***Father Leonard Van Tighem School Council* - MEETING MINUTES**

2026–2027 School Year

Date: *October 20th, 2026*
Time: *7:00 p.m.*
Location: *Father Leonard Van Tighem School Library*

Attendees: Shannon Collier, Linda Ellefson, Cason Machacek, Justin Molas, Jennifer Pelletier, Loan Cao-Dutch, Lindsay Spadavecchia, Christa Sawatzky, Patty Wright, Andrea Bezooyen, Melissa Vander Heyden, Kaleigh Rey, Brittney Perlich and Shauna Kay Stirling Reader.

1. **Meeting Call to Order to order** : 7:03pm by Lindsay Spadavecchia.

2. **Land Acknowledgement, and Opening Prayer**

3. **Introductions**

4. **Review of Agenda**

5. **Approval of Minutes** – previous meeting June 2026 (no minutes available and unable to approve)

6. **Reports**

a. Principal: Shannon Collier (see Appendix A)
b. FLVT School-Level Director of Religious Education: Cason Machacek (see Appendix B)
c. Trustee: Linda Ellefson
    I. Celebrating Catholic week
    II. The board of trustees will be reviewing their priorities, vision and mission.
d. Teacher: Jennifer Pelletier
    I. This year the school has a great crew of teachers with lots of spirit and enthusiasm. The first dance was a success given the short time frame to organize. All teachers and parents came together to make it a fun night for the students.
    II. On the PD day the teachers were able to review data from the Government Assurance survey.
    III. Great athletic representation from the school, fun pep rally and upcoming Halloween writing contest.
    IV. There was a division Pow Wow for the Gr 4 & Gr7, some guest were honored Blackfoot names.
    V. Planning of advent December activities.

Motion: Funding of up to $750 for prizes for Dec 16th BINGO, hot chocolate and candy cane for the whole school.
Moved by: Kaleigh Rey
Seconded by: Andrea Bezooyen
All in favour: YES

e. Treasurer: Christa Sawatzky (see Appendix C)
f. School Events and Communication: Andrea Bezooyen
I.Updating school bulletin board to fall theme.
g. Fundraising: Kaleigh Rey
I. Growing Smiles fall fundraiser will be taking place in November, orders can be placed from Nov 1-16, with delivery on Nov 30th.
II. Looking into a winter event with Dueling Pianos entertainment and supper. More to
follow at the next meeting.

7. **New Business**

a. Academic Awards Evening
I. Will be taking place on Monday Oct 26th. Invitation emails have been sent out to the students and families that are receiving an award.

Motion: For three $25 cheques to be given to (Gr 7, Gr 8, Gr 9) for Outstanding Student.
Moved by: Kaleigh Rey
Seconded by: Patty Wright
All in favour: YES

b. Council of School Council Chairs/Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule 2026-2027 (see Appendix D)
I.Christa Sawatzky will attend.

8. **Adjournment** : 8:48pm by Linda Spadavecchia

Next meeting date November 17th, 2026 at 7pm

Meeting minutes completed by Loan Cao-Dutch

APPENDIX A: Principal Report October 2026 (Mrs. S. Collier)

Welcome to our New Library Clerk:
We are pleased to welcome Miss Gabrielle Westgeest as our new Library Clerk. Gabrielle will be working alongside Sabra Roberts over the next few months as part of her learning and training in the library.

Academic Awards Evening for 2025 2026 School Year:
Monday, October 26th 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
It is always a special evening as we gather to celebrate the accomplishments of our students at our annual Academic Awards evening. Letters and invitations have been sent out welcoming students and families of those being recognized that evening.

October Professional Learning Days at FLVT:
The staff of FLVT spent time collaborating and reviewing data from last year's Government Assurance survey as well as the Holy Spirit Schollie Survey that was administered in the spring. Staff feedback will be used as we prepare our Continuous Improvement Planning documents for this school year. In November, I would like to spend some time with our school council to gain parent feedback on this data. I have placed the documents in our November folder so that school council members have access to the data prior to the November meeting.
Direct link to data: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1L1rPRHJxbG4Ps8zw3f8AVttuYHymiJWn

You can also access FLVT CIP 2025 2026 on our website at: https://flvt.holyspirit.ab.ca/reports_plans

CIP are submitted to the Superintendent as well as posted on school websites by the end of November.

Junior High Support Block (Study Hall):
We are offering Friday support block again this year for students that are missing assignments or need additional support in their classes. The following dates are scheduled for the 2026 2027 school year: October 23rd, 2026, November 6th, 2026, November 27th, 2026, December 11th, 2026, January 15th, 2027, January 29th, 2027, February 26th, 2027, March 12th, 2027, April 16th, 2027, April 30th, 2027, May 14th, 2027, May 28th, 2027, June 11th, 2027

Teachers will reach out to parents if they are referring a student to attend on a specific date. This way transportation can be arranged for students to get home when they stay on those Fridays after school. Until January, this support block will be held in the Foods room. Starting in January, we will transition back to the library space.

Traditional January Junior High Mid Term Exam Week is omitted this school year:
This school year we will not be scheduling a week of mid-term exams. Teachers that might consider doing a mid-term or larger unit exam will do them during regular scheduled class time. Regular classes will occur on the last week of the month.

School Calendar December:
A gentle reminder that on December 17th & 18th there will not be school for students. They will have two additional days of holidays prior to Christmas. Staff will be spending these two days reorganizing and moving SKS to their new building. The last day of classes will be Wednesday, December 16th, 2026.

Upcoming Events/Important Dates:

SV HAWKS Home Volleyball Tournament: Thursday, October 22nd - Saturday, October 24th
JV HAWKS Gator Classic Volleyball Tournament: Friday, October 23rd – Saturday, October 24th
Grade 6 Volleyball Jamboree: SFJH Friday, October 23rd
Academic Awards Evening: Monday, October 26th 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. (gymnasium)
Halloween Parade: Friday, October 30th starting at 10:30 a.m. (with SKS)
All Saints Day: November 1st
All Souls' Day: November 2nd
Grade 6 Camp Fundraiser: starting Monday, November 2nd (Kernels and Beef Jerky)
Last Day of Quarter 1 Options: November 5th
Remembrance Day: November 11th
HS Spiritual Development Day: November 12th (no school for students)
School PD Day: November 13th (no school for students)
Parent Teacher Interviews: November 18th and 19th

APPENDIX B: DREC Report and Forecast (Cason Machacek)

Division Faith Plan Focus: Year 2 – *Love God* | *"Open Wide the Doors! Sent to Share Christ's Love"*

Year Theme & Scripture: *"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."* (Acts 2:42)

1. Executive Summary & Faith Plan Alignment

During October 2026, our school community continued to center its spiritual life around Year 2 of our Division Faith Plan: **Love God**, specifically focusing on encountering God through **The Mass and the Sacred Heart of Jesus**. In alignment with *Dilexit Nos* (84), we aimed to create intentional pauses amidst today's frenetic pace, re-centering our staff, students, and families around the Eucharist, shared prayer, and fellowship.

2. October Recap & Key Spiritual Metrics

Newsletter & Personal Faith Formation Corner
Our monthly newsletter featured dedicated personal faith formation resources, providing actionable ways for families to bring the Faith into the home:

- **Digital & Print Engagement:** Distributed parish links, FORMED platform access, saint reflections, and devotional prayers across our school community.
- **Month of the Rosary Directives:** Rosary prayer guides were introduced and prayed upon alongside our Religion and Gospel classes this month.

Eucharistic Community & Liturgical Celebrations

- **JH Thanksgiving Liturgy (October 9, 2026):** Held in the Gymnasium from 10:30 AM to 11:15 AM. Grounded in the theme *The Eucharist: "To Give Thanks"*, students reflected on the source and summit of our faith.
- **Coffee & Grace Staff Fellowship:** Launched on Friday, October 9, running (mostly) weekly from 8:15–8:30 AM in the Canteen. Staff gather for warm drinks, brief prayer, and reflection to realign daily work with our Faith Plan.

Daily Marian & Saint Devotions
Throughout October, classes highlighted key witness figures using FORMED as a supplemental resource and daily reflections into key feast days including:

- **St. Thérèse of Lisieux (Oct 1) & St. Teresa of Ávila (Oct 15):** Lessons on the "Little Way" and interior prayer.
- **Holy Guardian Angels (Oct 2) & St. Francis of Assisi (Oct 4):** Trust in God's protection, simplicity, and service to the poor.
- **Our Lady of the Rosary (Oct 7):** Marian intercessory prayer.
- **St. Carlo Acutis (Oct 12):** Utilizing technology and youth talents to glorify the Eucharist.
- **St. Pope John Paul II (Oct 22):** Bold witness and opening wide the doors to Christ.

3. Catholic Education Week (October 18th – October 23rd, 2026)

Theme, Scripture, and Identity

- **Theme:** *The Power of the Holy Spirit*
- **Scripture:** *"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."* (Romans 15:13)
- **Featured Saint:** St. Pier Giorgio Frassati (Special edition saint cards)

- **Visual Symbolism:** The Catholic Education Week logo features the Chi-Rho at the center (Jesus Christ as the heart of Catholic education), surrounded by the Word of God, rays of Christ's light, and blue/GrACE colors symbolizing Our Lady and the bond between **Home, School, and Parish**.

Catholic Education Sunday & Diocesan Matching Gift Drive
On Catholic Education Sunday (Oct 18th), we celebrated publicly funded Catholic education across Alberta.

- **Diocese of Calgary Matching Collection:** Through the generosity of the Diocese of Calgary, all online financial contributions made during this campaign were matched dollar-for-dollar.
- **Online Giving & Transparency:** Families and supporters contributed directly via the Diocese of Calgary Catholic Education Sunday Portal, receiving official tax receipts and promotional materials (Bishops' Pastoral Letter and QR codes).

4. November Forecast & Upcoming Liturgical Events

As we transition into November, our focus shifts toward remembrance, gratitude, and preparing our hearts for the King who is to come.

DATE	EVENT / LITURGY	DETAILS & LEADERSHIP
Nov 2 – Nov 30	Daily Prayer Leadership	Homeroom 8C (Mr. Craig)
Nov 10, 2026	Remembrance Day Celebration	10:40 AM in the Gym (Hosted by 7P - Pelletier); Silent Pause @ 11:00 AM
Nov 28–29, 2026	First Sunday of Advent	Liturgical Season Begins
Dec 2, 2026	Advent Liturgy: Hope (Week 1)	9:45 AM (9C- Craddock)

- **Remembrance Day Celebration (November 10, 2026 @ 10:40 AM):** Led by Ms. Pelletier's 7P class. We will gather in solemn prayer to honor those who served, observe a division-wide Moment of Silence at 11:00 AM, and pray for global peace under the banner of Micah 6:8 ("*Do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly*").
- **Preparation for Advent (Beginning November 28, 2026):** We begin our journey toward the Nativity. Classroom spaces and home altars will transition to purple, getting ready for our December Advent Liturgy series starting December 2nd (*Week 1: Hope*).

5. Family Reflection, Action, & Invitation
To make our Faith Plan accessible and lived at home, we invite all families—regardless of where you are on your spiritual journey—to engage in this simple monthly practice.

Reflection (Thinking Together)
Read **Acts 2:42** together at home: *"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."*
In our busy home lives, how can we make our family meal table a place of true connection, peace, and prayer?

Action (Living Together)

- **The Sunday Dinner Pause:** Commit to at least one family meal each week where cell phones and screens are put away. Begin with a simple prayer of gratitude for the food, for one another, and for Christ's presence in your home.
- **Saint Pier Giorgio's "Courage to be Great":** Choose one small, hidden act of service this week—helping a neighbor, reaching out to someone who is lonely, or praying for peace—reflecting St. Pier Giorgio Frassati's call to flee mediocrity and live generously.

Opportunity & Ongoing Invitation

- **Coffee & Grace:** Parents and community members are warmly invited to drop in on Friday mornings (8:15–8:30 AM) in the Canteen to share a warm drink and a short prayer moment with our staff.
- **Mass Participation:** Join us at St. Martha's Parish on Sunday to celebrate Mass as a broader family, grounding our week in the source of all hope.

May the Lord fill your homes with joy, peace, and hope through the power of the Holy Spirit!

APPENDIX C: September 2026 FLVT Financial Report

Father Leonard Van Tighem School Council
Financial Report
Monthly report ending September 30, 2026

FLVT School held account Balance as of September 1, 2026		1,475.82
Receipts		
School Council Fees	1,315.00	
Sales	5.00	
		1,320.00
Disbursements		
Total Disbursements		0.00
Bank Balance at September 30, 2026		2,795.82
Commitments to 2026 (estimate amounts)		
Treaty Poster Contest (Motion September 15, 2026)	100.00	
Virtue Vouchers (Motion September 15, 2026)	400.00	
Pizza Cross Country (Motion September 15, 2	300.00	
Terry Fox Run (Motion September 15, 2026)	250.00	
		1,050.00
Estimated Balance at October 30, 2026		1,745.82
Outdoor Classroom Account Transfers		

This financial statement has been reviewed and approved

Christa Sawatzky
Christa Sawatzky - Treasurer

October 17, 2026
Date