

Nicholas Sheran Council Meeting

November 16, 2022, in the NS Staff Room

Land Acknowledgment: In a spirit of truth and reconciliation we would like to acknowledge that our meeting tonight takes place on the traditional land of the Blackfoot people.

Call to order: Tisha 6:32pm

Welcome/Acknowledgment & Introductions: Dawn Walmsley, Steve Woodcock, Lindsay O, Tisha E, Owen S, Crystal N, Karma V, Locke S, Keith M

Approval of Agenda: Karma V.

Approval of previous meeting Minutes: Lindsay O.

Teacher classroom update: Mrs. Niven

Grade 3 update: Students are working on writing personal narratives, they help teach the use of good for descriptive language, and they are a good tool for assessments. Reading groups have begun, students read in groups, working at respective reading levels. Children are really beginning to show an interest in reading.

Mrs. Niven asked for feedback about parent teacher interviews occurring before report cards this year, positive feedback was given, parents like the heads up about their child's progress in a conversation with the teacher before receiving the report card

Reports:

a. **Admin Report:** Dawn Walmsley and Stephen Woodcock

- Our school-based budget for 2022/2023 has been submitted- The money for our school comes from a variety of factors- per pupil grants make up a large percentage. We also have special funding that goes toward inclusive education, early education, and smaller grants such as a Nutrition grant. 91.6% of our total budget goes toward teacher staffing. 5.3% of our budget goes toward support staffing which includes admin assistant, admin support, learning commons facilitator and speech language assistant positions. EAs are not paid out of our individual school budget. The remaining 3.1% of our budget goes for resources, supplies, technology etc. This is not a lot of money remaining for resources, supplies etc. We are currently short staffed in caretaking. We have advertised and interviewed but still do not have a replacement yet for Mr. Seymour.
- 3 PSI practicum students- Nov 14-Dec16- in Mrs. Niven's class, Ms. Gotgilf's class and Ms.Lewis's class.

- New registrations continue to come in, but our numbers are still slightly down from our initial enrolment of 400.
- Angel tree is happening, and our school is a drop off location. Our student support worker, Jen Robinson has been contacting families that were previously involved in this as well as new referrals. Your children will have brought/will be bringing home a paper angel with a suggested age for a gift. This is entirely voluntary, and no one should feel they have to participate. Families are able to ask for additional angels if desired.
- Report Cards are coming up. They will be available online on Friday Nov. 25. Please remember if you have questions regarding your child's progress you can connect with our teachers by email or leave a message by phone and they will get back to you. Low percentage (60%) of parents are actually viewing the online report cards. If parents can't access online report cards they can contact the school and get one printed off.
- PEW category on Report Cards. This is a new subject category in alignment with the new curriculum. PEW is Physical Education and Wellness. Wellness includes the previous Health outcomes and includes financial literacy.
- We will be having our Family Literacy Night next Tuesday November 22nd from 6-7:00 The teachers are looking forward to promoting Literacy with our families. We are grateful for Parent Council's involvement in this.
- Kindergarten Interviews- We were pleased with the turnout for this and the grade 1-5 interviews as well.
- Remembrance Day- Our assembly was well attended, and the students did a great job.
- Distribution of Math Resources-New financial literacy and Numeracy resources provided by the Division, cash registers and play money
- PL day- creating Thinking Classrooms- Teachers will be creating specific lessons that develop deeper thinking in their students (this is not new) and will be analyzing student work at our next staff meeting.
- We are continuing to focus on using the outdoors as a resource. Ms. Smith has been planning monthly challenges and experiences for our students outside. She has created bins for snowman making, brick building, large toy trucks etc. for students to use. Please make sure you send your child with appropriate clothing for being outside. If you need or are aware of someone else needing help with clothing, please contact Jen Robinson, our student support worker.
- Rock Your Mocs week- we celebrated this by having students participate in lessons focused on the traditions and history of wearing moccasins in Indigenous Culture.

- Donations for Breakfast program continue to come in. We are so grateful to all the generous individuals and organizations for supporting our students.
- Sock it to Em- CUPE 290 collects socks for organizations such as Streets Alive to provide clean dry socks for those less fortunate.
- Leadership groups
- Winter Concert practices are ongoing.

b. **Treasurer Report:** Lacey Macleod-Absent, Tisha presented. First staff appreciation, spent just under \$30. Paid out classroom allotments totalling \$3950 (200 for full day classes, 150 for half days) Bootsma fundraiser made \$800.47, Kernels fundraiser raised \$833.71. Subway hot lunch will be next Thursday, November 24. Another Kernels popcorn fundraiser will be end of November/beginning of December.

c. **Financial Requests:** Mr. Sheedy; upcoming Holiday concerts on December 14/15, theme this year is Lights, Bites and Christmas Delights. Committee of 8 teachers, wondering if it would be possible to hand out cookies to attendees at the end of the concerts. Owen would put in \$50 of his allotment towards the cookies and council could contribute the rest. Would be approx. \$475 for 1100 cookies from Costco. Tisha motioned for Parent Council to cover entire cost; motion passed.

Concert at Southminster United Church on November 24 is sold out. Choir will be performing at Age Care November 28.

Dawn W (Timbits and hot chocolate for literacy night) anticipating 400 in attendance so 1000 Timbits and 400 cups of hot chocolate and one box of mini candy canes for people with allergies. Cost will be approx. \$260. Tisha motions for council to cover the \$260, motion passed.

Owen will get quotes about new audio system for gym, old and needs repair, only one speaker works, perhaps is something council can fundraise for, or the society can contribute funds to.

c. **District Council Report:** Lindsay O'Brien/Locke Spencer

Lindsay O'Brien:

Parent info session: Was about school fundraising and the purpose of establishing a society and how to do it. It was mentioned several times that the process to set up a society is lengthy and difficult and that once a school has a society in place it is good idea to keep it.

Next parent info session will be about using division technology and safety concerns regarding children and technology

Board Meeting Highlights:

-Would like school councils to share on the division website (under community engagement) what councils are doing with their Alberta School Council Engagement grant) to help provide ideas to school councils who may be struggling with coming up with ideas.

-Parent engagement opportunities- the Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium is hosting a set of Social-Emotional Learning Engagement sessions. Links can be found on the division website

-It was brought to the attention of the committee that School Cash Online charges a 4% transaction fee on each transaction that occurs through school cash online, was agreed that parents should be made aware that this charge is built into the cost of items so they are aware.

-Lego challenge, using only Lego, students can assemble a Lego object that displays design and engineering. Can be as simple as building a house or creating a working robot. Can participate as a school, classroom or individual. Entries are due by February 28. Info is under the parent's tab on the division website.

Next council meeting is December 5, 2022

Lethbridge School Division townhall is February 7, 2023, at 6:30pm. The two questions they will focus on this year are:

1. In what ways are we successfully supporting students to help them grow as learners?
2. Where do you see room for improvement in supporting students as learner

Students, executive council, parents, teachers, principals etc gather in groups to answer those two questions. Board uses the answers to set goals for the following year

d. **Trustee Report:** Jenny Steed-not here, nothing to report

e. **Executive council report:** Christine Lee-not here, nothing to report

e. **Old Business:** Still moving forward with the vote that was taken to dissolve society; in order to make it dormant we still need to fill positions and have 4 meetings a year which in not working at current. Jeanine sent text with information for starting up again should we decide to do so in the future. It would require some paperwork and a \$50 fee. Another option is to run larger fundraisers through the schools bank account into a GL created just for Parent Council. Hoping to hear from Lauren and Locke once this is done.

f. **New Business:** Tisha- poem with candy cane and hot chocolate pkg

Tisha motions for council to cover the bank fees of \$36 for the council's bank account motion passed

Classroom rep has a concern about the sidewalks leading to handicap parking spots, aren't being cleared of snow.

Mrs. Mikilak would like to thank parent council for their contribution of funds to their classroom, students had fun and insightful discussions about how to spend the money

Tisha motioned for no meeting in December, motion passed

Future Meeting Date: January 18, 2023

Motion to Adjourn: Tisha and Locke, 7:49pm