

Nicholas Sheran Elementary School Council

Tuesday, January 21st, 2025 @6:30pm in Community Room

Call to Order: called to order by Lindsay O at 6:33pm

WELCOME & Introductions: Brette T, Karma V.S., Tisha E, Nichole H, Tyler W, Lindsay O, Steve W, Aaron F, Meggen H, Monnu B, Steph R, Crystal N, Angie S.

Any Additions: Move Becoming a Bee School to March Meeting

Approval of AGENDA/Second: Motion by Meggen, Second by Tisha

Approval of MINUTES/Second: motion by Meggen, second by Tyler

Grade level sharing: Grade 3

Literacy – use a combination of programs. Word work, reading comprehension, and writing programs that target different skills. Programs all complement each other.

Math – daily warmups, hands-on learning, problem-solving, how to relate it to real-life context .

Administration Report: Aaron F. and Stephen W.

Staffing Updates

- Mrs. Fujikawa returns to us, teaching her two kindergarten classes. Welcome back to Mrs. Fujikawa!
- Brittany Allen, Bayleigh Fleming, and Danelle Klaassen have joined our school as Educational Assistants (we have recently said farewell to Mrs. Stewart [Mrs. Cat], and Miss Lisa, and we were granted a small part-time EA position by the Inclusive Education department at central office)

Grade 5 Basketball League

- Games are on the school calendar
- Staff supervisors this year are Ms. Gotgilf, Mrs. Niven, and Miss Boschee
- Rules and regulations have been sent to these teachers, and they are managing the sign-up, forms, and organizing practices and transportation with parents
- 31 teams in the league, there will be some by-weeks scheduled
- Season-ending Jamboree will be held at Coalbanks and Dr. Plaxton
- Tournament schedule will be shared before the February break
- Season starts on January 28th, games are on Tuesdays and Thursdays

Town Hall – Tuesday, February 4

- The Division is set to host the annual Town Hall event on Tuesday Feb. 4, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Victoria Park High School.

- Town Hall participants can include Division students, parents/guardians/caregivers, staff members and community members
- The event will include two sessions – one where participants will be split up into elementary, middle and high school tables, and a second where tables will discuss specific topics
- For the first session, tables will discuss these questions:
 - What aspects of your school and learning experience are you most satisfied with and why?
 - What aspects of your school and learning experience are you least satisfied with and why?
 - What specific changes or initiatives do you think would improve the quality of education at your school?
- For the **second session**, students will be split into one group and parents/guardians/caregivers, staff and community members will be in the other group.
- Students will be able to choose one of the following topics:
 - **Welcoming, Caring, Safe, Respectful Learning Environments**
 - How does your school make you feel safe, welcome and cared for?
 - What can your school do to make you feel even more safe, welcome and cared for?
 - Survey results tell us there is a lack of respect between students. How can we improve this?
 - **Student Learning, Engagement and Academics**
 - What does your school do to help you learn successfully?
 - What can your school do to help you learn more successfully?
 - Survey results tell us there is a lack of respect between students. How can we improve this?
- The other group will have three topics to choose from:
 - **Parent/Guardian/Caregiver Engagement and Partnership**
 - What do schools do to engage parents/guardians/caregivers in their child's education?
 - What can we do to more effectively engage parents/guardians/caregivers in their child's education?
 - How can parents/guardians/caregivers support the work of schools as partners in education?
 - **Classroom Complexity**
 - In your experience what have we done to effectively address classroom complexities?
 - What can we do to better address classroom complexities?
 - **Academic Achievement**
 - What actions do schools take to support high levels of student learning and achievement?
 - What can schools do to improve student learning and achievement?

BOOST Update

- Danielle Murray will add to her schedule once again, and she will be our BOOST literacy intervention teacher in the afternoons
- Program will start in early February and run until the end of the school year
- Mrs. Murray will provide interventions to students according to the school division intervention programming
- Afternoons and scheduled Fridays are when the interventions will take place

Project Fair 2025

- Tuesday, March 25, 2025
- Any student from kindergarten to Grade Five
- Nicholas Sheran Gymnasium
- Canadian Heritage or Science Project Showcase
- Deadline to sign-up is Friday, February 14
- Sci-Fusion District Science Fair will be held March 28-29 for projects that qualify
- We are still waiting on official dates for the Heritage Fair

Student Population & Class Sizes – November Update

Grades	Enrollment Numbers
Total W/EEP	407
Total W/Out EEP	390
KG (18, 18, 18)	54
1 (24, 21, 22)	67
2 (20, 19, 20, 20)	80
3 (21, 21, 20)	62
4 (23, 22, 22)	67
5 (19/29, 20, 18/29)	60

Registration

- Please see emails from Aaron and Jeanine
- Opened January 20 for K-5 at Nicholas Sheran
- School registration has been manually set to home school
- For example, what this means is that if your school is Mike Mountain Horse Elementary based on your home address, we are asking you to register there (division practice) and fill out an OOB form if you would like to be considered at NSES for the fall of 2025

- Westside elementary principals will determine timelines for approving Out of Boundary forms...the tricky part this year is knowing that budgets are tight and that we are required to register in-boundary students over the summer, including late registrations
- We would say yes to all our families if we could, but we must be mindful of the new boundary lines, following the plan that has been outlined by the school division, and respecting neighbouring school communities
 - We have set Kindergarten intention as half-days for next year
 - AM Program, PM Program
 - We do not yet know if KinderCare will be renewed for another year

West Lethbridge Elementary Boundary Decisions (Old Business – For reference only)

- The Board of Trustees unanimously approved the following (Trustee Tyler Demers was absent from the votes):
- 1. That the Board approve the new boundaries under Option 3 which is: moved from the Nicholas Sheran boundary would be Crossings to West Coulee Station; moved from Mike Mountain Horse boundary to West Coulee Station communities of Country Meadows and Garry Station; relocating the elementary Spanish Bilingual program to West Coulee Station Elementary School.

These changes to be in effect starting in the 2025/2026 school year.

- 2. Move to direct administration to provide a transportation solution for eligible students in the Spanish Bilingual Program, both elementary and middle school, starting the 2025/2026 school year.
- 3. Move to grant students enrolled in Grade 4 during the 2024/2025 school year at Mike Mountain Horse and Nicholas Sheran Elementary Schools the option to remain at their current school for Grade 5 in the 2025/2026 school year, rather than transferring to the newly designated boundary school. This option will also be extended to their siblings and will apply exclusively for the 2025/2026 school year.

Student Teachers & Ed Volunteers

Learning Commons / Maker Space Volunteers

- Mrs. Woods put a call out to the U of L Education Undergraduate Society
- We now have three new aspiring teachers helping during Maker Space time

Professional Semester Three: 16-week Internship, January 6, 2025 – April 16, 2025

- Gareth Emmerson, PS3 – working in Ms. Gotgil's classroom
- We appreciate all our student teachers and undergraduate volunteers! We also sincerely appreciate our relationship and partnership with the University of Lethbridge.

New Admin Business

- Parent / Guardian Engagement (School Council Presentation #3)
- Second presentation on the DRAFT report card
- Theme: Revised Academic Indicator and Legend
- Family Literacy Night
- Thursday, February 13, 2025
- 6:00 – 7:00pm
- All families welcome to attend
- Families will be invited to move through several spaces in the school to experience different genres and text forms presented by the grade level teams
- Book Fair will be happening in the Learning Commons
- LPL will be here to sign up / renew library cards
- A “by donation” photo booth will be setup just like in the past
- Just like Family Numeracy Night, getting your “passport” authenticated will enter you into a grade level prize draw!
- Alberta Education Surveys
- These are sent out each winter from Alberta Education
- We plan to survey both Grade 4 and 5 students again this year
- Parents receive their codes mailed directly to them
- We are looking for ways to increase parent engagement in the process
- Please let us know your thoughts, and please look for emails from Aaron if you have a child in Grade 4 or 5
- Some Upcoming Important Events
- January 20 – Registration Opens
- January 21 – AM Kindergarten Skating
- January 22 – PM Kindergarten Skating
- January 28 – KFC Hot Lunch
- January 28 – AM Kindergarten Skating
- January 28 – Grade 5 Basketball
- January 29 – PM Kindergarten Skating
- January 30 – Grade 5 Basketball
- January 31 – PL Day (No school for students)
- February 4 – AM Kindergarten Skating
- February 4 – Grade 5 Basketball
- February 4 – Division Town Hall Meeting (5:30pm)
- February 5 – Winter Walk Day
- February 5 – Values Assembly: Compassion
- February 5 – PM Kindergarten Skating
- February 6 – Grade 5 Basketball
- February 10 – 14 – Book Fair (Learning Commons)
- February 11 – Grade 5 Basketball
- February 13 – Grade 5 Basketball
- February 13 – Family Literacy Night (6:00pm – 7:00pm)
- February 17-21 – No School for Students
- February 25 - Grade 5 Basketball

- February 26 – Grade 5 Handbells
- February 26 – Pink Shirt Day
- February 27 - Grade 5 Basketball
- February 28 – Grade 5 Basketball Bonanza
- March 7 – Report Card Portal Opens
- March 12 – No School for Kindergarten – Parent-Teacher Interviews
- March 12 – No School for Kindergarten – Parent-Teacher Interviews
- March 13 – Early Dismissal Grades 1-5 at 12:35
- March 13 – 1:00-5:00 Parent-Teacher Interviews
- March 13 – Celebration of Learning 6:00
- March 14 – PL Day (No School for Students)
- March 15 – Sr. Choir Sings at Hurricanes Game 6:00
- March 17 – PL Day (No School for Students)

Treasurer Report: Stephanie P.

Cheque for line painting and teacher allotments were withdrawn. Bank account hasn't been closed yet.

Financial requests: motion to move \$275 from parent council bank account into parent council SGF account for teacher appreciation gifts. Motion made by Nichole H, Tisha Second.

On Nov 19th the following motion was made: Motion by Sarah to move all funds minus \$1000 for outdoor games, to the Society Bank account. And that we close the School Council Bank account. All in favour.

As of January 21st account was still open. A new motion made to close the parent council bank account minus the \$275 from above motion and all remaining funds moved to society bank account. Motion by Meggen Second by Tyler. All in favour.

Events: none

District Council Report: Tyler W./Tisha E.

Tyler: December meeting – society insurance. Mike reminded that society is separate from school division. School events are covered under division insurance.

- A donation was made to Nicholas Sheran School to get matching t-shirts for students.
- Annual education report – too many red and yellow items. Action to be taken. This can be seen on the division website.
- Talk about possible future grade configuration changes. Grades 6 and 9 being bumped down again. Nothing happening anytime soon; talks are just starting.
- There have been no consultation on school board since Mike made comments regarding Alberta Ed Funding model changes.
- New policies out for review. Details can be found on Division website. You can provide feedback on policies there.

- If there are people who don't have transportation to town hall, you can contact the board of trustees know.

January Meeting:

- Looking at land within the city for possible new school locations
- A parent from Emmanuel Christian School wanted schools to pool money to get someone from ICE to come do a presentation. Are we interested in attending if so, are we willing to contribute money towards the \$160 fee. Even if we don't contribute, we are still invited to attend. Tisha will let them know about 1/3 of our parent council would be interested in attending. Until we have more information, we can't commit to contributing financially.

Trustee Report: January 28th is when they think they'll pass the 2025/2026 calendar. Policy Advisory Committee December meeting was centered around student code of conduct. All the info is in the board highlights.

Executive Council Report:

Old Business:

New Business:

- Third parent presentation on Draft Report Card: Revised academic indicator and legend
- Family Literacy Night: February 13th from 6-7. It'll be an immersive experience walking into a genre
- Alberta education surveys – Aaron and Steve plan to survey grade 4 and 5 students, parents of grade 4 and possibly grade 5. Those codes will be mailed to you.
- Becoming a Bee School – Talayna Z. – postponed to next meeting.
- Screentime at lunchtime – Karma V.
 - There's been some concerns about screen time during non-instructional break time (aka watching movies during lunch). We understand the need from the teachers perspective, but from a parent's perspective, there's no real guidelines of what is allowed to be shown during non-instructional time. Vs when they watch a movie for a special day during instructional time, a note is sent home informing parents what is being shown.
 - Between 12:15 and 12:40 is when they're eating their lunches and a show is typically on the smartboard.
 - There's no way for the students to be supervised unless the teacher does it but it's in their collective agreement that they can only work so many hours.
 - There's not really anything we can change right now, it would have to come from a division level.
 - Aaron will remind teachers to ensure that what is shown at lunchtime is G-rated.

- Pick a date for June meeting AGM – June 17th @ 6:30pm

Motion to Adjourn/Second: adjourned at 8:32motion to adjourn by Monnu, second by tisha