

Minutes
October 16, 2023

Present: Edna Asem, Brenda Hampson, Linda Bateman, Tannis Straughan, Genny Steed, Robbie Charlebois, Jessica Durand-Kaustinen, Erin Shearer

1. Call to Order and Introductions
2. Prayer and Devotional – Take Time to be Still – Psalm 46:10
3. Approval of the Agenda – Approved by Tannis. Seconded by Erin.
 - a. Additions to Agenda
 - a. How to Have a Meaningful Parent Teacher Interview
 - b. Equipment for Grade 1B
 - c. Recess Conflict Resolution
4. Approval of Minutes from September 18 Meeting – Approved by Tannis. Seconded by Erin.
 - a. Business Arising from the Minutes
 - a. Parent Engagement Session
 1. Division is hosting a session on Digital Wellness “The Truth about Youth” at the Yates on November 15. There is an opportunity to ask questions at the event using a QR code.
 2. Plan for LCS Parent Engagement session in the spring.
5. Reports
 - a. School Division Report – Edna
 - a. October meeting was the most attended division school meeting without controversy. Almost every school represented.
 - b. Edna is Rep for Wellness Committee
 1. Division has \$300,000 in nutrition grants. Last year \$15,000 balance. Has LCS ever applied? Deadline to apply is May 2024. Can be used for healthy food options for students.
 - a. Linda is unsure. She will check with Sean.
 2. Wellness Grant – Has LCS applied? If so, how much money did we receive? Can LCS apply this year and use money for gaga pit?
 - a. Linda is unsure. She will check with Sean.
 3. Digital Wellness Team – Made up of a teacher and counsellor. Hired by division and funded from a grant for two years. Initial focus was at junior high level.
 - a. How is LCS benefitting?
 - b. Tannis shared that she had received a coloring activity in KG to initiate a conversation with her students. She discussed with her students the importance of not clicking on everything when on the computer and to make sure

there is an adult with you when you click on something new. clicking all over.

- c. Goal is to integrate instruction on making responsible digital choices throughout the year.

4. Elections

- a. Elected representatives for every committee except policy.
 - i. Policy review committee systematically reviews policies and procedures every month.
 - ii. School board owns the policies and the division develops procedures and guidelines to carry out the policies.
 - iii. It has been suggested that parent(s) be on the policy review committee. It was noted that parents overall don't understand the system of developing and reviewing policies and procedures. An explanation will be on the agenda for the Nov. 6 division meeting.
 - iv. Genny shared that Lethbridge has over 168 policies. Most divisions have between 20 and 30. There has been some discussion about "cleaning up" the policies but no motion has been brought forward yet. It would be a costly, time-consuming endeavor.

5. ASCA

- a. LCS has sent a rep from our school three times over the years.
- b. It has been suggested that ASCA membership be optional. Edna asked if LCS would like to join? She noted that we don't utilize the training that is provided with our membership.
- c. Genny reminded members that each school council gets one vote on ASCA resolutions (just like each division gets one vote at ASBA) and by giving up our membership we would lose that vote.
- d. Edna noted that the funding for parent engagement that each school receives came when Jason Kenney defunded ASCA by 75 percent.
- e. Discussion and decision on membership tabled until November meeting.

b. Trustee Report

a. Community Engagement

- 1. Board has not had a lot of opportunity for engagement with the public. There is a lot of controversial things going on right now.
 - a. Currently public presentation in board meetings only allows for 15 minutes total and no response can be given from the board. There has been a request for information on how other division boards are handling this.
 - b. Community Conversations are held monthly.
 - i. Held offsite from Division.
 - ii. Minimum two trustees available per meeting. No division employees.

- iii. Each month is a different side of town and a different time of day to allow for more people to attend as it fits their schedules.
 - b. Vaping Pilot Program
 1. Highly technical vape detectors have been purchased and will be installed at Chinook, GS Lakie and Churchill.
 2. Will detect various chemicals released when vaping as well as temperature change to alert when people are clustering. An alert will be sent to admin. Important to note that there is no camera or imaging on these devices.
 3. It falls under "Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environments"
 4. It will be up to the admin at each school to have a plan of recourse and success will be based on administrator feedback.
 - c. Division Admin. Liaison Report
 - a. Lethbridge division enrollment is over 12000 students, a growth of approximately 320 students this year.
 1. Most growth in Grade 9-12
 2. Decrease in KG
 3. Edna asked how these 320 students are being funded considering the current formula of using a 3-year weighted moving average. Robbie confirmed that they are not funded.
 - a. If the change is close to 5 percent, enrollment can be reviewed. Lethbridge is at about 3.4 percent.
 - b. The board/division met with Nathan Neudorf last week and this was a point of discussion.
 - b. The division is always looking and welcoming substitute teachers.
 - d. Staff Report
 - a. See New Business
 - e. Principal's Report (Linda Bateman)
 - a. FSLC posting up. Closed now. Pray for Sean/others conducting interviews. Ideally hire by end of week.
 - b. Linda shared financial breakdown of spending for LCS
 1. Questions arising from the information included the following
 - a. Can LCS apply for nutrition grant and have kids breakfast supplies purchased from that in the future.
 - b. In the past, parents had concerns that Bible workbooks were being purchased but not used fully in some of the classrooms. Budget shows these are still being purchased. Has this been reviewed?
6. New Business
- a. How to Have a Meaningful Parent Teacher Interview
 1. Parents
 - a. Ask how your children are doing socially. Do they have friends?
 - b. Look at your child's report card before arriving to interview.

- c. Ask where there is opportunity for your child to improve or grow? What are some goals that can be set for your child?
 - 2. Teachers
 - a. Share samples of work with parents
 - b. Share goals you have for the student.
 - c. Ask how student is doing at home? Is he/she happy?
 - b. Equipment for Grade 1B
 - a. A second Grade 1 class was added shortly before school started. Can parent council help with purchasing outdoor sports equipment for that class?
 - 1. Edna asked if Candace could provide us with a wish list.
 - 2. Tannis will get the list for us.
 - c. Recess Conflict
 - a. Tannis shared that there are a lot of students from Grade 1-4 in one area.
 - b. To make better use of space, can we ask the society if the caged "tennis" area can be removed and replaced with grass or maybe this is a good area for the gaga pit as the ground is level and firm.
 - c. Edna will talk to Sean and society.
7. Adjournment, prayer request and closing prayer
- a. Prayer Requests and Closing Prayer
 - 1. Hiring of new employee
 - 2. Unrest in Israel and all around the world
 - 3. Replacement for board members
 - 4. Pray for students and rooted and grounded in God

Next meeting is Monday, November 20, 2023