District SCHOOL COUNCIL

Monday, April 4, 2016 – 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
6:00 p.m.  Budget Presentation
Education Centre

AGENDA

6:00  1. Welcome and Introductions

6:30  2. Approval of the Agenda

6:32  3. Approval of the Minutes from March, 2016

6:33  4. Business Arising from the Minutes

6:40  5. Trustee Report – Keith Fowler

6:43  6. Alberta School Councils Association - Allison Pike

6:47  7. Reports from District Committees:
  District Policy Advisory Committee:
  Poverty Intervention Committee:
  Healthy Schools Committee:
  Digital Citizenship Committee:
  SAPDC:
  Making Connections:
  Community Engagement Committee:

7:00  8. District School Council Calendar of Events and Shared Opportunities

7:12  9. Superintendent’s Report – Cheryl Gilmore

7:20 10. Roundtable Reports
Reports are included with the agenda: an opportunity to highlight a very significant event or for questions from the representatives about information in a written report

7:30 11. Adjournment

District School Council Meeting Dates
May 2, 2016
June 6, 2016 – Dinner meeting
2015-2016 District School Council Representatives

- Chair – Allison Pike
- Vice Chair – Shanea Nilsson
- Recording Secretary – Lyndsey Spring, Joy Morris
- Policy Advisory Committee – Allison Pike, Brooke Culley (alternate)
- Poverty Intervention Committee – Dayna Tilleman, Joy Morris
- Healthy Schools Committee – Trina Tymko, Lyndsey Spring
- Digital Citizenship Committee – Hollie Tarasewich
- SAPDC – Allison Pike
- Making Connections – Brooke Culley, Hollie Tarasewich
- Community Engagement Committee – Hollie Tarasewich
District SCHOOL COUNCIL

MINUTES - Monday, March 7, 2016

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of the Agenda - Approved by Hollie Tarasewich

3. Approval of the Minutes from January, 2016 - Approved by Daniel Gosselin

4. Business arising from the minutes

   Email lists for School Councils
   Cheryl Gilmore informed group that this year’s school registration form packages will include a form for school council to gather parent contact information. Suggestion was made to add child name and grade so that school room reps could use this information.

   Procedures for communication regarding lice
   Cheryl Gilmore informed the group that Wendy Fox is working with individual school Principals for approaches that are a bit more site specific while still following district policy.

   Town Hall 2016 results
   Cheryl Gilmore reviewed results from town hall combined with the online survey. The board is looking at all of this to determine mission, vision and guiding principles for the district. This information will be put up on the district website when it is ready.

5. Trustee Report – Keith Fowler
   Report is in meeting agenda package. Donna Hunt reported in Keith’s absence

6. Alberta Schools Council Association – Allison Pike called in via teleconference

   DSC Proposed Resolution Amendments
   Draft resolutions included in agenda packages.
   
   Resolution on IPP’s and ISP ‘s
   – motioned by Shanea Nilsson to approve the amendments; seconded by Hollie Tarasewich; carried unanimously; motion passes

   Resolution on LGBTQ toolkit
   - motioned by Shanea Nilsson to approve the amendment; seconded by Hollie Tarasewich; carried unanimously; motion passes

   Resolution Policy

   Conference & AGM
   April 22-24, 2016 in Edmonton at the Delta South Hotel – add to individual school council
agendas to see who is interested. Attendees would register on their own and then seek reimbursement through their school (who in turn will forward to District to cover registration portion - in addition to registration, up to $200 additional expenses will be covered out of money the District sent to each school council in the fall for this purpose). District will pay to send one rep from each school. Each school council gets one vote at the ASCA AGM.

On proxy voting form for AGM – be sure to check the two boxes to be able to vote for issue resolutions and for the ASCA Board of Directors and fax to ASCA.

If you are sending someone to represent your school council, you need to complete the Credentials Form and fax in to ASCA

Be sure to fill out all forms and fax into ASCA prior to the April deadline. And send the original copy of either the Proxy form or the Credentials form with the representative from your school.

At your March/April school council meetings – review and vote on the 5 resolutions, ASCA Bylaw revisions and Advocacy Policy revision

The 5 resolutions can be found on ASCA website at

ASCA resolutions

The proposed ASCA Bylaw revisions can be found on ASCA website at

ASCA proposed Bylaw revisions

The Advocacy Policy revision can be found on ASCA website at

Advocacy Revision

Proposed By-Law Changes
- these are ASCA by-laws - they are your provincial voice's bylaws, just like your school council bylaws are your local parent voice bylaws.
- these should be sent out ahead of time to school council members by council chairs for review prior to your council meeting.
- major changes in 3.11 & 3.12 regarding membership

Individual School Council By-Laws
- there will be a 2-part workshop offered by ASCA – dates Thursday, April 7, 6:30-8:30pm and Monday, May 16, 6:30-8:30pm at Lethbridge School District 51 Education Center.
- please send 4 people from your school council, and administrators are certainly welcome.
- in between the sessions, you will need to work on your council’s bylaws.
- the sessions will include assisting with how/when to get bylaw changes approved by your school council members.

7. Reports from District Committees

District Policy Advisory Committee
- Allison and Brooke not present to give update
- Library commons info covered in Trustee report, as well as school year calendar approval

Poverty Intervention Committee
- community meeting tomorrow afternoon, March 8, 2016

Healthy Schools Committee
- Lyndsey Spring reported
- Healthy Schools Forum March 16, 2016

Digital Citizenship Committee
- Hollie Tarasewich reported
- Met February 9th
- Two digital citizenship software programs were reviewed
- Committee is going to start reviewing programs that might be useful to parents
- Will do a parent info session on PowerSchool Parent Portal
- Discussed asking DSC Executive to propose to school councils that they go to their school websites and check all links to see if there are changes to be made, additions, accesses
- next meeting April 5th at 6pm

SAPDC
- Allison not present to report

Making Connections
- Brooke not here to report

Community Engagement Committee
- Hollie Tarasewich reported
- reviewed TOR changes – would like more parents on committee
- discussed the pros and cons of forming a foundation and if the district wants to create one
- discussed ASBA Community Engagement survey from 2012 – Mich would like SD51’s results and Wendy Fox is currently looking for these
- discussed adding parent engagement to the budget process
- March 14, 2016 is next meeting at 6pm

8. District School Calendar of Events and Shared Opportunities
- Hollie Tarasewich reported April 20th fundraiser at Wilson Middle school, tickets are $15 for pasta dinner, live auction at 7:30 and music by Trevor Panzack; dinner at 5:30; music at 7:45
- April 12, 2016 the City Police are having Internet Safety night at the Yates
- Lakeview school is doing a 2km and 5km fun run fundraiser – superhero theme, Wednesday May 10th, 2016
- Park Meadows school raised over $18,000 in their dance-a-thon

9. New Business

District School Council Meeting Highlights
- Allison Pike let us know that DSC would like to come up with a highlights sheet for sharing back to school councils. Watch for this next week. The DSC membership expressed interest in this idea. Cheryl Gilmore will determine the highlights and send these out to DSC membership to share with school councils.

10. Superintendent’s Report – Cheryl Gilmore

Online feedback regarding Westside capital projects and programs
- Feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Facilities are addressing questions that came up
Questions on boundaries are in draft form; there was very little feedback on elementary school boundaries and most feedback was for middle school. Whoop-up drive would be a natural boundary line. School choice policy will be applied.

- Opening capacity of the new elementary school and middle school is about 600 students each
- Feedback will be online in about two weeks
- Regarding Spanish bi-lingual school – this will not be an immersion school and would start with K & Grade 1 in the first year
- Regarding a French Immersion school on the westside - some parents are concerned about moving from Agnes Davidson to the westside French immersion school and this would be taken under consideration

**Process for Public Meetings in accordance with the School Act**
- review of draft process
- developed in response to Policy 502.2 Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression and the petition to have a town hall meeting regarding this
- format for the evening will be consensus based
- The policy, the law and documents that are background to the policy, and the notice of meeting will all be on the website
- Notice of the meeting will be promoted broadly
- The school act says that the meeting needs to be in 90 days; the location will be Wilson Middle School; the board wanted to have the meeting March 23, so that there was time before the April board meeting to meet and draft recommendations
- Q &A will be up on website March 8, 2016

**Syrian Refugees Question**
- So far we have approximately 6 high school students enrolled (Churchill) and there are specific ESL programs at the high schools; first students undergo a language proficiency assessment
- All intake so far for elementary have been at Nicholas Sheran, approximately 13 students
- Next intake will be some families on the northside
- Integration of children at the elementary level works very well
- Many schools use google translator app
- Extra trauma support is available for any student who wants it regarding the adjustment to our country, Lethbridge and our schools

11. **Roundtable Reports**

Reports are included with the agenda: an opportunity to highlight a very significant event or for questions from the representatives about information in a written report

12. **Adjournment – 9:00pm**
TRUSTEE report to school councils:
March 22, 2016

1. ESL and Literacy Lead Teachers
A more co-ordinated effort concerning literacy instruction is already paying dividends for Lethbridge School District No. 51. Although a number of schools have focused on literacy over the years, there was a need to change the approach to literacy development at all levels, the Board of Trustees was told at its March 22 regular meeting. To provide this co-ordination and support, a Literacy Lead Teacher was hired. In this first several weeks since the teacher was hired, schools have already begun to appreciate the value of the expertise offered. For more information on this, and how two new ESL teachers are helping refugees adjust to life in Lethbridge, click on this link: http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/view.php?action=object&id=30457&stream=Homepage%20News

2. Second Quarter Financial Report
Lethbridge School District No. 51 will expend $116 million to provide public education services to the citizens of Lethbridge for the 2015-2016 school year.
That was just one of the numbers presented during the Second Quarter Report today to The Board of Trustees at the regular Board meeting held March 22.
For more details on the report, click here: http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/view.php?action=object&id=30413&stream=Homepage%20News

3. Board Budget Beliefs Statement
It won’t be long before serious discussions are underway concerning the 2016/2017 budget.
Tuesday, at the regular meeting of the Lethbridge School District No. 51 Board of Trustees, the Board outlined its belief statements for preparation of the budget.
Those belief statements can be found on page 47 of this week’s agenda: http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/documents/general/2016-03-22%20Board%20Meeting%20Agenda.pdf

4. Approval 2017-2020 Capital Master Plan
The District has implemented its Capital Plan for 2017-2020, which evolved out of a comprehensive review of educational-facility needs.
The District’s number one modernization-preservation project is the 104-year-old school, Galbraith Elementary School. For the complete list of projects, click here: http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/view.php?action=object&id=30415&stream=Homepage%20News

5. Transfer of Funds from Capital Reserves
The Board passed several motions to transfer funds from capital reserves. The board has operating reserves to address special circumstances that arise that require support or require funds to be set aside over 3-4 school years to address significant one-time items part of an operational cycle. Future circumstances will warrant the use of one-time reserve funds of the board. The estimated amount that will be committed is $5.8 million. Click the following link and scroll to page 53 to view the complete list: http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/documents/general/2016-03-22%20Board%20Meeting%20Agenda.pdf

6. Policy Review
A number of policies received second and third reading. Those policies included Policy 608.3 (Learning Commons), Policy 601.2.1 (School Year) and Policy 502.1 (Appendix A Student Code of Conduct). To view these policies, scroll to page 58 in the agenda: http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/documents/general/2016-03-22%20Board%20Meeting%20Agenda.pdf
School: Agnes Davidson

School Highlights:
Lots of staff changes. New principal, VP moving to Paterson, 2 teachers going on maternity leave and one on medical leave. We hope that the new principal will be able to attend a School Council meeting soon.

Science & Heritage Fair was a huge success as always, with close to 200 projects.

Robotics showcase was also very successful.

Kids will be learning curling in April.

Outcomes of the “Tell them from me” survey were not very surprising; there was nothing that seems to require significant changes.

We expect to have 3 teams in the grade 5 basketball league again this year.

Participation in Decision-Making and/or Advocacy
Joy Morris was named to represent Agnes Davidson at the ASCA AGM.

Parents were encouraged to attend the Public Meeting on Board Policy 502.2 on Mar 23. Information about logistics was shared.

Fundraising:
We sold 500 tickets to a Lethbridge Hurricanes game, for $20 each. This raised $5000 for our playground fund. We hope to repeat this in the Fall.

Are there things your School Council is talking about/questions you have for other School Councils?

Best Practices
## School Highlights:

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<th>School Highlights:</th>
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<td>Worked with Aramark Canada (based at Martha’s House) to provide a chili lunch for the students for March Healthy Habits.</td>
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<td>Partnering with Mrs. Laing’s Social Activism Club to host a garage sale and pancake breakfast at the end of May.</td>
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<td>Grade 4 &amp; 5 students are working on special art projects that will be auctioned off in support of the Syrian Refugee families that have settled in Lethbridge recently.</td>
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<td>Evergreen Theatre will be in attendance in the spring. Students will be attending Feel the Beat. Investigating the potential of purchasing a 3D printer for the school along with cartridges. (School Council funds)</td>
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## Participation in Decision-Making and/or Advocacy

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<td>School council has been busy revising our by-laws. We have some parents who have been with the school council for many years who will be moving on in the next year or two. We are attempting to make the transition process as easy as possible.</td>
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<td>Working with school to go to a cashless system for School Council including fundraising, hot lunches, etc.</td>
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## Fundraising:

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<td>Partnered with Lethbridge Hurricanes. Raised $1030.00. Over 100 members of the Fleetwood Family attended the March 13, 2016 game.</td>
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<td>Looking at some minor revisions and expansions of our Read-A-Thon for next fall. We raised $14,000 this past fall with our first annual Read-A-Thon.</td>
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<td>Looking at replacing the furniture in the Learning Commons next year.</td>
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## Are there things your School Council is talking about/questions you have for other School Councils?

## Best Practices

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<td>Continuing partnership with the Lethbridge Montessori Society to improve relations with the two streams at Fleetwood. Supporting Montessori Family Dance at the end of April. The Montessori Society will be hosting a Carnival and BBQ at the Garage Sale at the end of May.</td>
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District School Council  
School Highlights

| School: Galbraith |

**School Highlights:**
- Celebration of Learning was held on March 10th and was a good turn out
- Spring book fair was held and made just over $4900

**Participation in Decision-Making and/or Advocacy**

**Fundraising:**
- The grade 3 students held a cupcake sale to support the Syrian Refugees and made $600
- We have just started our spring fundraiser. We are currently selling Kernels popcorn and that will go into April
- Galbraith will also be participating in Jump Rope for Heart on April 14th

**Are there things your School Council is talking about/questions you have for other School Councils?**

**Best Practices**
School: Park Meadows

School Highlights:
The Canada’s Sport’s Hall of Fame partnered with Canadian Tire to send our group of grade 4 students to Calgary to help launch the opening of the Canada Sport Hall of Fame. Students got to meet and talk with two Olympians, Catriona Le May Doan and Monique Sullivan and had time to learn about sports through more than 60 interactive exhibits. The students were excellent ambassadors for Lethbridge who learned about teamwork, grit and a passion for sport. Through their “Equal Access” Program, The National Sport’s Hall of Fame can provide financial support for schools that wish to attend.

We are thrilled to report that we have completed our Snoezelen Sensory Room. A Snoezelen Room is a self-contained room that is designed to offer children with special needs, a place where they can develop communication and relationship skills by interacting with visual systems, textures, vibrating surfaces, sounds and weighted items to enhance brain development.

We are very grateful to our school community for all their help with fundraising in the past year. In November of last year, we were awarded a Grant from the Community Foundation of Lethbridge and Southwestern Alberta & The Lethbridge Auto Dealers Association and since then 2015 we have had families, community businesses and staff come forward to donate money and resources totaling $30000.

Participation in Decision-Making and/or Advocacy
The Parent council has helped in setting direction for the Evening Talent show April 28 and will help host our Saturday Garden Party to enhance the school gardens.

Fundraising:

Are there things your School Council is talking about/questions you have for other School Councils?

Best Practices