banner with [Crowfoot Photography](#) (Bert & Sandra)