Our goal

Through School Council we aim to create a teaching and learning environment at St. Jude School to support students in achieving their highest potential in all areas of learning.

- Working closely with our principals we create a community spirit that makes St. Jude School more than just a school.

- We aim to create a learning environment where all students feel the commitment of their principal, their teachers and their parents working together toward a common goal.
A word from our Principals....

Rob Brabec | Dana Legge
A message from Rob and Dana

It is our pleasure to welcome you to St. Jude School.

We are excited to work in a learning partnership with your family as we strive to deliver a quality education program for your child. We are committed to meeting the individual needs of all students, while helping them to discover and develop their potential as they explore and share experiences and opportunities as they progress in their education.

Our faith theme for our district this year is *Search, and you will find; (Mathew 7:7)*. This theme allows us to continue to foster a strong faith with God by prayer. Catholic education through prayer can assist us in knowing God’s abundant love and mercy for us. This unifying focus encourages us to celebrate our students, their unique gifts, talents and diverse learning needs and also celebrate our cultural and ethnic diversity within our school motto of “Helping Each Other Learn”. No matter where we come from, we are always striving to find ways to look for and after each other. We look forward to celebrating, learning and sharing together with all our students, parents and the parish.
School Council

Background
What do we do?

Through School Council, in partnership with our principals we support and enhance student learning and engage in school improvement planning.

- Advise the principal and board on educational issues that pertain to the school.
- Establish and review school council’s goals, objectives, action plans and procedures.
- Communicate and consult with parents and the school community.
- Meet regularly to focus on what is best for all students in the school.
- Consider the interests of all school stakeholders.
- Maintain and reflect the culture of the school.
- Represent the parent voice in the school community.
A word from our parents...

Here’s what some of our parents had to say about “WHY” they choose to support School Council
Why School Council?

Here’s what some of our parents had to say about “WHY” they choose to support School Council…

“I, like many parents, have a full time career, so it is not easy for me to contribute to the school during school hours. St. Jude has been nothing but amazing working with my children, utilizing any possible resource to help them succeed. They create an inclusive environment and make my children feel they are not lost in the crowd. Being a member of the school council for the past 4 years has been my way to give back to an amazing school. I learn about the school and its directives and I have fun assisting with events.”

Jennifer Schwehr
Vice-Chair, School Council
Grade 2 and Grade 4 parent
“My number one ‘why’ I attend school council meetings and volunteer when I can is because research says parent involvement in school increases student success. I want my daughter to be successful in school. Therefore I find time in my busy schedule to attend school council meetings once a month. I have found that there are many positive side-effects of joining school council meetings. Knowledge and understanding of school decisions, having a voice to make school a meaningful experience for our family, and fun and laughter, to name a few ‘why’ incidentals I have experienced.”

Ann Marie Ciobanca
School Council, Grade 5 parent
Why School Council?

Here’s what some of our parents had to say about “WHY” they choose to support School Council…

“I've become involved in the St. Jude School Council for two reasons. First, because I really wanted to know what was happening at the school. When my daughter started kindergarten, I was frustrated that I didn’t have insight into decisions and why things were happening the way they were. In attending a St. Jude School Council event I met some council members who encouraged me to attend the next meeting and share my ideas. I'm so happy I took them up on their offer! I've discovered that the monthly meetings keep me informed and I have the opportunity to voice my concerns, share advice and plan some really fun events for the students at the School. The work we do really does make a difference!!

Secondly, I joined because it allows me to give back to the School Community. Members can be very involved or offer advice at counsel meetings. All roles are equally important and have such a big impact. If you are on the fence about joining, I’d urge you to consider giving your time whenever possible. Seeing the joy and excitement on the kids faces after they have been able to participate in a school council sponsored event is the best feeling ever!”

Kimberley Siewert,
Secretary, School Council
Grade 3 parent
Why School Council?

Here’s what some of our parents had to say about “WHY” they choose to support School Council…

“This is our daughter's second year at St. Jude School. In starting Grade 1 this past Fall; we felt it was important to stay informed of what was happening in the school and the decisions being made to support both her education and personal growth.

Powerful families and supportive, diverse and inclusive communities are important to both my husband and myself. As we both work full time, we are unable to actively engage with the parents and faculty each day, so for us, this allows us to connect and give back in a meaningful way. Also many hands make light work. Events organized through parent council are not possible without parent involvement. The funds raised through activities allow us to host special events and fun programs for the kids and families, which may not otherwise happen.

I know in my heart when we all bring our own unique gifts of talent, time and treasure miracles can happen to support our small and mighty school in being successful. I look forward to getting to know other families at St. Jude and hope to see you at our next council meeting!”

Michelle Williams,
School Council, Grade 1 parent
What have we been up to so far this year?

- Fall BBQ
- Santa & Elves visit
- Christmas song night
- Fall Market
- Christmas Raffle
- Movie Night
- Mabel’s Labels
- Used book sale
- The Mixing Spoon fundraiser
- Christmas cookies for students
What we still have left to do:

We aren’t done yet – the fun continues!!

- Shrek musical field trip
- Grade 6 Farewell
- Family dance
- Teacher appreciation lunch
- Year end school celebration
- Sacramental recognition
- Granary Road field trip
St. Jude 2019 wish list....

To enhance student learning | school improvement planning
St. Jude 2018/2019 wish list

To enhance student learning

- **Maker Space Bin** (Est. $1,000)
  - Maker spaces reflect a “learn by doing” model in attaining curricular outcomes.

- **Learning Commons** (Est. $3,000)
  - LOFT TV - supports enhanced communication between teacher/students, collaboration and custom content development – no contracts or ongoing maintenance costs.

- **Gymnasium AV Equipment** (Est. $6,500)
  - LCD projector (Est. $2,500) / Large projector screen (Est. $4,000)
  - Support student learning, share presentations, films to enhance special events and social activities.
What is a Learning Commons?

A learning commons is an inclusive, flexible, learner-centered, physical or virtual space for children and teachers to collaborate, discover, learn and play.

Libraries must continue to evolve to prepare students in becoming critical thinkers, evaluators, users, and creators of information and knowledge.

Learning commons support:

- Flexible environments to access both traditional and multi-media devices to create and share knowledge.

- Study, collaboration, projects, course work both individually or in groups.

- Students, parents, teachers, administrators, and the community can also use the space for instruction, social or collaborative learning, production and presentation.

To learn more, click here
We are excited to have begun our long overdue refresh of the St. Jude Learning Commons!

- Fresh paint to brighten our space!
- Artwork canvass
- Updated books / cabinets
- Creation of a reading and reflection corner
- New tables and chairs to support collaboration (purchased 2017/2018 school year)
Community donations

Thanks to our community partners we have…

- Secured chrome book cart – value $2,500
  - A huge thank you to Woodcreek Community Association for their generous donation of funds that made it possible to purchase a new iPad cart!
Join us!
To learn more about current and future activities
How can you get involved?

There are many ways, here are a few ideas to get you started...

- **JOIN US at our next….**
  - School Council meeting – Thursday, May 9\(^{th}\) @ 7:00pm

- **Complete our parent survey** – help us plan the path forward - click the link to [share insights and ideas!](#)

- **Attend School Council social events** and *connect with your school community!*

- **Partner with the School Council** by offering your time, talent or treasures to make a difference in our school!

- **Leverage your connections** in the community by sharing news about events, collecting donations, establishing partnerships to offer volunteer services or donations and/or promoting news with St. Jude alumni in our community.
To learn more...

“Search, and you will find;” Matthew 7:7

- St. Jude School [Website](#) / CCSD School Council [Handbook](#)
- St. Jude [Eboard](#) | St. Jude [Calendar](#)
- Hey St. Jude Newsletter – emailed weekly to our school community!
- Check out our new Twitter account @ Stjude_CCD

To learn more, please contact:

- [Robert Brabec](#) | Principal
- [Dana Legge](#) | Assistant Principal
- [Daniela Ruttle](#) | School Council President
- Your child’s Teacher | [Contact list](#)
Thank you!

St. Jude School

Stay informed by visiting our school website for more information: https://www.cssd.ab.ca/schools/stjude