

SCA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COUNCIL May School Council Meeting and AGM

May 11, 2022 at 7:15PM In Person (Art/Science Room)

Attendance: Jaime Peters, Jaci Ramsden, Leann Seelochan, Lisa Harke, Darlene Janzen, Trina Boymook, Francis Poole, Leah Unrau, Laura Volkman, Leah Schmidt, Janet Vader, Heather Lewis, Devon Marshall, Abosede Olukunmi Abiala, Steve Webs, Chris Little, Shannon Anderson, Elaine Reed, Mexico Missionary Guests

Welcome & Introduction – Devon Marshall

Devotional & Prayer – Devon Marshall

- from Jesus Calling for Teens (P. 108) You Are Valuable

Prayer of Ephesians 3:16-21 over us (a prayer for the Ephesians from Paul)

Agenda Approval/Previous Minutes - Devon Marshall

Motion: Leah Unrau

Secunder: Leah Schmidt

All in favor

Motion carried

School Council Mission –Devon Marshall

To honor 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, & academic growth and the overall well-being of our school community and community at large

-All parents who attend School Council meetings are encouraged to engage and

participate in all conversations.

Each parent is valued and brings a unique perspective that is worth sharing. Our code of ethics holds us to each practice the highest standards of honesty, accuracy, integrity & truth; and to respect the personal integrity of each member of our school community

Budget & Accounting Report -Leah Schmidt

In June we will be sending in our financial report to EIPS with our Annual Review.

-We currently have \$7550.64 in our account.

-Outstanding Cheques is: \$3030.88

-Hot Lunch Credits is \$142.75

-Total available funds is \$4377.01

Much of the total available funds is already spoken for so we have about \$1200 to work with

COSC –Devon Marshall

-We had our last COSC meeting of the year last week and Associate

Superintendent Sandra Stoddard presented on the budget. She shared how EIPS looks at the relationship between goal setting (deciding what to do), planning & budgeting (deciding how to do it & implementing it), and evaluation (is it working?) when planning their budget. They look at EIPS' goals such as:

1. Excellent start to learning (K students reaching milestones before Gr 1, developing strong foundation for reading and math by end of grade 3)
2. Success for every student (students engaged in their learning, achieving outcomes, etc)

3. Culture of excellence and accountability (use evidence-based practices to enhance quality of teaching, learning and leading)

4. Enhance high quality learning and working environments (welcoming, caring and safe)

5. Quality infrastructure

6. Caregiver engagement (learning supported and enhanced by meaningful opportunities for caregivers to be involved in their children's education)

7. Engaged & effective governance (engaging all stakeholders)

The 2022-23 funding announcement contained a number of new items:

1% increase to Base Funding for ECS and Gr. 1-12,

1% increase to Operations and Maintenance,

4.6% increase to Student Transportation,

Adjustments between grant categories,

New grants for: Student Wellbeing, Curriculum, and New School Grant

School divisions are 'held harmless' for a second year in a row (2020-21 and 2021-22) due to the continued impact of COVID on enrolment levels

The net result of these items is that EIPS' funding envelope is relatively close to that of 2021

Enrolment for EIPS:

16,942 for 2022-2023

*decrease from 17, 350 in 2021-2022

Things impacting our budget are: Inflation of...

CPI = 5.5% (February 2022)

Energy = 31.3% increase

Carbon Tax

Insurance

There was also a guest speaker from ASCA on Assurance Framework.

EIPS Trustee Report -Trustee Trina Boymook

-Trustee Seutter is unable to be with us tonight as he had his hip replaced and is at home recovering for the next couple months. He would greatly appreciate our prayers for his healing & recovery.

-Trustee Boymook was invited to be at our meeting as a Trustee Rep.

Trustee Boymook is Chair of our Board. She started as an engaged parent around her children's' School Council tables and COSC and used her passion, experience and knowledge to run successfully for Trustee for the last numerous years.

This is her report:

The Board has held a number of budget working sessions through the month of March and April. These meetings focused on identifying pressures on the system for the upcoming year, strategic investments in our Four-Year Education Plan. As well as reviewed the feedback that we received from parents, staff and stakeholders in our budget survey. This informed our budget discussions on how best to leverage reserve dollars in the upcoming year. The Board approved a \$8.6M three-year reserve plan with \$6.4M being allocated out in year one.

The approved budget allocations to schools and departments at our April 21 Board meeting, as well as school fees, system administrative fees and student transportation fees. Due to rising cost to busing the Board a \$21 increase to student transportation fees for the 2022-23 school year.

The Board sent a letter to the Minister requesting for a delay in the implementation of the K-3 LA and Math and K-6 PhysEd wellness and move forward with a second-year pilot instead.

Board's received notice from the Minister on curriculum implementation on April 13. The minister hosted a meeting with Board Chair's April 14, where we were provided with an opportunity to ask questions and gain more information.

The Board held a student forum on April 12 where we engaged Grade 9 and 12 students in discussions on preparing for life after EIPS and student mental health and wellbeing. The information gained through the forum will inform our strategic approach to preparing students for life beyond high school and student mental health strategic plan.

The Board toured 5 Sherwood Park schools on May 9. School tours give Trustees to get a glimpse of that is taking place in our schools and to learn more about what they are focused on.

Society Report –Steve Mebs & Devon Marshall

- Devon Marshall serves on SCA Society and shared what they've been working on.

See www.scasociety.ca for information on:

“Monitoring Plan”

Flourishing Schools Survey

Where do we excel as a Christian school?

- Responsibility – Leaders, teachers, and support staff feel a sense of shared ownership for school mission, success, and improvement
- Holistic Teaching – Teaching involves helping students develop spiritually and emotionally (teaching the heart and soul, as well as the mind)

- Supportive Leadership – Principals are trusted, teachers feel that leaders “have our backs,” and leaders empower teachers and staff to make decisions
- Professional Development – PD is provided on-site and is subject and role specific
- Qualified Staff – New teacher hires are credentialed (licensed/certified) and have classroom experience

*Interesting observation is that a lot of our strengths come from being a part of EIPS

What are our opportunities for growth?

- Questioning – Students have doubts about their faith, lack time to pray or study the Bible, and feel that most Christians are too judgmental
- Commentary: very common at all schools, not a “negative”
- Caring Environment – From the perspective of school graduates, teachers were kind, students felt included in class, and students were protected from bullying.
- Commentary: (bullying, safety, this has really been impacted by Covid, also related to cyber bullying, training on social media, cyber bullying)
- Outcomes Focus – Process doesn’t matter if it isn’t producing results, and change is distracting if it doesn’t lead to increase in student achievement
- Commentary: (busyness construct, cut through it and find out what’s really impacting students, could be exaggerated by Covid, does your strategic plan include things we may need to stop doing?)
- Resource Planning – A strategic financial plan and master facilities plan is in place, and financial planning is a strength of the board
- Commentary: Definitely this is something we all had listed before the survey was done. This is one of our key items for next year.

- Stress – Constant feelings of stress and being overwhelmed accompany a lack of time to prepare for instruction (Teachers) or to focus on physical health (Leaders)
- Commentary: (many others in that boat, do you have a wellness plan, definitely a COVID item)

Principal's Report -Mr. Poole

February to the end of the year: push through after COVID

Kindergarten mom's had a great Coffee Party evening

Grade 4-6 Boys participated in floor hockey and playoffs with a Stanley Cup Final Game

Spring Musical: The Lion King Kids was outstanding

There will be a modified Father/Child Night for Kindergarten

Grade 6 boys and girls are involved in Volleyball after school

Track and Field is a go this year

Upcoming Fall Retreats: Jaime Peters is already working on speakers and other details

Janet Vader: FNMI: Wed. May 18 a group is going up to Saddle Lake to do a kitchen upgrade; Trail Appliances donated a freezer; they are also taking other kitchen supplies

Missions Project Mexico – Francis Poole and our Partners, Sarah and Alfonso

Foundation for His Ministry

Sarah oversees the whole mission

The children's home is the heart of the ministry

- there are about 80 children who have seen abuse, neglect, etc.

-range in age from infant to high school

All kids go to school

They had 2 years of online learning

There is a daycare close by to serve families who work in the field— 120 kids 6 and under; this is free to the families

There is a men's rehab centre

Rafa's house is a halfway house for men leaving addiction

Bible Institute trains Mexicans to reach their own people groups

There is an Outreach Team

They have a soccer field especially for young adults; it is great for community building; they have built half the field so far

On April 28, 2023 SCE is planning a Great Day of Giving; we want to raise \$100,000 so half can go to building the soccer field in Mexico and half can go to our school to upgrade the technology

Western Day – Francis Poole

Petting Zoo for Grade K-3

Ben Crane comes and there is a chapel in the morning

Dangerous Dan disrupts the day

Grade 4-6 do Line Dancing

Ponies come to the school

Hot Lunch

School Supplies Online

Teachers Gifts

Farewell to Members

Thank those that have served on School Council and will be moving on from their positions.

Heather Lewis

Elaine Reed

Leah Schmidt

Devon Marshall

Thank you ladies so much for the time, commitment and passion you willingly served our school community so well with. Thank you for being engaged and supportive of our school community. For Leah & Elaine, we wish you guys all the best in this new chapter as you say farewell to the Elementary school years. To Heather, I know how much you love our school as an Alumni, parent and teacher; I know you'll still be involved where you can and I look forward to seeing you out at School Council meetings.

Annual General Meeting

Review of 21-22 School Education Plan

We have 3 goals

Presentation of School Council Annual Report –Devon Marshall

-At the end of each school year, EIPS requires all the Chairs of School

Presentation of Financial Statement -Leah Schmidt

-I would like to invite our treasurer, Leah Schmidt to share our Year End Financials

Leah shared where we are at to date.

Election of Officers -Devon Marshall

-We have five Executive positions open for the 22-23 school year

-Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer & Compassion Coordinator

-The Duties for each of these positions are posted on our school website.

The following names nominated at this time for

Chair: Lisa Harke

Vice-Chair: Leanne Seelochan

Secretary: Jaci Ramsden

Treasurer: Dada Olukunmi

Compassion Coordinator: Laura Volkman

-Each of those nominated have let us know that they will let their name stand

Hearing no other nominations we are declaring Lisa Harke acclaimed as Chair, Leanne Seelochan acclaimed as Vice Chair, Jaci Ramsden acclaimed as Secretary, Dada Olukunmi acclaimed as Treasurer and Laura Volkman acclaimed as Compassion Coordinator.

Establish Meeting Dates for 22-23 School Year -New Chair

-School Council Meeting dates take a lot of different schedules into consideration as we are fortunate to have our School Trustee Rep (Mr. Jim Seutter) who juggles multiple School Council meetings; as well as keeping in mind school events for our Admin Team & parents and also Secondary Council meetings

-We are proposing the following WEDNESDAYS for next year:

September (14), second

October (12), second

November (16), third

January (11), second

March (8), second

May (10), second

AGM June (7)

-This year, we had many thoughtful conversations and moments of sharing how decisions impact our kids and the challenges we face as parents. It is through these conversations we have around this table that we can continue to work collaboratively with our administration & the Society to provide the best possible Christian education for our children.

-This has been a year full of unknowns and challenges that impacted us all. I want to commend our students, staff, Admin team, Society and parents for their ongoing efforts to make SCA Elementary the best it can be. Thank you for your time and dedication to this school, students & staff.

Meeting Adjourned