

St Joseph's Catholic School
School Advisory Council
Agenda & Meeting Minutes



Meeting - Wednesday 17th February 2025

Agenda Items

1. Acknowledgement of Country
2. Meeting Prayer
3. Meeting Opened
4. Attendance and Apologies
5. Minutes of Previous Meeting
6. Chairpersons Report
7. P & F President Report
8. Finance Officer Report
9. P & F Budget Report
10. Presentation of the 2025 Fees and Charges for endorsement
11. Principals Report
12. Meeting Closed

Acknowledgement of Country

*I'd like to begin by acknowledging the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet today.
I would also like to pay my respects to Elders past and present.*

Meeting Prayer

Heavenly Father, We come to you today asking for your guidance, wisdom, and support as we begin this meeting. Help us engage in meaningful discussion; allow us to grow closer as a group and nurture the bonds of community.

Meeting Opened: 5:40pm

Present: Natalie Beaton (Principal), Nic Warren, Lisa Granich, Tash Beaton, Fr Matthew Hodgson, Jodie Cobden (Finance Officer), Lisa Powell, Sarah Tucker, Tara Winch-Buist, Emma Warren, Emma McGilvray, Zen Khan, Leah Gale, Jenna Christie, Chantelle Gray, Britt Kent, Petrina Pearce, Isiah Muchengeti.

Apologies: Ashlee Freestone, Deborah Maddock, Michelle Pedrin and Michael Gravenall.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

Accepted: Tash Beaton

Seconded: Nat Beaton

Chairpersons Report

Welcome everyone and thank you for taking the time to attend the School Advisory Council Annual School Community Meeting tonight. This year was my third year on the School Advisory Council and my third year as Chairperson. This year has been another wonderful and productive year at St Joseph's School. Once again, the school is in a good financial position and the School Advisory Council look forward to working together again to improve our school for the future.

A few things I would like to mention;

- Mrs Natalie Beaton was successful in her application as has accepted her position as ongoing Principal for 2025 and beyond.
- School Camp in Term 3 to Busselton was a great success and thank you to everyone involved.
- Mums and Bubs was a huge success for the 2024 year.
- The 3 year old program was run successfully for 2024, with 6 students enrolled.
- The ceiling in the Junior Classroom and the bitumen area were both completed.

I would like to extend my thanks to the following;

- To Nat Beaton, Chantelle Stock, Britt Kent and Lisa Jackson for all their hard work to deliver the highest standard of education for the students. Wishing Lisa Jackson all the best as she left at the end of last year.
- Thank you to Molly Brooker for Term 1-3 and Ella Collins for Term 4 in the Senior Room.
- To Michelle Pedrin, Petrina Pearce and Leah Gale, our Education Assistants who do an amazing job supporting our teachers and students in the classroom.
- To Deb Maddock, Jodie Cobden and Emma Warren who work tirelessly in the office, ensuring everything behind the scenes runs smoothly.
- To Cheryl Navale and George Boso who ensure our school is sparkling and our gardens are immaculate.
- To Father Matthew for celebrating our school Masses, running the You Can Do It Program within the school and also for attending camp again last year.
- To the P&F Association, Leah Gale (President), Tash Beaton (Vice President), Ashlee Freestone (Secretary) and Jodie Cobden (Financial Management) and all the other parents who take time to attend the meetings and continuously volunteer their time to help support our P&F Association.
- Lastly to the members of our School Advisory Council, Lisa Powell (Secretary), Nat Beaton, Lisa Granich, Father Matthew, Nic Warren, Michael Gravenall and Isiah Muchengheti thank you for all your effort and support throughout 2024.

To our Year 6 student, Jye Jackson, we wish you all the best for next year when you start high school.

I'm looking forward to another wonderful and exciting year at St Joseph's for 2025.

P&F President Report:

St Joseph's Parents and Friends Association End-of-Year Report 2024

As we come to the end of another successful year, we take this opportunity to reflect on the achievements, challenges, and contributions of our Parents and Friends Association (P&F). This year has been marked by tremendous support from our school community, and we extend our heartfelt gratitude to all parents, caregivers, administrators, teachers, and students who have played a role in making this year a success.

Throughout the year, the P&F has been actively involved in fostering a strong school community and supporting various initiatives, including:

- **Fundraising Events:**
 - **Mother's Day Stall and Father's Day Stall** – Provided an opportunity for students to purchase gifts for their loved ones while supporting the school.
 - **Bulb Fundraiser** – Raised a total of \$395.50, which was impressive our first time doing this event.
 - **YSSSA Sausage Sizzle** – Raised approximately \$128, helping to support our school's involvement in sports programs, and contribute to our wider community.
 - **Football Club Afternoon Tea** – Generated approximately \$372.25. Done by donations from families alone, this was a great event that allowed us to raise funds whilst helping another committee in our community.
 - **Yeti Raffle** – A resounding success, raising an impressive \$3,490, which will significantly help towards our camp donation. Also, would like to again thank HavCon Engineering and WB Contracting for their donations that allowed us to raise this impressive amount of money.
 - **Halloween Disco** – While we did not make a profit on the night, we still have stock on hand for future events and were pleased to contribute to a fun community event for our children.
- **Community Engagement:** We hosted several social events to encourage school spirit and strengthen relationships between families, including a Back to School Sundowner with live music provided by local musician Erin Pope. It was wonderful to see so many people at the event and enjoy an evening of connection and celebration.
- **Support for School Programs:** We were proud to donate \$5,000 towards the school camp, ensuring our students receive well-rounded educational opportunities. We were also excited to support the school leaders in their endeavours and provided the Holi powder, sunglasses, headbands, and shirts for their **Colour Run Day**.
- **Volunteer Contributions:** A heartfelt thank you to our wonderful volunteers who dedicated their time to helping at these fundraising events.

Our financial position remains strong, with a closing balance of **\$10,073**.

While this year has been successful, we have also encountered challenges common to many country towns, particularly in terms of smaller family and student numbers. However, St Joe's is fortunate to have a dedicated group of parents who continue to support our students and school community. Moving forward, we will focus on strengthening community engagement and seeking additional funding opportunities to sustain our efforts.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our school leadership, staff, and all P&F members for their unwavering dedication and enthusiasm. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the executive committee members and general members who regularly attended meetings, contributed valuable ideas, and provided unwavering support to this association.

Furthermore, none of these accomplishments would be possible without the incredible support of our outstanding school administrators. Your dedication to prioritizing the needs of our children does not go unnoticed, and we are truly grateful for your ongoing commitment to their well-being and success.

As we enter the new year, we look forward to continuing our efforts to support the school and create a thriving community for our children. We welcome all parents and friends to join us in making a positive impact in the coming year.

After three years as Chairperson, I am sad to be stepping down from my role, but I look forward to supporting the new committee in their endeavours and continuing to contribute to our wonderful school community.

Leah Gale
Chairperson
Parents and Friends Association
St Joseph's School, Southern Cross, WA

17th Feb, 2025

Finance Officer Report:

Presentation of Income Statement

Presentation of the 2025 Budget for Endorsement.

Moved: Lisa Powell **Seconded:** Tash Beaton

P& F Budget Report: (Jodie Cobden)

Included in part of above presentations

Moved: Lisa Granich **Seconded:** Emma Warren

Presentation of the 2025 Fees and Charges for endorsement:

Pre Kindy \$60 per year (\$1.50 per week)

Kindergarten \$100 per year (\$5 per fortnight)

Pre Primary- Year 6 \$250 per year (\$12.50 per fortnight)

Building Levy \$50 per family (\$12.50 per term)

Moved: Jenna Christie

Seconded: Tara Winch-Buist

Principal's Report:

I would like to warmly welcome everyone and thank you for coming to our Annual Community Meeting this evening. Our apologies for the delay with the ACM; however, the meeting had to be delayed due to unforeseen circumstances with Budgets.

St Joseph's is a fantastic community; the students are at the centre of everything we do. With low school fees and many opportunities in areas such as School Camp, Art, Science, Technology, and targeted learning, St Joseph's is truly a school that offers a Quality Catholic Education.

Highlights of the year have included our association with the other YSSSA schools to hold joint events in Wellbeing, Sport, Literacy and Numeracy Days and Naidoc Day.

These days, we have capped off with our own school special events such as: St Joseph's Feast Day, Anzac Day, Lifelink Day, Remembrance Day, Family Sundowner Evening, Book Week & Book Week Dress-Up Day, Scitech Incursion, Cyberbullying presentation delivered by NBN, Izzie the Lizard from SDERA, The Great Veggie Crunch, Road Safety visits from the local police, National Tree Day in collaboration with the Yilgarn Shire, Teddy Bear Hospital, run by Notre Dame medical students, Senior Citizen's games where students provided entertainment learnt in Dance & Music, Fundraising through dress-up days and events and donating funds to St. John Ambulance, Royal Flying Doctor Service, Caritas, Lifelink the Oblate Apostles of the Two Hearts and Telethon Speech and Hearing Institute.

We are very thankful to our parent community and were delighted to once again celebrate Mother's Day, Father's Day and Grandparents Day in special ways with you. Our camp in Busselton was another success, and the students enjoyed the history and attractions in the southwest area. The 2024 camp was a valuable experience for our students, and they are to be commended on how well they represented our school through all of the activities associated with the camp. I would also like to thank Father Matthew, Mrs Lisa Jackson, Mrs Michelle Pedrin, Mr Nic Warren, Mr Jack Beaton, and Father Matthew for ensuring that camp was such a success.

Parents and students, thank you for choosing to be a part of the St Joseph's Catholic School community! I am thankful for the many ways that you have engaged with us throughout the year, and we are proud of the community in which we thrive. We truly value this partnership and look forward to your continued support.

The contribution that the P&F makes in supporting initiatives, resourcing the classrooms, and building community is vital and deserves celebration. I would like to personally thank the P&F Executive: Leah, Ashlee, Tash, and their members for their contributions in 2024. Your contributions, time, and effort in the work that you do are very much appreciated.

The School Advisory Council (School Board) is the advisory group to the Principal and Finance Officer. Each person comes to the Board with their own skills and a genuine wish to support the school. Thank you very much to Tash, Father Matthew, Lisa Granich, Nic, Isaiah, Michael, Lisa Powell and Leah for your support this year. Your service and commitment to the good of all our children and staff is highly valued and greatly appreciated.

We continue to have strong links with Our Lady of Monserrat Parish, working together with Jesus at the centre of who we are, why we are here, and what we do. St Joseph's is an integral part of the parish community, and we are thankful to have such a strong relationship. I want to acknowledge the support of Father Matthew, who has celebrated Mass with us throughout the year, attended camp, and led the You Can Do It program with our Year 1-6 students. Thank you, Father Matthew.

To all the staff: I genuinely appreciate all the hard work and dedication you put into ensuring that our school sets high standards and has the children at the centre of every decision made. Thank you to Jodie, Emma and Deb who work tirelessly in the office, ensuring that everything behind the scenes runs smoothly. To Michelle, Petrina and Leah – your support of the teachers and the students is truly amazing, and my thanks go to you all. Thanks to Cheryl, who ensures that our school is in tip-top shape and always clean for our staff and students. Thank you also to George Boso, our school gardener, who keeps our school in excellent condition. To Chantelle and Brittany - thank you for all your hard work and dedication to our school. Molly Brooker left the school in the third term, and we were fortunate enough to have Ella Collins step into the role of Senior Teacher for the main part of the remainder of the year.

At this time of year, schools report on the progress of the curriculum's annual focus areas and school improvement planning. This report provides an opportunity to reflect proudly on the year's achievements.

It is a CEWA mandated requirement that schools articulate their progress across specific areas within the Annual School Improvement Planning process: The curriculum focus, the Quality Improvement Plan, Quality Catholic Schooling components, and our Evangelisation Planning are all part of supporting documents that help the SIP achieve its hoped-for outcomes.

CATHOLIC IDENTITY

Living Like Jesus values have continued to be implemented in the school and are consistently implemented in the classroom and playground.

Staff have prepared class liturgies and have successfully planned and taught using the Religious Education units.

Staff attended a professional development day on Meditation and Prayer with St Mary's in term 2.

Mass/Feast Days/Sacraments

I would like to thank Father Matthew for celebrating Mass with us this year. Masses were celebrated at the beginning and end of term and also on special feast days such as Ash Wednesday, Mary Help of Christians, St. Mary of the Cross Mackillop, The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and St Joseph's Day.

There were no sacraments this year for St Joseph's students.

STEWARDSHIP

Enrolments have been consistent over the last 3 years

- 2022 (PK-6 = 37) (K-6 = 25) (PP-6 = 20)
- 2023 (PK-6 = 40) (K-6 = 30) (PP-6 = 24)
- 2024 (PK-6 = 35) (K-6 = 29) (PP-6 = 23)
- 2025 Projected Enrolments (K-6 = 33) (PP-6 = 27)

Due to low numbers, the Pre-Kindy program will not commence at the beginning of 2025, however the school will provide extra support in the Parents & Bubs sessions every fortnight.

Father Matthew has conducted the 'You Can Do It' program with our Year 1-6 students each Monday. This program aims to develop positive attitudes and social-emotional skills that develop resilience, confidence, persistence and organisation.

Staff have undertaken PD in Early Careers, Literacy, Wellbeing, Child Development and behaviours, Child Safety, Numeracy, Berry Street, Digital Technology, Early Years, and PD for RE Accreditation.

The school focus for 2024 of the National Quality Standards (NQS) was on Health (2.1), with a particular focus on element 2.1.1 (Wellbeing and comfort). We have placed emphasis on students to ensure each child's wellbeing, health, and physical activity are supported and promoted.

COMMUNITY

We have continued to develop a positive and strong St Joseph's community and work extremely hard at promoting positive partnerships within the Yilgarn community through the various activities the school runs and offers and, of course, the outstanding effort and support of the P&F and School Advisory Council. We will continue to be a visible presence in the community in 2025.

Our Community Mass was another success this year. It was lovely to see so many community members and visitors from Kalgoorlie, Bruce Rock, and surrounding areas join in to celebrate with us.

The strength of the local school community was very evident this year. The YSSSA Swimming, Cross Country, and Athletics Carnivals and the Winter Football/Netball Carnival were big successes, along with Naidoc Day at Moorine Rock, Numeracy Day at SX District High School, and Numeracy Day at St. Joseph's.

Through our NAIDOC Week celebrations, both as a school and as a Yilgarn Schools community, we have acknowledged the traditional owners of this land.

EDUCATION

Our focus for this year was to develop explicit teaching strategies in Literacy (with a phonics and phonemic awareness focus) to increase student achievement and engagement. We continue to create a whole school approach to Literacy that is aligned with the WA curriculum so that there is a common dialogue and practice across all year levels.

We also focused on demonstrating common programs and whole-school approaches in the classrooms, which linked to our focus on explicit teaching strategies. Learning in these areas occurred through PLC meetings, data meetings, and professional development in the Literacy learning area.

Aboriginal Education has continued to be a focus as we work on ways to embed Aboriginal Perspectives across the curriculum.

We have also begun on our journey over 2024 and 2025 to implement and embed the Berry Street Education Model program. BSEM is a practical approach to teaching and learning that enables teachers to increase engagement with students with complex, unmet learning needs and successfully improve all students' self-regulation, growth and academic achievement.

WHAT LIES AHEAD IN 2025

School Improvement Plan

- Our Evangelisation Plan continues to place a focus on increasing the understanding of all aspects of the Mass, including the symbols and rituals, as well as increasing staff and student understanding of prayer.
- We will continue to have a Phonemic Awareness and Phonic Focus, where we will continue to develop an understanding of the relationships between letters, sounds, and words in the English area to increase student achievement and engagement in Literacy. We will also focus on providing an engaging, meaningful and challenging environment across all learning areas.
- We will continue to provide opportunities for students to learn, appreciate and celebrate Aboriginal culture and other cultures.
- We will continue to focus on Staff and Student wellbeing, implementing and utilising facets of the Berry Street Education Model.
- We will be adopting the language of Auslan (a shortened version of "Australian Sign Language"), the official language of the Deaf community in Australia. Auslan will replace Chinese in the Language area of the curriculum, and all students throughout the school will receive weekly lessons to enable communication with the hearing impaired.
- We will be re-evaluating our sustainability practices and making this part of a whole-school focus based on Pope Francis' second encyclical. *Laudato Si'* (On Care for our Common Home) is a letter from Pope Francis that discusses the need for all people to take care of our planet because it's a gift from God and for everyone to work together to keep the Earth sustainable for all living things to survive.
- There will be continued engagement with SXDHS and Moorine Rock Primary Schools, including Combined curriculum days, NAIDOC events, Sporting Events, and Excursions.

Thank You

Best wishes to our Graduating student, Jye. Thank you, and Efryn, Kairi, Mia, Emilyn, Hamish, Leon, and Parker, for being the students' voices in our leadership meetings throughout the year. I trust that St Joseph's will hold a special place in your heart as you take the next steps in your life journey.

To our families leaving us, thank you for choosing St Joseph's and our dedicated staff to look after your child's education. We wish you all the best.

I wish everyone a wonderful holiday and a happy and holy Christmas spent with the love of friends and family, and I look forward to your safe return in the new year!

Natalie Beaton
PRINCIPAL 2024

Meeting Closed: 6:05pm

Next meeting: 17th March 2025

Signed by Principal:

Signed by CSAC Chair: