

Logos Steering Committee Meeting ~ Monday, September 18, 2023

Start Time: 6:50pm

Attendance (In Person): Aaron Wong, Helen Nowell, Tara Kwasney, Marney Elzen-Hoskyn, Devonne Skuba, Crystal Sawatzky, Nikki Woodford, Kim Giacetti, Denise Gavinchuk, Marta Cebula, Dawn Martin, Damien Wilkinson

Attendance (via Google Meet): Jessica Cardozo, Suzanna Diego, Janine Dougans, Nancy Johnson, Cynthia Hunter, Vanessa Johnston, Natasha Lantz, Vanessa Steinke

1. Welcome and Prayer

- Parents went around the group, both in person and online, to introduce themselves and which grades their kids attend at JMD
- Tara opened the meeting in prayer

2. Determination of Committee Roles for the 2023-2024 school year

- Tara is willing to mentor and coach a new chair for the school year. Thank you Tara for serving as the chair of this committee for many years. The Chair works with the Logos Coordinator (Mr. Wong) to set agenda and meeting dates, chairs the meetings, checks in on action items, and often facilitates fellowship events.
- Marney Elzen-Hoskyn and Vanessa Steinke have volunteered to step into the Chair position this year. They will work as a team of 3 co-chairs with Tara Kwasney.
- The Secretary keeps minutes of the Committee Meetings (minutes are submitted to Coordinator and Chair for approval then posted on JMD website)
- Kim Giacetti will take minutes for the committee meetings this year.

3. Staff Update from Aaron Wong, Coordinator of the Logos Program and Grade 8 teacher

- Logos Registrations by grade:

Kindergarten (22)	Grade 4 (35)	Grade 7 (30)
Grade 1 (29)	Grade 5 (17)	Grade 8 (26)
Grade 2 (32)	Grade 6 (27)	Grade 9 (24)
Grade 3 (31)		
- New Logos staff: Carolyn Leppington (Grade 2) and Amanda Campaner (Grade 1)
- Aaron Wong is communicating with Edmonton Logos and other Christian Schools in the area. He is hoping to have a collaborative gathering and would like to gather input and insights from other Christian schools/programs on how they are dealing with current culture and how they run their programs effectively.

- There is discussion on updating the Logos Handbook (<https://jmd.spschools.org/our-school/programs/logos>) and amend to reflect issues and culture affecting Logos.
- Dillion Knoll (PE Director) has some ideas for apparel that will include Logos specific clothing. They may use the original Logos logo and/or incorporate this year's theme - JESUS.
- Praise services are listed in the September Logos Newsletter. The newsletter was emailed out on September 7th. Please let the school office know if you did not receive it. It was sent from jmd@spschools.org
- Praise services may need to pivot to a different day (ie. Tuesdays). Without the Connect Time block after lunch, Mr. Wong doesn't want to go over time and conflict with the junior high options. Watch for an updated calendar in the next Logos newsletter.
- Logos teachers have been given the opportunity this year to attend the ACSI Conference in Calgary on October 20th as part of their professional development.

4. Support for the Program

- Oct 31 activity:
 - Grades 1 to 4 will be having a movie afternoon
 - Grades 5 to 9 will be spending the afternoon at Servus Place (permission forms on PowerSchool)
 - Both activities will require some parent volunteers and form will be in PowerSchool or you can email Mr. Aaron Wong (aaron.wong@spschools.org)
- Service project:
 - Logos is coordinating an all school activity/service project with "Reverse Trick or Treating" (Food Bank collection) in the Jensen Lakes neighborhood. Mr. Wong may need some help driving food on October 31. Please email him if you are interested.
- The Logos program does not celebrate Halloween by wearing costumes. Some questions arose during the meeting and some explanation was given:
 - Written in the Logos handbook that Halloween is not celebrated in the program. It is a core aspect of the program.
 - Discussion surrounding costumes and parents asking if there would be future consideration. Answered by the principal, Helen Nowell, as needs to be discussed in a different forum (it is not this committee's mandate to revise the Handbook and change policy) and all fundamental program changes must go through the proper channels of the Public School Board of Trustees for consideration and approval.

- Nikki Woodford shared that there is a group of parents praying every Tuesday morning outside the school. They meet near the Kindergarten doors. All are welcome to join and Mr. Wong will add information to the next Logos newsletter.
- Aaron Wong noted that all Logos teachers gather to pray together on Wednesday mornings.
- Marny Elzen-Hoskyn asked about ways to encourage student-led prayer initiatives, such as “prayer at the flagpole” and/or an idea for a faith club for students. Mr. Wong will bring this idea up to the junior high students.

5. Fellowship/Connection Opportunities

- Praise and Pizza Thursday, October 12th (5:30-7:30p)
 - With volleyball season in full swing, the gym is not available until later. Some discussion around either having pizza in the small gym and transitioning to the main gym for praise time or starting later and doing a “Pie and Praise” option.
 - Marny Elzen-Hoskyn offered herself and her family to provide the band and lead in praise and worship for the event.
 - Tara Kwasney will put out a survey to Logos families to see if the majority wants earlier with pizza or later with pie.
- Carols and Cookies Wednesday, December 20th (6:30-7:30p)
 - Same format as last year and the Elzen-Hoskyn family will lead the music.
 - Families will be asked to bring cookies to share.
- Goodies and Games Thursday, April 18th (TBD)
- Logos Family BBQ Tuesday, June 18th (5:30-7:30p)
 - Idea was proposed to pivot the Logos Family BBQ to an all school BBQ hosted by Logos families. This is in an effort to serve our school community more.

6. Promotion of the Logos Program

- Apparel (shirts) being worked on by Dillon Knoll (PE director) with Mr. Wong. Other promotional ideas include: vinyl stickers, car window decals, tote bags/reusable bags. Mr. Wong is looking at including a verse or even this year’s theme verse on a shirt for purchase.
- Update needs to happen for the Logos program promotional materials (posters and brochures) as current pictures are students with masks on. Nikki Woodford offered to come into the school on Thursday, September 21 to take some pictures of Logos

students and during the praise services. Mrs. Nowell and Mr. Wong will work with Nikki to submit new photos to the district for promotion

7. Other Business

- Kindergarten Open House will be in January 2024. Mrs. Nowell would like some Logos representation (other than teachers) at the Open House.
- Word of mouth is still the best method of promotion for our program.
- Crystal Sawatzky suggested we serve cookies or something in the lobby during our school Christmas concerts as a way to serve our school community.

Meeting adjourned: 8:19pm

Next Logos Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for:
Monday, January 15, 2024 @ 6:45pm (in person and online)