

Nicholas Sheran Elementary School Council

Tuesday, April 15th, 2025 @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 by Sarah at 6:34pm

WELCOME & Introductions: Sarah H, Lindsay O, Meggen H, Brette T, Nichole H, Karma VS, Mandy C, Tyler W, Aaron F, Jessica H, Leanne H, Aqena S,

Any Additions: Set date for next meeting

Approval of AGENDA/Second: Meggen approve, Nicole second

Approval of MINUTES/Second: Meggen approve, Brette Second

Grade level sharing: Grade 4 teachers had a fun activity on the laptops that showed us some writing games they play with their students. It was very engaging and fun.

Administration Report: Aaron F and Stephen W
Admin Report

- **Bell Times Updates**
 - We have no updates yet
 - When I inquired in January 2025, I was told they are not likely to change significantly
- **Bussing (2025/2026) Updates**
 - Email from April 8, 2025
 - Alberta Education has announced adjustments for the distance requirements for students accessing school bus service. For the 2025/2026 school year, Kindergarten to Grade 6 students who live **1.6 kilometres** or more from their designated schools will be eligible for school bus service. This represents a change from the current eligibility requirements of **one kilometre** for Kindergarten to Grade 6.
 - Due to the changes in distance eligibility, students in Kindergarten to Grade 6 who resided between **1-1.59 kilometers** and were transported to their designated school in the 2024/2025 school year will no longer be eligible for transportation in the 2025/2026 school year. For students in Grade 7 to Grade 12, the two-kilometre eligibility requirement will remain in place.

- *This may have an impact on routes, etc. I have no updates at this time.*
- **Registration and Enrollment Updates**
 - For us, this started in January 2025
 - We continue to encourage families to reach out to us should they require support with registration
 - We are working with the Education Centre leadership to fully understand the 2025/2026 budget and what implications this will have for schools
 - Until we know details around staffing levels, we are unsure what grade level class sizes and configurations will look like for next year
 - This also might impact my updates to families about Out of Boundary applications
- **KinderCare (2025/2026) Updates**
 - It is our understanding that the Expression of Interest for KinderCare remains upon for families to express interest until the end of April
 - I encourage any interested families to please fill this out as soon as possible to allow the school division time to plan
 - An article on KinderCare: [KinderCare program a hit at Nicholas Sheran and Senator Buchanan | Lethbridge School Division](#)
 - Expression of Interest Form: [KinderCare Expression of Interest - 2025-2026](#)
- **Welcome to Kindergarten / Welcome to Grade One Nights**
 - The new format (from last June) was popular, so we will continue with working in that new format for this year
 - Thursday, June 5th from 5:30 – 6:30pm in the kindergarten classrooms for Welcome to Kindergarten night
 - Thursday, June 5th from 6:00 – 7:00pm in the NSES gymnasium for Welcome to Grade One night
 - Combination of getting-to-know you activities, skill and ability activities, and “what to expect” conversations for parents!
- **Alberta Education Assurance Survey**
 - March 4, 2025 - Parent Letter & Parent RAC Letters Emailed Individually to Each Household
 - March 13, 2025 - Admin Remind Parents About Survey In-Person at Celebration of Learning
 - Opportunity to access technology offered to parents at the school on this night
 - March 10 - 12, 2025 - Admin Takes each Grade 4 Class to Complete Student Surveys
 - March 18 - 21, 2025 - Admin / Teachers Administer Surveys to any Absent Students from Prior Week
 - March 18 - 21, 2025 - Admin Remind Teachers to Complete Survey

- March 18, 2025 - Paper Copies of Parent Letter & Parent RAC Letters Sent Home with Students
 - March 18, 2025 - Admin Remind Parents to Complete Survey via School Council Meeting
 - March 19, 2025 - Admin Email Final Reminder to Parents to Complete Survey
 - **March 21, 2025 - Survey Closes...but wait...there's more!**
 - **Survey Extended by Alberta Education (Surprise!)**
 - March 26, 2025 - Admin **Updated** Email Final Reminder to Parents to Complete Survey
- Here are our response rates as of Friday, March 28, 2025:
 - Students (Grade 4): 64/67 = **96%**
 - At the time of survey administration, we had 67 Grade 4 students (there were three students for whom it is not acceptable to complete the survey)
 - Parents: 36/67 = **54%**
 - 2023: **5**; 2024: **20**; 2025: **36**
 - Parent engagement went sky high when administered by the school
- **Lockdown Practice (April 14)**
 - Email from April 15
 - As is required by school division policy, our school engaged in a lockdown practice today (during the afternoon). Staff have been preparing for this practice with students, and it went very well. Ways that we support students to prepare for these drills include classroom conversations, individual conversations, and in some cases the use of social stories or picture books that explain the purpose of these types of drills.
 - You may hear stories about lockdown practice tonight when the students come home. If you have any questions about that process, please reach out to your classroom teacher to hear how the practice went today. We will have another lockdown practice soon, along with a few more scheduled fire drills before the end of the school year.
- **New Family Open House**
 - Thursday, August 28, 2025, from 1:00 – 2:00pm
- **Mission Impossible**
 - Mission Impossible ran for one week and one day this year
 - Shorter schedule, but students seem to have fun
 - Thanks to the teacher volunteers who setup and took down

- **Current Enrollment Totals:**

Grades	Enrollment Numbers
Total W/EEP	412
Total W/Out EEP	396
KG (18, 18, 19)	55
1 (23, 22, 22)	67
2 (21, 20, 20, 20)	81
3 (22, 21, 20)	63
4 (23, 23, 21)	67
5 (21/31, 21, 20/31)	63

Important Dates

- April 16: NSES Values Assembly, 9:30am
- April 18: Good Friday, No School
- April 21 – 25: No School
- April 18: School Resumes
- April 29: SJF Band Performance, 9:30am
- May 7: Hats On! For Mental Health
- May 8: Dance-A-Thon
- May 9: Grade 5 Visits to Middle Schools
- May 10: Grade 5 Handbell Concert, 4:00pm
- May 14: A – K Spring Concerts at 1:15pm and 6:30pm
- May 15: L – Z Spring Concerts at 1:15pm and 6:30pm
- May 19: Victoria Day, No School
- May 20: PL Day, No School for students

Financial requests: none

District Council Report: Tyler W

- Learning session was on inclusive education. They talked about different types of supports the division offers (occupational therapists, speech therapists, etc). The PowerPoint presentation that showed all the different types of supports they viewed should be available on the division website.
- Capital plan passed. It ranks all the schools and what schools need maintenance.
- They talked about school fees. The board wants to approve school fees now. They want to make things more consistent across the division.

- ASCA funding – they talked about how they’d fund the trip up to the conference. The new funding model has been approved. More info on the division website.

Trustee Report:

- Meeting minutes sent out to school chairs and can be accessed here:
<https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/board/board-meetings>

Executive Council Report: none

Old Business: none

New Business:

- Date for May School Council
 - Currently, our School Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 20 which is a PL Day
 - Would School Council like to change the date?
 - **Next meeting will be May 27th at 6:30pm**
- ASCA Engagement Grant – money is to be used for parent engagement.
 - One option is to use the money on a webinar
 - Motion to use the ASCA Engagement grant towards parent engagement at welcome to kindergarten and grade 1 bags, Tyler motion, Lindsay second. Motion passed.
- Panago Hot Lunch – going to do a hot lunch the 3rd or 4th weekend in May.
- ASCA Resolutions Vote – Sarah
- We’re not sending someone to ASCA so we voted in this meeting:

#	Title	In favour	opposed
P25-01	Pilot Program for Electric School Buses in Alberta	All in favour	none
P25-02	Mandatory Funding for Specialist Teachers in Elementary Schools	All in favour	none
P25-03	Sunlight is the Best Disinfectant – Mandatory Public Reporting on the State of Public Schools	All in favour	none
P24-04	Discontinue Mandatory Timed Testing of Kindergarten to Grade 3		

P24-04 Recommendation #1		All in favour	none
P24-04 Recommendation #2		All in favour	none
P24-04 Recommendation #3		All in favour	none
P24-04 Recommendation #4		All in favour	none
P25-05	Online Safety	All in favour	none

Resolutions can be found here: <https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/about/annual-general-meeting/meeting-documents-2025>

Motion to Adjourn/Second: motion to adjourn by Meggen at 8:08. Second by Tyler