

École Parc Élémentaire

School Council Meeting

Wednesday March 13, 2024 - School Library. 7:00pm

Attendees

Amanda Shand - Chair

Devon Klein - Member

Danielle Rusk - Secretary

Tandy Atchison - Principal

Jade Jordan - Assistant Principal

Ralph Sorochoan - School Trustee

Absent

Rebecca Millburn - Vice Chair

Jennifer Dechaine - Member

Jasmyne Garbe - Treasurer

Genista Garnett - Member

Michelle Poitras - Hot Lunch Coordinator

Melanie Redfearn - Member

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Tamara Whitton - Member

Amy Archibald - Member

Called To Order: 7:03 PM

Land and People Acknowledgments - Jade Jordan

Want to take the opportunity to say how wonderful it is to watch everyone start enjoying the outside again. People are walking their dogs, it's the favorite time of the day when our students get to go outside and play. We are just very appreciative of the smile that nature brings to everyone's face and so grateful for all that it brings.

Additions to Agenda:

- None

Approvals

Approval of Agenda, March 13, 2024

- Deferred to next meeting

Approval of minutes, February 14, 2024

- Deferred to next meeting

Principals Report: Tandy Aitchison - Principal

1. Can officially put the school fees discussion to rest, fees will stay stable and status quo for next year, fees for 2024/2025 school year will be the same as this year. Good response to the survey and parents were good with fees staying status quo. Just to give you an idea of what the school fees get put towards:

- a. Grades 4-6 are going to Vertically Inclined this month
- b. In School workshop La Girondole in April - they are a french canadian dance based group, going to perform for the kids and teach our kids some dance routines as well.
- c. Cirtastique workshop was a huge hit with the students, they absolutely loved it
- d. Carnivale this week

2. Got some feedback from a couple of other principal's on varying dates and times for school council meetings. Afternoon meetings seemed to be successful as the meeting would finish right around the same time as school so parents would just collect their kids and go. Often had different parents there that would cycle through so that was nice. Only downside often was that the school trustee in most cases couldn't attend the afternoon meetings.

3. With utilizing smore now for the Grizzly Gazette able to track how many viewers we have. Usually have 300+ or more views (365 students total). Lowest number was around 280. Great to see so many parents reading it.

4. Jump Rope for Heart - Students met their goal so there'll be more information in the Gazette for parents but movie day will be March 21 for the students.

5. Got new risers for the choir and music room. Mme. Victoria was very pleased and appreciative, she said "Now I feel like a real music teacher"

COSC Update: - Amanda Shand

1. Was only able to hear part of the meeting. Did a really good walkthrough of the ASCA website.

2. Conference - Amanda cannot attend, put it out to the rest of the executive but no one got back to her and all the spots are now full. We do have the opportunity of sending someone but unfortunately it would be at our cost.

3. ATA suggested to school councils that they look at purchasing a membership for the various political parties in their area so we have a voice when it comes to the education piece.

ASCA Grant: - Amanda Shand

1. Kristi with FCSC wants to partner with us for mental health week. If we partner with them and open it to the community, FCSC will provide snacks and child care for anyone attending. Kristi provided us with a list of sessions that could potentially fit

2. Grant money can be used to offset the cost of childcare at our school council meetings should we wish to offer this to try and gain more parents. We are apparently not the first school council to inquire about this. Need to do further research but at least we know we can.

Trustee Report - Provided by Ralph Sorochoan

Full report attached at the end of the minutes but here are some extra points/discussion notes:

2) Budget 2024-2025 - EIPS has not yet received their budget from the AB Government yet. Frustrating as the longer it takes to get it, the more things are pushed back.

3) REMINDER: EIPS Annual Feedback Survey - Really important for parents to complete, please make sure to remind them to complete it if they haven't already.

4) EIPS Substitute Appreciation Week - Very lucky in our urban setting, we don't usually have issues getting subs into our classrooms (the French does make it tricky). Support staff is the key to our schools running smoothly. Lots of school divisions unfortunately don't have subs and often just place a warm body (not even qualified) in the classroom just to be there to supervise the students.

7) Proposed Collegiate in Fort Sask - Date has been set **April 25, 2024** time is still TBD (most likely 5 or 5:30 start) and location is still TBD (previous years has been at Fort High). More information will follow. EIPS will be discussing the enrollment issues in Fort Saskatchewan and the plans/solutions.

New Business

None

Next Meetings:

- April 10th @ 7 PM
- May 8th @ 7 PM
- June 12th @ 7PM

Meeting Adjourned at 7:26 PM

EPE Trustee Report – March 13, 2024

Ralph Sorochoan

1) APPRECIATION – Appreciation to everyone for making the time this evening!

2) BUDGET 2024-25 – The provincial budget was released on Feb 29. EIPS has not yet received its funding envelope and the funding manual. Once received, Finance will diligently analyze the numbers and get further clarification, as needed. The Board will receive detailed information on March 19 and 21 at special budget meetings, pending receipt of the information from AB Ed. Stay tuned for more details in the coming months.

3) REMINDER: EIPS ANNUAL FEEDBACK SURVEYS - The Division wants to hear from you! All EIPS families, staff, and grades 9 and 12 students are invited to share their thoughts by completing the 2023 EIPS Annual Feedback Survey, open from March 1-21. The survey gauges the Division's progress toward meeting the priorities, goals and outcomes outlined in the Division's EIPS Four-Year Education Plan and helps guide future decision-making. Take the Survey.

4) EIPS SUBSTITUTE APPRECIATION WEEK - EIPS is celebrating Substitute Appreciation Week from March 11-15, 2024. Annually, EIPS officially recognizes the professional service our substitute teachers and non-teaching staff provide throughout the Division each day. We encourage schools, boards, families, and community members to take a moment this week to tell our valued teaching and non-teaching substitute colleagues how thankful we are for the exceptional services they bring to our school community!

5) WEEK OF INSPIRATIONAL MATH - EIPS schools will explore all things mathematics during the Week of Inspirational Math, March 11-15. Students will take part in a variety of inspiring and creative math activities and explore real-world applications of mathematics in a number of professions.

6) EIPS ROUND DANCE MARCH 15, 6:00 – 9:00 PM - F.R. Haythorne Junior High staff and students and the First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education team will host the second EIPS Round Dance. The pipe ceremony will begin at 6 p.m., with the Round Dance to begin at around 7 p.m., following proper protocol offered during the ceremony. NOTE: Everyone is welcome to attend. The Division asks that no cameras or video are used during the pipe ceremony. Before and after the event—with the permission of the Elders and Knowledge Holders—media is allowed. For direction, contact the school.

7) REMINDER: PROPOSED COLLEGIATE IN FORT SASKATCHEWAN – April 25, 2024, is the date for an information session where the division will speak to the capacity issues we're facing in the Fort, what the Division has done and will do in the interim to manage them, our plan for the future as set in the capital plan, and the proposed collegiate model. Stay tuned for further details.

8) REMINDER: 2024 ASCA SCHOOL COUNCIL CONFERENCE AND AGM: REGISTRATION

SPONSORSHIP - The Board approved sponsoring the registration fee for school council members to participate in the 2024 Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) School Council Conference and Annual General Meeting on April 26-28—for one member per school council up to a maximum of \$5,000. The \$5000 has been claimed by 9 attendees. Councils still wishing to send members will need to discuss payment from school council funds.

9) CAREGIVER EDUCATION SERIES: MARCH - Alberta Health Services hosts a series of virtual caregiver information sessions focused on ways to support students' mental health. The sessions are free and geared toward parents, caregivers, teachers, and community members who want to learn more about challenges impacting children and adolescents. Session topics include anxiety, depression and technology, while teaching leadership skills, communication, resiliency etc.

10) NEXT BOARD MEETING – The next regular Board meeting takes place on March 21, 2024, at 10 a.m. Board meetings are held in the Elk Island Public School boardroom. EIPS also livestreams public Board meetings on its YouTube channel.

11) SPRING BREAK – Wishing all staff, students, and parents a restful and enjoyable spring break that is most certainly, well-earned and deserved!