

Nicholas Sheran Elementary School Council

Tuesday, October 15 @6:30pm in Community Room

In the spirit of reconciliation, we acknowledge that we are meeting here tonight on the traditional land of the Siksikaitsitapi (Blackfoot people). We are grateful to be here and will endeavor to honour, respect, and uplift the traditions of people who have cared for this land since time immemorial. We also recognize the Métis people of Alberta Region 3 who call Treaty 7 their home.

Call to Order: 6:33 by Lindsay O.

Welcome & Introductions: Brette T, Tyler W, Lindsay O, Meggen H, Monnu B, Steve W, Aaron F, Tisha E, Sarah H, Robbie C, Christine L, Erin B, Mallory F, Hayley B, Chancy A, Deborah B, Nicole ?, Telina Z, Karma VS,

Any Additions: Thank you to Panago westside.

Approval of AGENDA/Second: Meggen Approve, Tyler second

Approval of MINUTES/Second: Tisha Approve, Nicole Second

Grade level sharing: Grade 1: Deb B., Mallory F., & Hayley B. and learning support teacher Erin B.

Spelling/writing – learning where to find sounds of the letter, beginning vs ending.

Haggerty phonetic awareness is a program they do that is about rhyming and blending sounds. Learning lots of sound work and letter work.

Numeracy – focusing on learning number sense. Foundation things with quantity. Printing numbers and learning ways to represent numbers. Learning what patterns are so they can identify patterns in the world.

science – energy unit. It's all about movement, directions pathways and speed. Learned about giving directions which is computer science. Learning seasons, what is the reasons for the seasons

Beekman – Learning support. It's taking longer for students to settle that transition from summer to school. It's often a challenge for grade 1's because it's their first year of full time school.

They've been making a list of items that would make learning easier for them, wiggle chair, lap bands, pencil grips. There are several regulation spaces throughout the school. Every grade has 1 plus a relaxation station and heavy work in the community room. They have a large shopping list they've been buying but this year they're over halfway through their budget. They've been buying things that will last long term for students this year as well as

students in future years. She's concerned that they won't have the budget to replenish all the damaged things and work their way through their list. She's asking if parent council can help offset the cost.

Weighted lap pads – most effective thing to calm kids. So many students benefit from these. They are just over \$400

Wiggle cushions - \$182

They're asking for roughly \$600

Administration Report: Aaron F. and Stephen W.

Alberta Education Assessments

- Teachers navigated the Alberta Education Assessments very well. We are proud of the way that our school division took information that came at the very last minute and worked with schools to operationalize the process.
- It is very difficult to complete assessments with students so early in the school year.
- We have developed a few scenarios as to how to share the information with parents in the most effective, but straightforward ways, as possible. Which scenario we choose will depend on the availability of reports from Alberta Education.
- Ideally, conversations will take place during Parent Teacher Interviews.
- Next up: Fountas & Pinnell assessments are happening in October and November for all students in grades 3, 4, and 5. These are required for all students in these three grades at elementary, and this is the one time it is required this school year.

Halloween Plans

- Thursday, October 31, 2024
- Students may choose to attend school in their costume on Halloween
- There will be a Halloween parade for staff and students in the morning (this will include our AM kindergarten classes)
- Our PM kindergarten class will have a small parade of their own in the afternoon
- We know that parents are always interested in attending, but we cannot accommodate parents at this event.
- Reminders about appropriate costumes and classroom-specific plans for the day will be sent out by teachers, and/or posted to our Facebook and emailed from the office. Thank you for making these activities safe and comfortable for all students in the building!

Indigenous Bingo Night (West side elementary schools)

- On the evening of Thursday, October 3, our Indigenous Families were invited to Indigenous Bingo Night at Dr. Probe Elementary School
- This is an opportunity to lower barriers that prevent some Indigenous families from feeling comfortable in our schools
- We had a great time, even though none of our families won big prizes. Pizza and snacks were provided, and our school contributed a gift basket to the prizes!

Student Population and Class Sizes

- Hot spots remain the same as last meeting: Grade one and grade five

Grades	Enrollment Numbers
Total W/EEP	399
Total W/Out EEP	382
KG (18, 18, 17)	53
1 (23, 21, 22)	66
2 (20, 19, 20, 18)	77
3 (21, 21, 20)	62
4 (21, 22, 22)	66
5 (19/29, 20, 18/28)	58

Parent Engagement Night – Digital Wellness Team

- The Digital Wellness Team is pleased to announce that we will be hosting our second Digital Wellness Parent Engagement Event on Wednesday November 13th, 2024. This event will be held from 6:00-7:30 PM in the G.S. Lakie Middle School Foyer. Our aim is to give parents and stakeholders the opportunity to learn more about the new Personal Mobile Device and Social Media Use in Schools procedure, and the relationship between technology and education. Attendees will be able to hear about the formation and implementation of the procedure and share perspectives in round table discussions.

Parent Teacher Interviews

- This schedule was emailed by Mrs. Miklos to all families
- Bookings have already started, so please book as early as you can
- Please note the time changes for Mrs. Reid (kindergarten)
- If none of the posted times work for your family, please reach out to your classroom teachers directly to schedule

Report Cards

- The parent portal will open on November 22
- Please let your classroom teacher know if you require a paper copy of the report card; we are happy to print a physical copy for you! We will let the classroom teacher coordinate with families

Flag Project Partnership

- Chinook High School leadership classes
- Bari Ipa and Connor Kopp are the Leadership teachers at Chinook High School
- We have asked to collaborate to bring our Flag Project to life...we will work with those HS students this school year to come up with a creative plan to display our flags within the school

Mind Up in Grade 4

- Mind Up is an evidence-based curriculum that teaches students about the emotional center of the brain and focuses on helping students' ability to regulate emotions, focus attention, and build empathy.
- We believe this curriculum works well alongside Second Step, and our grade four teachers were the first to join. Mrs. Kitagawa will be delivering the instruction alongside the classroom teachers.

Signing of the School Travel Plan

- On Wednesday, October 9, our different stakeholder groups assembled one more time to sign the final version of our School Travel Plan
- This event was recorded by Garrett Simmons (school division Communications Officer) and has been posted to our school website and social media (check it out!)
- This is now a 5-year plan that is operationalized, and there will be annual meetings (starting this spring) between our school and the City of Lethbridge to share progress updates

Games/Lines Repainted

- Following prompting from School Council, we've had some upgrades to the space around our school
- We are still unsure as to how much this will cost, but our recommendation would be that you make a motion to cover the costs UP TO whatever your group can afford
- We will work with the Maintenance Department to settle the invoice
- The students are really enjoying the newly refreshed games – thank you!

Handbells session tomorrow afternoon

- Handbell Discovery will be taking place tomorrow afternoon here at Nicholas Sheran. Students in grade five handbells from our school, Agnes Davidson, and Fleetwood Bawden will have an afternoon of handbells instruction from Emily Li, a handbell clinician.
- Thank you to Mr. Sheedy and the music teachers / handbell instructors from these other two elementary schools for taking this initiative for the students!
- This workshop will be hosted in our Community Room, and we have notified our Communications Officer about this exciting opportunity. information sheet for you. There's a link to the clinician's bio (Emily Li) if you're interested in reading about her.
- In the AM tomorrow, the clinician will also be doing a workshop for middle schools at Gilbert Paterson.

Book Fair Dates & Times

- Mrs. Woods would like to invite families to some special Book Fair times next week during our PL week.
- Wednesday, Oct. 23 and Thursday, Oct. 24 from 1:00pm - 4:00pm
- Book Fair will then be open to classes and families from Monday, October 28 - Thursday, October 31 from 8:30am - 4:30pm, and Friday, November 1 from 8:30am - 1:00pm. Please email daja.woods@lethsd.ab.ca if you are able to volunteer some time at the Book Fair. Thank you! There will also be another Book Fair in February.

Bussing Updates

- So far, we believe all the challenges have been worked out with our bus routes
- If parents / guardians have any feedback, we encourage them to reach out
- Presently, W3 is our new bus route, and it is also the busiest. We are unsure what this will mean once the cold weather comes!

Boundary Changes (Fall 2025)

- On September 25, we sent an email to all families demonstrating Board of Trustees information regarding Boundary changes for westside elementary schools starting in the 2025/2026 school year
- At the Board's Regular meeting on Sept. 24, the committee recommended the following changes, based on community feedback:
 1. Approval of the new boundaries under Option 3, which includes relocating the Spanish Bilingual Program to West Coulee Station Elementary School for the 2025/2026 school year.
 2. Provide a transportation solution for eligible students in the Spanish Bilingual Program.
 3. Exemption Option: Allowing Grade 4 students from Mike Mountain Horse and Nicholas Sheran Elementary Schools in the 2024/2025 school year to choose to remain at their current school for the 2025/2026 academic year for Grade 5.

- The Division is also seeking feedback on the report, before an official decision is made. To have your say, please click on the following link to take a short survey: [SURVEY](#). The survey will be up until Oct. 18. Please note, the Board will hold a Special Meeting on Oct. 29 at 7 p.m. to review the feedback and potentially approve the new boundaries for west Lethbridge elementary schools, which will be in place for the 2025/2026 school year.

Important Events

- October 21 – 25 – Parent/Teacher Conference Week and Professional Learning; We will send a detailed plan for the week
- October 24 – Book Fair Starts
- October 29 – Picture Retake Day
- October 31 (Thursday) - Halloween
- November 8 – Remembrance Day Assembly, 9:30am
- November 11 – No school, Remembrance Day
- November 12 – No school, PL Day
- November 15 – Rock your Mocs Day
- November 19 & 20 – Learning Commons Market Days
- November 21 – Jr & Sr Choir Kids Choir Performance
- November 22 – Report Cards Open on the Parent Portal
- November 25 – Kinder, Gr. 1, & Gr. 2 Dental Visits
- November 28 – Family Numeracy Night – 6:00pm

Treasurer Report: We currently have \$14683.86 in the account

Since last meeting \$1510.51 left to pay kernels and \$5.00 in monthly fees. \$2545.18 came in from Jeanine (what we made from kernels) plus the \$572 cheque for the Little Caesars pizza kits.

We made \$1034.67 from kernels.

Financial Requests:

- Will keep parent council bank account open until Society gets their bank account open.
- Teacher allotments – include Beekman and Mrs Woods and all the other teachers it would cost us \$5250.
- Follow up sound system quotes – we haven't gotten a quote yet
- Big asks from teachers-regulation materials Ms. Beekman
- Request for money to buy lunch for teachers-staff appreciation
- Review quote to paint tarmac – haven't gotten a quote yet

Lindsay motions to spend: \$5000 for teacher allotments, \$600 for Mrs. Beekman, for regulation materials \$170 for little Caesars pizza for teacher appreciation .

Motion passed

Events: Review fundraising and hot lunch tentative schedule for the year

- October: Little Caesar's hot lunch
- November: Bootsma donuts fundraiser
- January: KFC hot lunch
- February: Candy grams fundraiser
- March: Subway hot lunch
- April/May: Dance-a-thon fundraiser
- May? Panago Pizza hot lunch?
- June: Kernels

Hot Lunch Report: Lindsay O. closed little Caesars will be delivered Oct 21st. sold over 100.

Staff Appreciation – coming up soon. Tisha will put together a little gift.

District Council Report: Tyler W/Tisha E.

Elections for positions. Details will be on the district website under meeting minutes.

ASCA came up. We need to vote on if we want to have access to the ASCA membership. If we don't, it'll save the division \$100. It was asked if the school could have that \$100 to put towards parent engagement.

Discussion about a school council information night. It was suggested they do it at the beginning of a meeting as a parent learning session. It is likely they'll do that.

Parent learning sessions start at 6:30 – 7 every first Monday of the month.

Next meeting is November 4th.

We got the \$500 parent engagement grant. Tyler will bring it to our next meeting and we can talk about how we want to use it.

All in favour that we keep our ASCA membership.

Trustee Report: Christine Light

- Board meeting in sept: World teachers' day is coming up. It's a day where we celebrate our staff who make a safe and inclusive learning space for our students and our families.
- Presentation on proposed boundary changes. You can watch on the division website. They are accepting feedback until end of the month.
- Renewed national gas contract with the supplier that provides the best pricing will be renewed.
- Received a request for grade configuration. It was a curiosity by a trustee to receive information.
- Had 2nd and 3rd reading 2024-01 to be approved. Election in in the fall of 2025. Trustees will be on the same ballot as city elections.
- ASBA fall general meeting second week of November. Putting forward a full-time kinder submission. Our board is advocating for Alberta education to fully fund full time kindergarten should the division choose or want that.

- Had special meeting on oct 9th about the board's Capital plan. The meeting can be found on the division website. There is a summary with the highlights or the whole document – the capital plan starts on page 43. This is in regards to modernization of various schools in the district. Nicholas Sheran School was #5 on the list of prioritized schools and at this special meeting it was bumped down to #6.

Executive Council Report: Robbie Charlebois

Enrolment is up 127 students overall. Seeing increases across majority of grade levels.

Callout for AI committee. Looking for people who already have AI knowledge. The tech department will send a survey out for people not selected to be on the committee.

Staff wellness engagement this year. Send Before 6 program to help teachers and families have a break in the evenings.

New Business:

- Division is looking for parent input for topics to be discussed during the 2025 town hall. If you have any suggestions for topics, send to Aaron before Friday.

- Parent info session about the new curriculum reporting-presented by Aaron F. you can visit the links below to see a summary of the new curriculum.
 - Kindergarten: [at-a-glance-ke-en.pdf \(learnalberta.ca\)](#)
 - Grade One: [at-a-glance-1e-en.pdf \(learnalberta.ca\)](#)
 - Grade Two: [at-a-glance-2e-en.pdf \(learnalberta.ca\)](#)
 - Grade Three: [at-a-glance-3e-en.pdf \(learnalberta.ca\)](#)
 - Grade Four: [at-a-glance-4e-en.pdf \(learnalberta.ca\)](#)
 - Grade Five: [at-a-glance-5e-en.pdf \(learnalberta.ca\)](#)

Motion to Adjourn/Second: Meggen motion to adjourn, Tisha second 8:51