

Strathcona Christian Academy Elementary School



OUR MISSION: To challenge students, through Christ-centered education, to know Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord in order to pursue a life of godly character, personal and academic excellence, and service to others.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COUNCIL Wednesday, May 12, 2021 – 7:15 p.m. Via Google Meet

Present: Jim Seutter , Leah Schmidt, Heidi Peters , Kimberly and Jeremy Teeuwsen, Raelyn Mellick, Devon Marshall, Elaine Reed, Aileen Bozic, Sarah Dyck, Gillian Orquia, Shannon Anderson Heather Lewis, Leah Unrau, Janet Vader, Darlene Janzen, Jaime Peters , Francis Poole, and Steve Mebs (new society member)

Devotional: Kimberly Teeuwsen

Previous Minutes: Leah Unrau

Reporting:

Chair

- **Approval of Agenda Minutes**

First: Heather and Seconded: Elaine

- **Approval of April Minutes** - First: Leah S and seconded: Heidi

- Budget/Accounting – Leah Schmidt

Care and compassion fund- \$ 3931.86

Outstanding lunch \$ 1866.25

Available funds \$ 3047.6

- **COSC- Devon Marshall**

-Last meeting for this school year, had 28 in attendance

-ATA is offering lawn signs in support of Public Education for \$4

-School Trustee elections will take place this coming October

-Discussed Sherwood Heights Replacement school efforts. Their staff and students have to wear jackets and gloves in class in the winter as the boiler and system is so old it can't be repaired anymore, for gym class, they have so many students that some classes have to go upstairs or outside to accommodate the requirements. A website is being created to share stories and build awareness in the community to own this as not just a Heights problem but a ShPk issue as we have students not being able to receive a quality education and teachers having to teach in dire circumstances (replacesherwoodheights.ca)

-Went over how to write a SC Annual Report

-*NEW this year, Reports are due by June 25th!

-COVID Update: 37 active cases, total of 98 cases to date, moving back to semesters for high schools, open to doing quarters again if needed

-Grad: schools will host as per AHS restrictions

-Budget: less money, not as dire as I thought it may have been

-Shared on experiences at the ASCA conference which I attended at the end of April. Enjoyed Dr. Stelmach's session on her research on the parent/teacher relationship and how it's been impacted through COVID. Attended a draft curriculum session, and a session that reminded me of Dr. Jody Carrington. Aileen attended as well, great conversations from it

-Positive response from SCS' hosting Dr. Alex Russell, Ardrossan hosted Saffron virtually on Monday, open to all parents

- **Society**

-New members - Devon

-Steve Mebs also joined the board and joined our meeting to sit and listen in.

-Jeff and Jeremy are on a task force with society and SPAC

-They are encouraged by the meetings and change on the horizon

-The timeline goal is to have everything completed by September. (Both their financial and non-financial goals.)

-Finances: Goal is to review finances, finalize budget and to keep fees consistent

-The SCA Spiritual Success Factor has been name changed to SCA Spiritual Programming Success Factors. The report will be shared with us later.

- Note: 22 families have refused to pay society fees and this is a total of 51

students. (for reference, \$140 of your fees currently go to maintenance) but it is being reworked.

Information Items:

Principal's Report

• COVID-19 Update

- 37 cases in the district
- very few cases in the school, more parents have had cases than students
- stressful for parents and teachers
- programming is still running for special needs students and EA's
- there have also been wifi issues with this transition but everyone is doing their best

• Spring Activities (EIPS)

- Currently this all came to a halt when school transitioned back to online.

• Grade 6 Update

- Missing out on lots this year
- Kids were able to brainstorm ideas of fun things to do to finish the year. We hope to fulfill some of these wishes

• Hot Lunch Rep.

- Doing a fantastic job
- Mrs. Elzinga is stepping up

• Fall Field Trips/Retreats

- There is still some uncertainty of what the fall will look like.
- Mr. Poole started grade 6 camp out many years ago but it will be coming to a close due to strong recommendations of the board office.
- in lieu we will be doing three 1 day retreats. The grade 4 classes will be going to Camp VanEs, the grade 5s will go to Birch Bay and the grade 6 classes will go to Camp Nakamun.

• SEP (school education plan)

- Everything is similar to last year with a heavy focus on literacy, missions partnerships with secondary and parent engagement.
- Hoping to get school life back to normal with meaningful activities.

• Traffic Safety Update

- The study has been completed
- At the upcoming meeting 2 recommendations will be made for us

• School Start Up 2021 (recess)

- Last year we had a gradual/staggered return for students. This upcoming year everyone will come back on the same day. We will also likely revert back to the old bell schedule with 3 recesses.
- Mr. Poole mentioned that all grades will have time on the playground next year. :)

• Staffing Update

- Mrs. Koppel (Grade 5 teacher) will be going on a 1 year leave and Jon Alstad will be returning to us.

• Budget Update

- Last year there were outrageous cuts. This

next year it looks like we have a similar pot of money to work with.

- We are retaining the current staff we have and hopefully adding a few EA's and support staff.

• EIPS Trustee Report – Trustee Seutter

- Two big items Budget & K-6 Draft Curriculum
- Budget progressing to final approval May 26,2021
- Allocations to schools -out and back to Financial Services
- School Fees and Administrative Fees approved April 22
- Note significant expenditure areas- see COSC Notes
- Overall Budget Revenue 2% less from Ab ED
- Overall Revenue 3.6% less (No Federal money)
- Expenditures 2.4% less than last year (201M to 196M)
- K-6 Draft Curriculum implementation Sept 2022 despite COVID -19 issue we have identified
- Our hope is to speak into the major concerns through the various organizations we belong to like the ASBA
- Some major concerns -Content -Resource Development & PD
- HE is planning on running for school board trustee again.

Action Items:

1) FNMI Minute

- 1 to 2 minutes each meeting to offer parents an opportunity to know and learn more

2) Playground Update – Jaime/Heidi/Kim

- no new update from last time. All grants have been submitted, Nate glubish is checking in on the status of our application, and the deposit for our equipment is all paid.

3) Parent Ambassador – Raelyn Mellick

- connected with families and they said they have had a good year and look forward to having more time enjoying the school next year after Covid.

4) Hospitality Ambassador – Aileen Bozic

- Bus drivers received their gift cards and there is nothing else new to report.

5) Facebook Update – Sarah Dyck

- Sarah needs another admin for the page
- Sarah asked for thoughts on approval of posts and whether or not we need it. It was tabled until September to allow more time. (Sarah's recommendation was to leave it as is)

6) School Supplies Online

- The option to buy online will be provided again next year.

7) Alumni Update

- 120 ish parents at the elementary school

-They are currently working on the secondary.

8) Teacher Gifts

-They are allowed and encouraged :)

9) Chalk Appreciation

-Date will be sent out later. It will either be the week of June 21-24 or 24-26 to say thank you to the teachers.

10) Kleenex

-Council may need to provide more for next year.

11) Council Positions 21-22

-Council positions have been tweaked and another draft has been sent out.

-Each member now has a specific and designated role.

-Leah Unrau to Vice Chair

Heather Lewis to Secretary

Gillian Orquia to Compassion Coordinator

Shannon Anderson to School Community Coordinator

Elaine Reed to Staff Ambassador

Operating Procedures – Vote

-Draft 5 has been sent out

-An amendment made in the meeting for the chair being required to attend COCS meetings or to ensure the council is represented. (Approved by Aileen and 2nd by Gillian)

13) Annual General Meeting – June

-Mark your calendars for Wednesday June 2nd.

-Please share this with fellow parents.

14) Farewell to Members

-We are so incredibly thankful to each member who has devoted their time and energy to serving on council!

15) Bible Memory