Community Connection
"Connecting the Parent and Friends of our Community."

CHARTER

Who is the Community Connection?

- All parents of children attending the school
- Supporters who belong to the parish who have a deep interest in the well being of the school
- School staff

What is the role and purpose of the Community Connection?

To participate in the spiritual, intellectual, social and physical growth of students and parents at St. Francis of Assisi by working in partnership to:

- Support our link with the parish and reach out to the wider parish community, especially those who may use our facility in the future and make connections among people in order to build a supportive community
- Foster a distinctive Christian environment in our school
- Promote the school’s vision, policies and procedures in all ways possible
- Develop maximum co-operation between parents and school staff
- Encourage, affirm and co-operate with other groups working for the good of the school community
- Provide a medium for information and education of parents
- Afford parents the opportunity to contribute to the decisions made for the whole school
- To raise and donate funds for the benefit of the school and its students
- Identify services and talents within the school community and make them available

Working relationships

- Regular and transparent communication occurs between the Community Connection, school leadership and school staff
- Members of the Community Connection are responsible for working constructively with one another to achieve goals and priorities. In particular, the formal Community Connection has a responsibility to ensure and encourage regular and transparent communication between the committee and the broader parent community
- Community Connection affiliates with the Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities who represent all parents at state and national level. The Community Connection is responsible for ensuring that the parent community is informed of and has access to all resources made available to it by the Federation.

The Community Connection Committee

The Community Connection Committee is the formal organising structure of the Community Connection that represents all the parents of the school. It will consist of members of the school community who have volunteered or have been nominated to take on this role. The staff representatives are ex-officio members of the committee.
The committee

- Consists of parents, teachers and supporters of the school
- Is open to input from students
- Is an integral part of the school community
- Shares/supports responsibility for the school with the Principal, teachers and school board
- Exists for the benefit of the school
- Supports fundraising that builds a sense of community within the school
- Provides opportunities for parents to meet

Responsibilities and Activities

The Community Connection Committee should aim to:

- Develop a Christian community of parents
- Work closely with the Principal, staff, school board and Parish to achieve the goals of the school
- Achieve a high level of social and educational interaction between home, school, parents and teachers
- Provide opportunities for parents to contribute to the development of the school’s policies and practices
- Encourage active participation by parents in the educational experience of our children
- Provide a healthy forum for exchange of ideas and discussion on relevant issues
- Plan with the Principal and others (eg Parish Priest and School Board), the development of policies, policy change and generally the future welfare of the school
- Be a vehicle through which parents and teachers can build proper partnerships to benefit the students themselves
- Provide additional resources to improve facilities
- Assist the school in the whole Faith Formation program by participating in the planning and implementation of masses, liturgies and other spiritual activities to strengthen the faith life of the school
- Strengthen all aspects of family life in the school community
- Plan, promote and organise events and activities associated with the social, sporting, cultural and educational life of the school and school community and work to create and build a sense of community within the school.
- Represent parents and their concerns at all times