

# Nicholas Sheran Elementary School Council

## Tuesday, March 19, 2024 @6:30pm in Community Room

**Call to Order:** Sarah 6:35

**WELCOME & Introductions:**

Steve W, Aaron F, Monnu B, Tyler, Mike, Craig W, Karma VS, Megan L, Tisha E, Jen M, Jamie T, Nicole H, Brette T,

**Any Additions:** Anti Racism Anti Oppression (ARAO) discuss

**Approval of AGENDA/Second:** Motion by Tisha, Second Karma

**Approval of MINUTES/Second:**

Adding that we spent \$154.75 from the discretionary fund for Little Caesars pizza for staff  
Sarah motioned to spend the funds. All in favour.  
Motion by Megan, second by Meggen

**Grade level sharing:** Grade 2

Mrs Mik & Mrs Tompson

In English/Language Arts we're in a poetry unit. They write about their favourite body part and why. It ties in with self esteem. They take a picture of their favourite part about themselves and write a poem about it. It's nice to see the kids support each other. They put all the poems in to a book and it gets catalogued into the school library

In Social they "flew" to Saskatoon then took a bus back to Lethbridge. They learned all about Saskatoon. Used fake money to practice money to buy Saskatoon berries.

After easter they're going to start math centers. Reviewing math they've already learned in a play based way.

**Administration Report:** Aaron F and Stephen W

Some of our Celebrations:

- Nicholas Sheran on the School Division Website:  
[Science and Heritage Project Fair at Nicholas Sheran | Lethbridge School Division \(lethsd.ab.ca\)](https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/science-heritage-project-fair)
- Project Fair – March 12, 2024 (Science Fair, Heritage Fair)
- Choir Performance – The Soup Kitchen Benefit Concert, March 6, 2024
- Choir Performance – Singing 'O Canada' at the Hurricanes Hockey Game, March 13, 2024

- Sr. Choir, Jr. Choir, and Handbells groups – Various Performances, March 20-22, 2024, at the Music Festival
- March is our Acknowledgements of Excellence month, and our school was asked to provide a summary of some of the exciting things happening at Nicholas Sheran this year. We cannot include nearly everything but look at the Board of Trustee meeting minutes from their March meeting to see our updates this month.
  -
- **Practicum Students**
  - Our PSIII interns will be finishing their internships on April 19, 2024. We certainly appreciate all they have brought to our school community since they joined us on January 8. We are looking forward to their last exciting month in our Grade 3, 4, and 5 classes.
  - We do have one PSII student who is doing their practicum in Mrs. Niven’s Grade 3 Classroom. Claire Stange joins us from March 4 – April 18, 2024.
  - We have one practicum student from the Lethbridge College Educational Assistant program right now (working with Mrs. Britton), and we did have an Early Education practicum student from the Lethbridge College who had been working with the Early Education Program Team supported by Mrs. Smid.
- **Student Mentorship Opportunities**
  - Partnership with the Vic Park Volunteerism – This is our second year partnering with students from the Vic Park Volunteerism class. Students come to NSES with their teacher and are co-creating a comic book, playing games creating art projects, and other exciting activities.
  - Big Brothers and Big Sisters Teen Mentoring – Will pair a teen from High School with a grade 3 or 4 student for games, crafts, snacks, and fun. This program will run after school and take place from April 11 to June 13.
- **Student Fee Reporting**
  - This is done annually at this time of year; the school admin team will make recommendations for fee changes.
  - Any increase to a fee above 5% must be accompanied by an explanation for the increase. Similarly, new fees require an explanation as well.
  - Fees are posted as a “maximum possible” amount, not necessarily a total amount. For example, the fee for a missing library book is quite high; but families would only be charged for a reasonable replacement value, which is different for each item.
  - Choir fee, Handbells fee, Technology fee – discussion

- **Pickle Ball**
  - We are excited to be starting a pickle ball club for our grade 4 and 5 students. This will be a free program running from April 11 - May 2.
  
- **Report Cards Access, Parent/Teacher Interview Stats, Celebration of Learning**
  - The number of families accessing our March 2024 report cards: 144/373 through the Parent Portal; Printed approx.
  - We have work to do in terms of report card access.
  - The average number of families booking interviews per classroom: 5; The spread from low (1) to high (7)
  - The average number of families attending Celebration of Learning per classroom: 10; The spread from low (6) to high (18)
  
- **Important March / April Events**
  - March 19 – EDO hot lunch orders due (12pm)
  - March 19 – School Travel Safety Planning Committee (5:30-6:30pm)
  - March 19 – School Council (6:30pm)
  - March 20 – Sr Choir at Lethbridge Music Festival
  - March 21 – Handbells at Lethbridge Music Festival
  - March 21 – World Down Syndrome Awareness Day...wear your mismatched socks “Because our differences are what make us great!”
  - March 22 – Jr Choir at Lethbridge Music Festival
  - March 26 – EDO hot lunch day
  - March 27 – Spring Picture Day
  - March 28 – Jr and Sr Choir performance at Age Care Columbia
  - March 28 – Handbells, Jr, and Sr Choir Pizza Party and Wrap-Up lunch
  - March 29 – No School
  - March 30 – April 7 – No School, Spring Break
  - April 8 – Professional Learning Day for Teachers
  - April 9 – Green Shirt Day
  - April 10 – Kernels Distribution Day
  - April 16 – NS School Council Meeting
  - April 18 – NS Values Assembly, 9:30am
  - April 18 – Choir and Handbells groups performing at NS Values Assembly, 9:30am
  - April 18 – KFC Orders Due

**Treasurer Report:** Lacey M (Sarah H will read report)

We currently have 9115.74 in the bank with an outstanding cheque for 794.32 to Taco del Mar so our balance in the account will be \$8321.42.

This past month we the school cashed the cheque for \$250 that we wrote for literacy night, and we received a transfer \$500 from the ASCE grant to be used for parent engagement. .

See attached for more details

**Financial requests:**

- Sound system needs updating/maintenance. Aaron will look into getting a quote.
- Library needs to update non fiction books. Aaron will ask Mrs. Woods to give us a quote on how much she'd need.

**Hot Lunch/Fundraising Report: Lindsay O**

Little Caesar's in January:

152 orders

Made \$138.22

Donated pizzas to teachers: spent \$154.75

Candy grams in February:

Made \$857.71

Taco Del Mar in February:

101 orders

Made \$59.63, profit wasn't as high as little Caesar's because less orders and price point was higher

Edo closed today at 8am, we had 82 Orders and made \$75.10

Kernels is now open until March 26 to be delivered April 10

April: hot lunch will be KFC

May: hot lunch will be Boston pizza

Dance a thon is tentatively set for May 2

**District Council Report: Monnu B / Tyler W**

- Parent learning session was on report cards.
- Talk about the next community conversations happening. Keep an eye on the website for more info on that.
- If we're ever advocating for students to any government leaders, we should be asking for fully funded students. Fully funded means every student gets funded based on actual numbers, not an average of numbers on years past.
- A consultant has been hired to come in and review the school division's policies.
- There are some policies that parents can submit feedback on. You can find those policies on the website.

[http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/RAfqwKlpaW4K7xDvlt1IEA~/AAAAQA~/RgRnipCXP0Q\\_aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cubGV0aHNkLmFiLmNhL291ci1kaXN0cmlijdC9wb2xpY2llczlvcG9sa](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/RAfqwKlpaW4K7xDvlt1IEA~/AAAAQA~/RgRnipCXP0Q_aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cubGV0aHNkLmFiLmNhL291ci1kaXN0cmlijdC9wb2xpY2llczlvcG9sa)

[WN5LWZIZWRiYWNrVwdzY2hvb2xtQgplORddqWXIMX9CUh9rcmlzdGluLnNvbG93b25pdWtAbGV0aHNkLmFiLmNhWAQAAAAC](https://www.letshd.ab.ca/board/board-meetings)

- April 10<sup>th</sup> at 7pm is the next engagement meeting

#### Trustee report:

- Meeting minutes sent out to school chairs and can be accessed here: <https://www.letshd.ab.ca/board/board-meetings>
- Boundary review committee is presenting to the board possible solutions on boundary changes. April 30<sup>th</sup> at GS Lakie 4-8pm (come and go type thing) review of what the board feels is possible boundaries. It's really important parents attend and provide feedback.
- The Town Hall meeting was a success with a good turnout.
- Parents can give input on curriculum changes

#### Executive Council Report:

- Still waiting for budget profiles
- Starting staffing process for next year.

#### Old Business:

- none

#### New Business:

- Friends of Nicholas Sheran Society (Sarah H)
  - The society was never closed. There is some support to get it back up and running. Sarah has filled out forms to get the society back in good standing. We'd need to hold a meeting where we vote people in. we'd need to transfer funds from parent council to friends for insurance fees then we can apply for casino. We can run hot lunch money through friends society.
  - We'd need to submit the paperwork to the government and see if they accept it.
- 2024/2025 School Budget and Staffing (Aaron F and Stephen W)
  - **Staffing Processes – 2024/2025 School Year**
    - There are different staffing processes and timelines for our different employee groups like support staff and teachers.
    - Postings are made public on our school division website and are shared to division staff via email.
    - Currently, spring staffing for the 2024/2025 school year has started with two Administrator postings (Dr. Plaxton Elementary and the new Garry Station elementary school on the west side). Other staffing rounds will follow.

- Our Admin Team will now start meeting regularly with teams from the division office and Human Resources to ensure our staffing for next school year runs smoothly!
- **Registration – 2024/2025 School Year**
  - Registration so far: Grade 1-5 (2024/2025) = 124; Kindergarten (2024/2025) - 43
  - Expression of Interest in Early Education Programs (EEP) for the 2024/2025 school year; link [here](#).
    - Early Education Programs in the Division focus on supporting children with identified needs, who meet the Alberta Education criteria for support in programming. Additional spaces open to the public, as they are available. These spaces do require a fee.
  - Kindergarten Registration
    - Process began on January 22, 2024; The process continues into the spring
    - Links to the kindergarten registration process are available [here](#).
  - Grades 1-5 Registration
    - This process opened on Monday, March 18, 2024
    - We will be using the Laserfiche registration process we have used for the past several years
    - New student registration (ongoing, all year) is available [here](#).
  - Mrs. Miklos or Admin will send out registration summary emails to parents as they are ready to go. We will work with our Middle Schools to support their registration process for our Grade 5s moving on in the fall.
  - If any parents have questions or concerns about registration, or if they need any support with the process, please contact the office.
- **School Division – Spring Budgeting**
  - Province Releases Budget (high level), but school divisions wait for their specific funding manual, so they understand specific amounts that will come to the division.
  - Combination of base funding (per student funding, based on weighted moving average formula introduced with the first UCP government), and program-specific funding pools and program grants (think: inclusive education; funding for English as an Additional Language learners; school nutrition grants, etc.)
  - The School Board Trustees have their own processes to follow, as do the Senior Admin / Executive Council, and our Admin Committee will receive some high-level updates next week.
  - We work through a process with the school division. We welcome any questions you may have on budgeting for the school and the division. Also,

feel free to reach out to Trustees through all the avenues they provide.

- **Staffing Updates**

- A new Educational Assistant has joined our Kindergarten (AM) Team Support (PM) model of student support. Her name is Nirasha Rajapaksha, and we are so glad she joined our staff!

Mrs. Rhodes and Mr. Rhodes (LCI) are expecting a baby this spring! The staffing for her leave of absence will take place when necessary, and we will communicate with the students and families in her classroom as necessary.

- **Town Hall (In-person: February 6 ,2024; Online survey: February 6-17, 2024; Summary report published: March 7, 2024)**

- The summary report of the Town Hall event (both in-person and online engagements) is available [here](#).
- Town Hall event responses: 804 comments; Town Hall online survey responses: 801 comments
- Please read the summary report to understand the key themes that emerged in the consultation process.

- **DRAFT – K-6 Social Studies Curriculum**

- The Government of Alberta has released its newest draft of the K-6 Social Studies Curriculum. The timeline is tight for consultation because it was just released last week, and the government would like to find school divisions willing to pilot the curriculum by the start of next school year. The current plan is that full implementation would take place in the fall of 2025.
- Feedback from parents, teachers, community stakeholders, administrators, etc. is all valuable to the process. Here are some helpful links:
  - [Link to provide feedback](#).
  - [Link to the new K-12 curriculum draft \(overview\)](#).
  - [Link to draft K-6 curriculum](#).
  - [Link to the current curriculum](#).
- The form to provide feedback to Alberta Education is only open briefly. **The deadline is March 29, 2024.** Released: March 14, 2024; Current online feedback closes: March 29, 2024.

- Registration Update (Aaron F and Stephen W)

- Registration – 2024/2025 School Year**

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    - New student registration (ongoing, all year) is available [here](#).
  - Mrs. Miklos or Admin will send out registration summary emails to parents as they are ready to go. We will work with our Middle Schools to support their registration process for our Grade 5s moving on in the fall.
  - If any parents have questions or concerns about registration, or if they need any support with the process, please contact the office.
- ASCA Grant for parent engagement (Sarah H)
    - Engagement grant is \$500
    - Ideas: someone to talk about mental health at an elementary school age, bullying, building relationships, what are the benefits of being involved in your kids education,
      - Speakers could come from Key connections or Lethbridge family services,
  - ASCA AG voting (Monnu B)
    - We have \$250 to pay for travel to ASCA Conference on April 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> in Edmonton. We have the option to attend virtually and are able to vote virtually.
    - Registration deadline is April 18<sup>th</sup>.
    - We'll vote on who will attend at our April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.
    - This is a link to resolutions we'll be voting on. Attached is a summary of the resolutions.  
<https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/public/download/files/241024>
  - Anti-Racism Anti-Oppression (ARAO) discussion
    - This is discussed at every division meeting. We have the policy in the school division and there are people who want this policy removed. Our reps are at the meetings



representing the school so they want to get the option of our school so they can represent fairly and not put in their personal options.

- We voted and everyone in the room voted in favour of keeping the policy. So moving forward, our reps can say that Nicolas Sheran supports this policy.

**Motion to Adjourn/Second:** Tisha motion to adjourn. Nicole second. 9:07pm

	Budget	Actual
<b>Revenue</b>		
School Board Grant (to be used for travel expenses for conference province wide) - Possibly vote and use towards school spending	\$	250.00
<b>Expenditures</b>		
<b>Events</b>		
December -	\$	200.00
Family Fitness Challenge	\$	300.00
Color run - Giant freezies (cut in half)	\$	100.00
<b>School use</b>		
<b>Big spends</b>	\$	900.00
<b>Staff Appreciation</b>		
Admin day (5@\$50/ea, possibly a G/C)	\$	250.00
Teacher appreciation day	\$	350.00
<b>Classroom Allotments (use towards class materials, rewards, field trips, etc.)</b>		
\$250/classroom (17 rooms)	\$	4,250.00
Nikki's Den	\$	250.00
Mr. Sheedy (Music room)	\$	250.00
<b>Discretionary Fund for school Requests</b>	\$	1,500.00
<b>Monthly bank fees: 12 months @ \$3.00</b>	\$	36.00
<b>Balance from previous year</b>	\$	10,737.93
<b>Total Budget YTD</b>	\$	8,350.00
<b>Teacher Big Asks</b>		
<b>Actual Budget Total YTD</b>	\$	-
<b>Difference Total</b>	\$	10,737.93

<b>Fundraiser</b>	<b>Total sales amount</b>	<b>Transaction fee</b>	<b>Total Balance</b>	<b>School's Profit</b>	<b>Confirmation #</b>	<b>Invoice #</b>
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<b>Total Sale YTD</b>	\$0.00
<b>Transaction Fee YTD</b>	\$0.00
<b>Total Balance YTD</b>	\$0.00
<b>School Profit YTD</b>	\$0.00

Month	Fundraiser	Total sales amount	Transaction fee	Total Balance	Actual Vendor Amount	School's Profit	Etransfer Confirmation #	Confirmation or invoice #
Sept	N/A							
Oct	Kernals	\$2,550.90	\$215.60	\$2,335.30	\$1,510.51	\$824.79	1202310230868120000	306
Nov	Subway	\$1,010.25	\$55.80	\$954.45	\$948.70	\$6.00	1202311140899920000	251464
Dec	Boostma	\$1,883.25	\$106.02	\$1,777.23	\$976.50	\$800.73	1202312060933350000	254251
Jan	Little Ceaser	\$1,031.76	\$42.99	\$1,048.29	\$893.54	\$138.22		
Feb	Candy-grams	\$1,214.00		\$1,214.00	\$356.29	\$851.71		
	Taco Del Mar	\$853.68	\$35.57		\$794.32	\$59.36		262485
Mar	Edo Japan	\$802.25	\$32.08	\$769.50				
Apr	Kernals							
May	Dance-a-thon							
June	N/A							
	<b>Total Sale YTD</b>	\$2,550.90						
	<b>Transaction Fee YTD</b>	\$488.06						
	<b>Total Balance YTD</b>	\$8,098.77						
	<b>School Profit YTD</b>	\$2,680.81						

	A	B	C
1		<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>
2	<b>Revenue</b>		
3	Alberta School Council Engagment Grant	\$ 500.00	
4	School Board Grant (to be used for travel expenses for conference province wide) - Possibly vote and use towards school spending	\$ 250.00	
5			
6	<b>Expendatures</b>		
7	<b>Events</b>		
8	Numeracy Night	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
9	Literacy Night	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
10	Color run - Giant freezies (cut in half)	\$ 100.00	
11	Dance -a-thon	\$ 200.00	
12			
13	<b>School use</b>		
14	<b>Big spend's</b>	\$ 1,500.00	
15	Mr. Sheedy - Music supplies (mallets, binderstands, polishing supplies) \$525, New set of granite blocks \$534.43	\$ 525.00	
16	Mrs. Chudobiak - Taller wiggle seats \$76.95/each, repaint/add new asphalt games \$ ???	\$ 230.85	
17	Mrs. Wood - Moveable double-sided white board x2 \$600	\$ 600.00	
18	Mrs. Niven - Bluetooth doc. Camera	\$ 175.00	
19			
20	<b>Staff Appreciation</b>		
21	Admin day (5@\$50/ea, possibly a G/C)	\$ 250.00	
22	Teacher appreciation day	\$ 225.00	\$ 109.11
23			
24	<b>Classroom Allotments (use towards class materials, rewards, field trips, etc.)</b>		
25	\$250/classroom (18 rooms)	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00
26	Nikki's Den	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
27	Mr. Sheedy (Music room)	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
28			
29	<b>Discretionary Fund for school Requests</b>	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 154.75
30	<b>Monthly bank fees \$5 x12 Months</b>	\$ 60.00	\$ 30.00
31			
32	<b>Balance from previous year</b>	\$ 10,737.93	
33	<b>Grants</b>	\$ 750.00	
34			
35	<b>Total Budget YTD</b>	\$ 11,615.85	
36	<b>Actual Total YTD</b>	\$ 5,793.86	
37	<b>Allocated unspent YTD</b>	\$ 4,291.14	
38	<b>Difference Total</b>	\$ 4,884.07	

	D	
1	<b>Allocated not spent</b>	
	<b>(as of Mar 2024)</b>	
2		
3	\$	500.00
4	\$	250.00
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10	\$	100.00
11	\$	200.00
12		
13		
14	\$	1,500.00
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21	\$	250.00
22	\$	115.89
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		
29	\$	1,345.25
30	\$	30.00
31		
32		
33		
34		
35		
36		
37		
38		

**Cell:** A15

**Comment:** Lacey McLeod:

Mr. Sheedy got a donation to cover the costs of repairs.

**Cell:** A22

**Comment:** Lacey McLeod:

Oct: Gummy bears "This year would be unBEARable without you" \$49.64

Etransfer # C1Azdryecq7b

Dec: Lifesavers \$59.47

Etransfer #

**Cell:** A29

**Comment:** Lacey McLeod:

Little ceaser pizza for teachers 154.75

**Cell:** A38

**Comment:** Lacey McLeod:

Includes monthly bank fee's



	Budget	Actual
<b>Approved!</b> Parent Engagement Grant - Literacy/Numeracy Night	\$ 500.00	

**Notes:**

School Board Grant (to be used for travel expenses for conference province wide) -  
Possibly vote and use towards school spending

\$ 250.00

**Notes:**

<b>Fundraiser</b>	<b>Total sales amount</b>	<b>Transaction fee</b>	<b>Total Balance</b>	<b>School's Profit</b>	<b>Confirmation #</b>	<b>Invoice #</b>		
Bootsma Bakery	\$2,508.00	\$146.30	\$2,361.70	\$800.47	216612	2021012	<b>Total Sale YTD</b>	\$18,162.35
Kernels Popcorn	\$2,327.50	\$232.75	\$2,094.75	\$880.26	217437	20221021	<b>Transaction Fee YTD</b>	\$809.33
Subway	\$1,044.00	\$71.00	\$831.60	\$140.40	219757		<b>Total Balance YTD</b>	\$11,833.37
Kernels Popcorn	\$1,987.50	\$79.90	\$1,788.75	\$828.06	220841		<b>School Profit YTD</b>	\$4,421.55
Candygrams	\$935.35	\$0.00	\$591.70	\$343.65	226744	154		
Kernels Popcorn	\$1,045.00	\$83.60	\$961.40	452.48	228170			
Subway	\$1,131.00	\$60.84	\$1,070.16	\$169.26	229318			
Dance-a-thon	\$4,915.50							
Booster Juice	\$540.00	\$21.60	\$518.15		233138			
Colibri (reusable)				\$327.00				
Kernels Popcorn	\$777.50	\$62.20	\$715.30	\$336.66	237161			
Subway	\$951.00	\$51.14	\$899.86	\$143.31				

Balance from previous year \$3,512.00  
 Allocation from society \$3,488.00  
 Society closing balance deposited for 23/24 \$1071.92

	<b>Budget 22/23</b>	<b>Actual 22/23</b>
<b>Revenue</b>		
School Board Grant (to be used for travel expenses for conference province wide) - April	\$ 250.00	\$ 182.96

**Expenditures**

**Events**

Christmas concert w/ cookies, hot cocoa pack w/ candy cane for each student in school (originally was Christmas Caroling)

	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Family Fitness Challenge	\$ 300.00	\$ 250.86
End of school year - Giant freezies	\$ 100.00	\$ 94.44

**School use**

Gaga ball pit	\$ 900.00	\$ 977.83
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**Staff Appreciation**

Admin day (5@\$50/ea, possibly a G/C)	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
Teacher appreciation day	\$ 350.00	\$ 195.91

**Classroom Allotments (use towards class materials, rewards, field trips, etc.)**

**Total amount \$3950.00**

\$200/classroom (17 rooms)	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 3,400.00
Nikki's Den	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Mr. Sheedy (Music room)	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
EEP	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00

<b>Discretionary Fund for school Requests</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 937.96</b>
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<b>Total Budget YTD</b>	<b>\$ 7,050.00</b>
<b>Actual Total YTD</b>	<b>\$ 6,857.00</b>
<b>Funds to carry over</b>	<b>\$ 67.04</b>

**Cell: C6**

**Comment:** [Threaded comment]

Your version of Excel allows you to read this threaded comment; however, any edits to it will get removed if the file is opened in a newer version of Excel. Learn more:  
<https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?linkid=870924>

Comment:

Food towards the last PTA meeting of the school year.

**Cell: C14**

**Comment:** [Threaded comment]

Your version of Excel allows you to read this threaded comment; however, any edits to it will get removed if the file is opened in a newer version of Excel. Learn more:  
<https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?linkid=870924>

Comment:

Extra \$ 77.83 cost came from the discretionary funds

**Cell: C19**

**Comment:** [Threaded comment]

Your version of Excel allows you to read this threaded comment; however, any edits to it will get removed if the file is opened in a newer version of Excel. Learn more:  
<https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?linkid=870924>

Comment:

Teacher Appreciation amounts:

Oct - Excel gum \$29.38

Feb - Gatorade/Granola bar \$103.44

Apr - Goldfish crackers/A&W pop\$63.09

**Cell: C28**

**Comment:** [Threaded comment]

Your version of Excel allows you to read this threaded comment; however, any edits to it will get removed if the file is opened in a newer version of Excel. Learn more:  
<https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?linkid=870924>

Comment:

Discretionary Funds Break down:

Reply:

Received donation of \$200 from an Sapriken & Waldron Accounting Inc.

Reply:

Bags for fundraiser \$36.74

Reply:

Dance-a-thon prizes \$164.04

Decorations \$30

Reply:

Gaga pit GC for carpenter \$60

Reply:

\$166.95 hand bell gloves

Reply:

Literacy Night - Timbits and hot chocolate \$250.63

Reply:

Cookies for Christmas concert \$229.60

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**Budget 22/23      Actual 22/23**

Parent Engagement Grant - Literacy Night    \$        500.00

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# ASCA 2024 AGM Resolutions

1. Integrate Climate and Biodiversity Education Throughout the Curriculum from K-12
  - Issue: A framework for embedding climate & biodiversity education in Alberta schools must be integrated throughout the curriculum from K-12 and should incorporate hands-on learning experiences with a focus on critical thinking, equity, and wellbeing.
  - Recommendation: That the Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) advocates to the Minister of Education for a framework for embedding climate & biodiversity throughout the K-12 curriculum that incorporates hands-on learning experiences with a focus on critical thinking, equity, and wellbeing.
2. Funding for More Assessments of Learning Disabilities
  - Issue: More funding is needed for schools and families to access professionals like psychologists, speech and language therapists, physical therapists and all other resources needed to assess children with learning disabilities. Currently one kid gets an assessment if needed a year as per the budget or if the parent goes to Alberta Health Services (AHS). The wait list is years. Health care including mental health should be free and the school should have access to free services that are not wait listed. That child and the teacher should have access to the follow up support as frequently as needed and not on the rotating schedule it currently is.
  - Recommendation: That the Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) advocates to the Minister of Education and the Minister of Health for increased availability of professionals to help diagnose learning disabilities and support neurodivergent children.
3. Improving Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) in Alberta Classrooms and Shared Environments
  - Issue: School boards require increased funding to install modern HVAC systems for health and learning. Properly retrofitting older schools is imperative to ensure clean indoor air quality and should be prioritized as soon as possible. Ensuring indoor air quality in schools is critical, especially in Alberta, where varying approaches exist. While some school boards are proactively upgrading ventilation systems and adding HEPA filters in classrooms, others lag. Implementing comprehensive, province-wide modern HVAC systems in schools is imperative, not only to enhance Page 7 of 22 air quality and reduce combustion pollution but also to address health and safety concerns, improve overall efficiency, bolster energy resilience, adapt to extreme weather conditions (wildfire smoke, heat), and contribute to broader climate change mitigation efforts.
  - Recommendation: That Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) advocates to the Minister of Education for increased funding for modern HVAC systems for health and learning (with air filtration and cooling systems) not only in new schools but retrofitted in older school buildings as well. That Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) advocates to the Minister of Education to require school boards

to provide frequent and regular information on indoor air quality (IAQ) and improvements made to IAQ in schools to parents, including specific air quality improvements and IAQ specifications and monitoring in schools, including classrooms, gymnasiums, cafeterias, bathrooms, buses, and all shared environments, and that they release this information publicly to afford all students and staff a safer environment in which to work, learn and thrive.

#### 4. Equity in Playground Funding

- Issue: Despite an equal scope of work for redevelopment, playgrounds on school board property can only access matching CFEP funding of \$125,000, while there is a new school playground grant of \$250,000 available to new schools. This creates huge inequities because it requires parents to bear the burden of raising several hundreds of thousands of dollars, especially at older schools in aging neighbourhoods.
- Recommendation #1: That the Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) advocate to the Ministers of Education and Infrastructure to correct the inequities caused by the Playground grant funding available to new schools by: 1) Creating an equitable grant program targeted for the life cycle replacement of existing playgrounds at older schools, especially where the school has no access to any other government funding; and 2) Allow schools where no playgrounds currently exist to access the same grant funding as brand-new schools (\$250,000 in 2023-2024).
- Recommendation #2: That Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) Advocacy Policy 05-02 Funding for Playground Facilities (2021) be amended to read:
  - 1. That Alberta Infrastructure fund basic playground development, life cycle replacement, maintenance, and equipment at older schools, based on established criteria. School communities that want more than the basics would have to raise the necessary funds.
  - 2. That funding priority is targeted to schools with playground footprints located on school land, and which are ineligible to receive funding from other levels of government. Funding should be prioritized based on an assessment of need and factors such as existing playground age/condition, social vulnerability, access to other funding sources, school population, and location of adjacent public playgrounds accessible to the school.

#### 5. Preserving Safe and Inclusive Spaces for 2SLGBTQI+ Students

- Issue: Within the province of Alberta, supports for 2SLGBTQI+ students are already in place. In other provinces across Canada, there have been legislative changes to erode similar supports. We believe it is important to ensure these supports remain intact in the province of Alberta.
- Recommendation: That the Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) advocate to the Minister for Education and other education stakeholders and partners for:
  - 1. The preservation of GSAs/QSAs in all schools in Alberta with continued protections surrounding the personal information of students participating in GSAs/QSAs.



- 2. Ensure curriculum uses educational materials that enhance the visibility and understanding of different cultural, ethnic, and sexual minorities. Maintain age-appropriate sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression topics into classroom discussions, lesson plans, curricular outcomes, and library collections.
  - 3. Support schools and school boards to be gender inclusive on school forms, websites, and communications, recognizing that gender exists on a spectrum, not as a male/female binary.
  - 4. Support professional development for teachers to provide the knowledge and skills to a) respond immediately and in age-appropriate ways to discriminatory language and behaviour, b) use inclusive language, and c) incorporate positive examples that affirm and embrace differing sexual orientations and gender identities.
6. Resource Support for French Immersion Teachers (Available Before Implementation of Curriculum Changes)
- Issue: Curriculum changes require professional development for teachers, as well as a gathering of resources to be utilized within the classroom ready at time of launch. Alberta Learning has English resources available, however French Immersion resources are lacking at the time of curriculum implementation. This creates undue stress on teachers, requiring more time and effort to secure resources for French Immersion classrooms, and has the potential for students to be disadvantaged in their learning if adequate resources cannot be sourced.
  - Recommendation: That the Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) advocates to the Minister of Education for French Immersion resources to be developed and available at the same time as English resources prior to the implementation of curriculum.
7. Enhanced Reporting of and Support for Class Size and Complexity
- Issue: Class numbers are growing larger, class composition is becoming more complex making learning difficult for students and teachers in Alberta schools.
  - Recommendations: That the Alberta School Councils' Association advocates to the Minister of Education to:
    - 1. Annually report class sizes while actively enacting initiatives aimed at reducing class sizes to levels that facilitate effective teaching and learning;
    - 2. Allocate funding and resources for ongoing professional development for educators, ensuring they have the skills and strategies needed to navigate complex classrooms effectively;
    - 3. Increase funding to hire additional qualified educators and support staff, recognizing their pivotal roles in addressing the complex needs of students;
    - 4. Commit to engaging in meaningful collaboration with relevant stakeholders, including parents, educators, and community members, to develop and implement strategies that promote educational equity through thoughtful consideration of class size and complexity.