

Elementary School Council Meeting
Wednesday, October 20, 2021 7:15pm
Online via Google Meet

People in Attendance:

Devon Marshall	Ryan Marshall
Kristin Tymchak	Amanda Meints
Leah Unrau	Brett and Lisa Harke
Shannon Anderson	Jenn Laurie
Sarah Dyck	Karen Hauca
Elaine Reed	Scott and Miranda Odland
Heather Lewis	Leanne Seelochan
Francis Poole	Sandy Rysavy
Darlene Janzen	Sarah Gericke
Jaime Peters	Jennifer Reirson
Janet Vader	Jaci Ramsden
Jim Seutter	Jon Elzinga
Trina Boymook	Joelle Herbold
Steve Mebs	Ingrid Calderon
Nate Peters	Sarah Fair
Grace Albers	Mama McDrama

Introductions and welcome by Devon

Devotion by Devon: Trust in God and take your hands off! Rom. 15:13

Approval of Agenda for the evening with edit of Yearly Spending Approval to be moved to November meeting:

Motion for approval: Leah Unrau

Secunder: Heather Lewis

Motion carried

Motion for September meeting minutes as circulated: Sarah Dyck

Secunder: Elaine Reed

Motion carried

Devon shared the council mission: To honour God in all that we do and in an advisory capacity, to facilitate and participate in discussions and activities that will enhance students' spiritual, physical, mental, emotional, and academic growth and overall well-being of our school community and community at large

All parents are encouraged to participate and engage in Council meetings.

Budget and Accounting Report sent Leah Schmidt (reported by Devon Marshall)

As of October 19, 2021:

Bank Balance - \$14,890.91

C&C Fund - \$3,431.86

Hot Lunch Credits - \$388.00

*Accessible Funds - \$11,071.05

*Note: Hot lunch is on Friday, October 22. Based on previous hot lunches, I anticipate about \$2,400 of receipts to be submitted for reimbursement.

Also, there is the ASCE Grant. The AB government is giving each School Council \$500 to help parent involvement and engagement. Grant info can be found at <https://www.alberta.ca/school-councils.aspx>. Just scroll down to the bottom. There is a list of items of what the money can and cannot be used for. we also need to report what we used the funds for. It doesn't say when we would see these funds. Once we know more details, Leah Schmidt or Devon Marshall will share at the next meeting.

COSC information (Council of School Councils)

We had our first COSC meeting of the year on Oct. 6. It was online. There were 36 people in attendance. Lesley Bowman from Pine Street was nominated as Chair and Devon Marshall accepted the position of Vice Chair again. Mr. Liguori shared a COVID update. At that time we had 234 reported positive cases in September which was more than all of last year combined. How they classified a school on Outbreak and how to report cases is ever changing with AHS and our government. For the most up to date info, go to EIPS website at www.eips.ca and got to the School Operations in 2021-2022. New, since our meeting in September, is that any class with 3 or more positive COVID cases will shift to online learning via Brightspace for 10 days but they do not have to isolate. School Districts were not required to communicate to parents about cases. EIPS chose to do so and parents expressed their gratitude for the communication.

We had Ryan Marshall from the District share an update on the new curriculum and he asked for parent feedback which will then be compiled from all EIPS School Councils and shared with our Board and with a Task Force from School Board Chairs that will be meeting with the Education Minister in January. We have asked Ryan Marshall to come share at our November meeting on the new curriculum. Please feel free to come to that meeting with any questions you may have in regards to the new curriculum. He will also be seeking parent feedback on it to take to the District as well.

EIPS Trustee Report: Trustee Jim Seutter

October 2021 Trustee Seutter Report

Nice to be with you again and hope you had a fulfilling Thanksgiving

Items of note and interest since my September Report

Funding items—Learning Gaps \$1.5 million –\$2.1 million for Covid-19

measures-- \$325,000 for Student Transportation shortfall --Assurance/

Budget Survey of parent priorities being developed by Finance Dept.

K-6 Curriculum —Janice Aubry Consultant with EIPS Staff –Read Letter

Summary to the Education Minister-- K-6 EIPS Curriculum Survey

coming soon?

COVID 19 – “Normal is the goal” despite last week total 324 cases

–Keeping students in classes –Keeping PATS and DIPLOMAS—Parent

self- disclosure changed to provincial notification system

Enrolment Report—Budget being revised due to 52 less students from

Spring to Fall Budget --Next Step enrolment 241students —42 Home

schoolers --Total fall enrolment 16,836 students

Davidson Creek Engagement Plan—With enrolment reaching full

“Utilization” -- a discussion with the community will be undertaken with

the newly elected Board to see where adjustments can be made

Principal’s Report: Mr. Poole

2021/2022 Key Areas: try to return school life to as normal as possible

COVID-19 Update/Staff Vaccine Mandate

- very few cases; maybe 1 case in the last 10 days

- EIPS requires all staff to be fully vaccinated by Dec. 1

- parents can volunteer with proof of vaccine or proof of a negative rapid

test

- thrilled to have volunteers back

Thanksgiving Chapel

- all chapels have to be virtual right now; this one was done by Pastor Cook

Christmas Concert

- will be done virtually by Grade
- a link will be emailed to parents

Parent Question: Can we get a recording of the Christmas production?

- No, just the video link

Retreats Grade 4/5/6

- quick review of what is being done (see September meeting minutes for more detailed information)

Orange Shirt Day/Terry Fox Run

- both were great
- Terry Fox Run was the 1st time parent volunteers were in the school helping in a larger number

Action Items

School Education Plan

3 Key Areas posted on the school website

1. Literacy (lots of effort into this area)
2. Missions (trying to reinstitute it this year; planning to bring up the 2 head people from the Mexico mission in April; partnering with the orphanage in Mexico and Saddle Lake School)
3. Community Engagement

Question: How will students be involved with Missions? still in the works

Parent/Teacher Interviews

- close by not quite yet for in person
- online interviews for November; hopefully by March they will be in person

School Budget

\$3.4 million budget

- we are \$80,000 short
- down on number of students and didn't get grants for special needs students
- applied to the district for a grant for half of the \$80,000 and got it
- had to take \$40,000 remaining of the school budget
- this won't change anything for students

Key Communicator (Sarah Dyck)

- more interaction from people on Facebook; there is a new administrator; they would welcome another one if anybody is interested
- the page is SCA Elementary Parents

FNMI Report (Janet Vader: staff representative)

- the whole school had Orange Shirt day on Sept.29; all the staff have orange shirts

- Grade 4 has an Indigenous Chapel but all the grades talk about it

- Each grade talks about different things

- Grade 1: Food
- Grade 2: Pow Wows and Celebrations
- Grade 3: Clothing and Tools
- Grade 4: Residential Schools
- Grade 5: Transportation
- Grade 6: Blanket Exercise

- Partner with Saddle Lake and Shawahnekizhek Academy

- work with Mavis Giant and her daughter Candace

- showed us the school building and how staff from SCA went and set up basketball nets for them

- Janet spoke at their Graduation last year

Trustee Election Update

- Congratulations to our new Board of Trustees: Trina Boymook, Don Irwin, Jim Seutter, Randy Footz, and Colleen Holowaychuk. New this year are Cathy Allen, Ralph Sorochan, Jacqueline Shotbolot, and Susan Miller

School Community Coordinator (Shannon Anderson) - Mr. Poole quickly updated

- hoodies have been ordered
- hoping to have a playground Grand Opening

Council's Priorities for 2021-2022

-Each year we set out 2-3 clearly defined priorities that we'd like to see the School Council achieve. Last year we focused on building School Community during COVID & on improving communication with SCA Society, School, School Council and parents. We wanted to focus on local mission opportunities but we had to hold off on this due to COVID restrictions. Some highlights from our priorities last year were: Christmas Literacy Advent, more specifically the photos of our families and teachers with Christmas stories that were shared on our FB page, the parent led initiatives for blessing our support staff at Christmas time with gifts and blessing all of our staff during the coldest week of the year with lots of treats. We also highlighted family owned businesses through out the year

on FB, provided a Starbucks gift card for parents to treat themselves to a coffee on Council and had a specific prayer calendar for families to participate in the month of December.

For communication we were grateful to have a Society member attend all of our Council meetings and they hosted some parent info meetings as well. From our school, we have our monthly newsletter and videos that Mr. Poole puts out. We have seen parents utilize our FB page.

- We will look at ideas at next months meeting

Bible Memory

-Executive members are required to memorize the Big 5 verses (these are the verses around the rotunda in the school)

- Heather Lewis quizzed on Matthew 22: 37-40

8:15pm Join Society Meeting with Secondary for report

-See SCA Society webpage for details discussed during this meeting
www.scasociety.ca

9:13pm Motion for Meeting Adjournment: Leah Unrau

Secunder: Kristin Tymchak

Motion carried

Meeting Adjourned

Council Positions

Chair: Devon Marshall

Vice Chair: Leah Unrau

Secretary: Heather Lewis

Treasurer: Leah Schmidt

Compassion Coordinator: Gillian Orquia

School Community Coordinator: Shannon Anderson

Staff Ambassador: Elaine Reed

Key Communicator: Sarah Dyck

Service Coordinator: Kristin Tymchak