

Lethbridge Christian School Council
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Minutes

January 20, 2020

Present: Brenda Hampson, Tanya Koster, Edna Asem, Shirley Rempel, Katie Brooks, Cayley Pierzchala, Sean Alaric, Angela Calvin, Lesley Boorsma, Sheena Olson, Kelly Peters

1. Call to Order and Introductions
2. Prayer and Devotional – Edna – “Frustrations, Emojis and Jesus”. John 15:15
3. Approval of the Agenda - Approved by Lesley Boorsma. Seconded by Shirley Rempel.
4. Approval of Minutes from November 18, 2019 Meeting – Approved by Tanya Koster. Seconded by Angela Calvin.
5. Reports
 - a. School Division Report
 - i. Highlights from December and January Meetings
 1. Prior to December meeting, a presentation was done on Mental Health for Teens.
 - a. Edna has a small handbook if anyone is interested and noted the following two points;
 - b. Peer Support is very important as teens will often talk to peers and not parents.
 - c. When struggling, teens will often wear hoods or cover themselves up.
 2. Noted that school resource officers have been decreased from 6 to 4 in Lethbridge. Superintendent is going to investigate.
 3. ASCA conference will be in April. Jodi Saad will represent LCS.
 4. Parent Curriculum Consultation is going to be happening again. More details when they are available.
 - ii. ASCA Online Engagement Opportunity Feedback
 1. A survey was available online while discussion was taking place. Included questions about vaping and how exams are weighted.

- a. Currently marks are 70% work, 30% exam. Government is looking to change to 50% work, 50% exam. The plan is to lobby the government not to change.
 2. When questioned why classroom size funding was removed, the minister said the audit showed it didn't make a difference.
 - a. Edna asked the superintendent at the district meeting and she said classroom size funding is a very complicated calculation and the results aren't accurate for all situations.
 3. There was some discussion about choice in education.
 4. When questioned about mandatory SLA's, the Minister noted that no decision has been made.
- iii. Proposed Policy Changes
 1. Kindergarten in the district will include alternate Fridays going forward. This change does not affect LCS at all as we currently have alternate Friday kindergarten.
 2. A Parent/Guardian Responsibility Policy is being drafted. Currently going through first reading. It includes parents responsibility to be engaged with kids education and school as well as respect teachers and administrators.
- iv. Division School Bussing Update
 1. City isn't going to provide bussing to schools anymore
 2. KPMG audited and suggested to the city to stop providing bussing to the schools.
 3. The school district is going to attempt to operate buses on their own.
- v. Speaker: Shelly Moore
 1. She will be at Wilson on January 21 from 6:30 to 8:30. She speaks on "Inclusion".
- vi. Division Town Hall
 1. February 11.
- b. Staff Report
 - i. Thank you for soup and all the love and support.
 - ii. Fish eggs have arrived. Grade 1 will be participating.
- c. Principal's Report
 - i. Town Hall – February 11. Mr. Alaric is looking for parents and middle school students to attend.
 - ii. The LCS Making Connections worker is changing. Sarah Ahlgren will be returning to support LCS.

6. New Business

a. New Parent Surveys

1. Edna is unsure how many new families are in the school but we received three surveys back.
2. The results were positive and no suggestions for improvement were noted.

b. Praying for LCS

- i. Edna passed out prayer list with daily prayer suggestions.

c. Carnival Feedback

- i. Went well. Seemed like attendance was less than last year.
- ii. Parent Council sold cotton candy, popcorn and pizza. Profit was approximately \$300 for parent council and \$250 for student council.
- iii. Edna noted that in the past, parent council has paid for gizmo subscription. We are unable to do so this year as the funds aren't available.

d. Bullying and Violence

- i. Cayley had some questions about how bullying is handled at LCS

1. Do students receive info on bullying including the definition of being a witnesses, participant, or instigator? Yes
2. She asked Ms. Brooks how younger students are educated.
 - a. In her classroom, it is talked about in September and refreshers are given as the need arises.
 - b. Primary classes also use the "Kids in the Know" curriculum which covers it.
 - c. "Wee Thinkers" program is also used in Grade 1 and 2 and possibly 3 which teaches students how to recognize the size of a problem and who they need to help them solve the problem which would be part of this topic.
3. Are there any policies directly relating to bullying?
 - a. Mr. Alaric has sent all the policies to Cayley.
4. Cayley noted that research on bullying has shown there needs to be a safe place for kids to go when they feel they are being bullied and that bullying is an issue that needs to be visited often.
5. Cayley has literature that she would like to share about effective ways to reduce bullying. She will send to Mr. Alaric.
6. Lesley asked who needs to be made aware of bullying on the bus. Mr. Alaric confirmed that the bus driver

should be made aware first and then if it continues to be a problem, he will be involved.

e. Other questions

- i. Shirley asked when the first day of school will be in the fall.
 1. Edna will confirm at next district meeting.
 2. Mr. Alaric noted the board meeting this month will deal with next year's school calendar so that information should be made available soon.

7. Adjournment, Prayer Requests and Closing Prayer

- a. Angela closed in prayer.

Next Meeting is Monday, March 16, 2020