



The Prairie Page

#8

April 9, 2020

“Loving, Learning & Leading Through this New Chapter in God’s Story.”

PCCE AGM - after looking into the ever-evolving information concerning holding virtual AGM’s, we’ve decided that we are going to conduct the **actual voting** on necessary business items **during** the meeting.

You may remember that earlier we had said that we would be voting electronically after the meeting. It seems that best practice is to vote when the membership is gathered.

This means that in order to conduct this business, **we need quorum**. According to our bylaws, for a school to be “**present**” they need **two representatives** at the meeting: an educator rep and a board/community rep.

Please talk among your community, decide who will present your school and sign up [HERE](#).

Representatives are encouraged to read the [AGM PACKAGE](#) and to submit any questions to office@pcce.ca ahead of time.

- **Date: Saturday April 25**
- **Time: 10:00 AM -11:00 AM**

LOVING

We are living in the days of in-between. Where we are acutely aware of the brokenness, pain, and loss around us. Things are not as God intended them to be! We lament. And yet, yet, YET! We know that Easter is coming. We believe that God is at work today. We experience love, joy and belonging. We hope. We know how this Story ends and it ends well. Very well! And knowing this, we can live and love in the days of in-between, where both lament and hope are acknowledged and embraced. Take a few minutes to read through this [beautiful poem](#) and spend some time this Easter weekend resting in God’s love.

LEARNING

What do we call what we are doing right now? School from home? Distance learning? Online learning? In a blog last week, titled [“This is Not Online or](#)

[Distant Learning,](#)” A.J. Juliani suggests that appropriately naming this current reality in education is important for teachers’ expectations and mental health. He echoes what a number of others are calling this current schooling situation: **emergency remote learning**. As Juliani states, “The sooner we realize that there is no instructional manual for this situation, the sooner we can give each other grace to experiment, learn, and iterate to the best of our abilities in the worst of circumstances.” Additionally, emergencies have a way of bringing us to our knees:

“God, how now shall I teach? How can I help my students embrace and acknowledge both lament and hope in this challenging time? Help me to teach from transformation.”

LEADING

[Leaders’ Zoom](#) today from 11:00-11:30 to talk about budgeting and holding virtual AGM’s.

One of the hallmarks of our schools is our strong sense of community. Ensuring our current families continue to have a strong connection to our school is essential. In this new context, we want them to experience significant connections with our teachers and school. Here are some ideas:

1. Set up a school-wide plan to ensure each family has a weekly one-on-one phone call or zoom meeting with a school staff member to check in on how they are doing.
2. A daily devotional lead by a staff member and posted each morning. You could also invite students/parents to take a turn.
3. Continue holding chapels/assemblies. They can either be livecast or recorded. If you livecast, consider doing this in the evening occasionally so parents who work during the day can participate.
4. Hold webinars/zoom meetings for parents on topics such mental health (adults and kids) or managing financial hardship, inviting someone in your community who is a psychologist or financial planner to lead the sessions. Or maybe a how-to session on things like GoogleClassroom.
5. Create school-wide videos so that the community sees the faces of the staff. Many of you have put together very creative (and humorous) videos already. Share them on Slack so we can get some good ideas from each other.
6. Use your social media channels to share what families are doing. Use a weekly theme to focus the pics. Gateway and Edmonton Christian have been doing this successfully: pictures of you being active, show us what you’re reading, share a Throughline that you’re practicing.
7. Involve your student leaders/student council and encourage them to still hold “school spirit days” like crazy hair day, “dress your best” day (Thanks Rocky CS!). Submit pics to the school for posting to social media sites.
8. If you’re feeling adventurous, how about holding your Talent Show online?
9. Survey your community regularly to hear what is going well and where the challenges are. You can find a survey in the Leaders channel in Slack.
10. We’re sure you have other great examples of community-building. Share them in Slack!

