

Minutes
November 18, 2019

Present: Brenda Hampson, Tanya Koster, Edna Asem, Bev Lee, Jodi Saad, Shirley Rempel, Linda Bateman, Naomi Skriver, Cayley Pierzchala, Sean Alaric, Angela Calvin

1. Call to Order and Introductions
2. Prayer and Devotional – Edna – Isaiah 9:6 “Christmas is Almost Here”
3. Approval of the Agenda- Approved by Shirley Rempel, Seconded by Bev Lee.
4. Approval of Minutes from October 21, 2019 Meeting – Approved by Tanya Koster. Seconded by Jodi Saad.
5. Reports
 - a. School Division Report
 - i. Provincial Budget Update
 1. Funded enrollment increase as promised.
 2. Classroom Improvement Fund Removed (1.3 million)
 3. Class Size Funding Removed (5 million)
 4. Transitional Grant given as one-time (2.2 million)
 5. School Fee Reduction Grant Removed(\$252,000)
 6. Leaves a funding short fall of 3 million.
 7. District has enough in reserves to cover the 3 million for this school year.
 8. Side Note: Lethbridge teachers are generally on a higher payscale as the education degree at the U of L is 5 years giving them an extra year of instruction compared to most universities. The dollars allocated to teacher salary don't go as far as other districts.
 9. District has the task of dismantling and reconstructing the budget.
 - ii. Alberta Education Survey on Choice in Education
 1. Mrs. Harmon emailed the survey to parents. Encourage parents to take time to complete it.
 - iii. Diversity and Inclusion Parent Café Feedback
 1. Cayley and Edna attended. Cayley explained the process.
 2. Her take away from the event: “Every face has a story”.

3. Edna noted that there will be follow up to the evening but she is not sure what that will look like.
- iv. ASCA Online Engagement Opportunity – Saturday November 23, 2019: 1pm – 4pm.
 1. Link is on last month's meeting minutes to pre-register.
- v. April 24-25 ASCA conference
 1. Jodi will attend on behalf of LCS parent council.
- b. Staff Report
 - i. Nothing to report.
- c. Principal's Report
 1. Mr. Alaric supplied a handout outlining the 3 year education plan for LCS. The goal is to align division goals with LCS goals. A sample of goals outlined include:
 - a. More emphasis on FNMI. This has a larger part in the new curriculum. The challenge at LCS is to teach about reconciling without any FNMI students in the building.
 - b. Digital citizenship. Continue to instruct students in safe and respectful use of technology.
 - i. Jodi mentioned keyboarding class is an asset at LCS.
 - c. Continue to help students grow in their understanding of what it means to be like Jesus.
 - d. Build community. As staff, have been using restorative practices to problem solve and allow everyone a voice.
 2. Review of accountability pillar results.
 - a. School is consistently achieving strong results
 - i. Shirley voiced her appreciation for the outdoor education program that LCS has.
 - ii. Edna thanked the staff for continuing the outdoor school program after Mrs. Harris left.
 3. SLA testing
 - a. As a follow up to last month's meeting, Edna informally talked to Nathan Neudorf about SLA testing. He had a willing ear and suggested she bring it up with minister of education.
 - b. Edna will send in a question ahead of time for the online engagement survey.
 - c. When voicing her concerns at district school division, it was noted that only one teacher in one school in all of Lethbridge had students complete SLA testing.

6. New Business

- a. School Policy on Parent's Walking Students to Classrooms
 - i. Naomi asked what the school rules were for walking kids to classrooms.
 - ii. Edna noted that at bell times there is a lot of congestion in the hallways so parents are asked to wait at the office.
 - iii. Naomi noted that she had been asked not to be in the hallways during school hours. Most other parents had not experienced this. Sean is going to ask questions about the current rules and get back to Naomi.
- b. Elementary School Christmas Concert: Volunteers needed to serve Hot Chocolate/Coffee
 - i. Due to past issues with Booster Juice, a large number of booster juice certificates were purchased at one time. As a result, parent council money is not available at this time to purchase hot chocolate for the Elementary Christmas event.
 - ii. Parents have donated hot chocolate
 - iii. Edna asked for volunteers to help serve the hot chocolate.
 - iv. Shirley will bring coffee pot to keep hot chocolate warm.
 - v. Edna is going to get more details on the event to help plan for volunteers.
- c. Soup Wednesdays?
 - i. Parent Council will bless the teachers with soup and a snack four Wednesdays starting in January.
 - ii. Edna will send out a google document for sign up.
- d. Year End Skate – Hot Chocolate?
 - i. Jodi will ask Tim Hortons if they would be willing to donate or partner to supply about 300 cups of hot chocolate.
 - ii. Could possibly ask student council to help purchase.
- e. Useful Technology Resources for Parents
 - i. www.commonsemmedia.org - Free
 - ii. www.axis.org - Not all resources are free
- f. Parent Concerns
 - i. Some parents were concerned that no notice was given for Mr. Greeno's absence. Students were told and brought home news to parents. Some parents were left wondering why a different principal was writing the principal's message for the newsletter.
 - ii. It was noted that this was standard Division School Policy for various reasons.

7. Closing

- a. Prayer for Mr. Greeno, Mr. Alaric, School Division and budget.
- b. Next meeting will be on January 20, 2020 at 7:00 pm.