District SCHOOL COUNCIL

Monday, June 6, 2016 - DINNER Meeting at 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Education Centre

AGENDA

Prior to meeting will be a “ASCA AGM Trade Show” – parent delegates who attended the April AGM can display and share resources/ materials that they received while in attendance at the AGM. This is concurrent to supper.

6:00  1. Welcome and Introductions

6:02  2. Hollie Tarasewich – ASCA Conference presentation/sharing

6:12  3. Approval of the Agenda

6:14  4. Approval of the Minutes from May, 2016

6:16  5. Antonia Ormston – ASCA Conference presentation/sharing

6:26  6. Business Arising from the Minutes


6:32  8. Trustee Report – Keith Fowler


6:47 10. Alberta School Councils Association - Allison Pike


7:05 12. Reports from District Committees:
          District Policy Advisory Committee:
          Poverty Intervention Committee:
          Healthy Schools Committee:
          Digital Citizenship Committee:
          SAPDC:
          Making Connections:
          Community Engagement Committee:

7:45 13. Duane Pike – ASCA Conference presentation/sharing

7:55 14. District School Council Calendar of Events and Shared Opportunities
8:00 15. What is the role of District School Council and DSC reps? – Trina Tymko

8:05 16. Superintendent’s Report – Cheryl Gilmore
16.1 “New” Math Curriculum

8:20 17. 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

8:25 18. Adjournment

**District School Council 2016-17 Meeting Dates**
- October 3, 2016
- November 7, 2016
- January 16, 2017
- February 7, 2017 Town Hall Meeting
- March 6, 2017
- April 3, 2017
- May 1, 2017
- June 5, 2017 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
SD51 - District School Council Meeting

May 2nd, 2016

Minutes

1. Welcome and Introductions - Start 6:30 pm. Superintendent explains the process for the three Student Celebration Presentations that will happen throughout the evening.
   - Student Celebration Presentation: Nicholas Sheran Leader In Me (see attached for more information).

2. Approval of Agenda - Shanea (Mike Mountain Horse) approved, Nancy (WCHS) second

3. Approval of Minutes from April 2016 Approved by Daniel (LCI), Brooklyn (Lakeview) second

4. Business Arising from the Minutes - NONE

5. Trustee Report – Keith Fowler highlighted a wonderful FNMI presentation that was given to the Board. The complete presentation can be found on the districts website; Policy 502.2 Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression passed second and third reading unanimously; A number of policies are under review - Policy 608.1 Counseling Services, Policy 1005.3 Advertising, Distribution and Merchandising In and Through Schools, and Policy 1001.3 Communications; Art's Alive and Well in Schools is running from May 1st - June 12th with approximately 425 pieces of student art; Reminder that the Board will be hosting a public Preliminary 2016/2017 Budget Presentation on Tuesday, May 24th, 2016 beginning at 6:30 pm. at the Education centre.
   - Student Celebration Presentation: Wilson Middle School Integration of Technology (see attached for more information).

6. Alberta School Councils Association (ASCA) – Allison Pike gave a brief discussion on the ASCA AGM & Conference that was held April 23rd & 24th in Edmonton. There were 11 parents from our district that attended, one of the largest representations from SD# 51 to ever attend. All five resolutions and the one proposed revision was/were passed on the floor of the assembly, and five of these items were submitted from our District School Council Resolution Committee. Allison explained that the Minister of Education was the key note speaker for Saturday and spoke to how the new budget affected education. Minister Eggen expressed how parent engagement is not only important, but the key to success. He discussed additional funding to inclusive education, what is happening with the PAT's, that school districts will not be exempt from the new carbon tax levy and many times stated "judge me by my actions". For the June District School Council meeting, Allison would like all those that attended to bring all
the materials they gathered from the weekend and speak briefly to a couple of the workshops they chose and share that experience with all those present.

7. **Reports from District Committees:**

- District Policy Advisory Committee: - Allison Pike reported - Three draft policies will be sent out to school council reps shortly to share and send feedback.

- Poverty Intervention Committee: - No report.

- Healthy Schools Committee: Trustee Donna Hunt reported - A large forum was held to look at all the programs they are doing and supporting and to have discussion on what is working or needs changing.

- Digital Citizenship Committee: - Hollie Tarasewich reported - Aprils scheduled meeting was cancelled. Reminded those in attendance to please review their schools websites (things they like, links that don't work, etc.) and email any feedback to holliet@shaw.ca

- SAPDC: - No new information to report.

- Making Connections: - Have not met. At this time, based on a fluctuating budget it is not sure if this committee will be able to stay as a standing committee.

- Community Engagement Committee: - Hollie Tarasewich reported. Please see attached report.

  - **Student Celebration Presentation: LCI Dual Credit Classes (see attached for more information).**

8. **District School Council Calendar of Event and Shared Opportunities** - Bring Your Own Bylaws Workshop #2 is scheduled for Monday, May 16th at 6:30 pm. at the Education Centre; Public Budget Presentation scheduled for Tuesday May 24th starting at 6:30 pm at the Education Centre. A nod of appreciation was given to Garrett Simmons, the District Communications Officer who does a fantastic job of posting, sharing, and notifying the community on school centered activities throughout the district.

9. **District School Council Facebook Page** - Allison Pike reported that a Facebook page for the District School Council has been set up. This is for information sharing only and not discussion.

10. **Superintendent’s Report** – Cheryl Gilmore reported that feedback has been successfully received from the online questionnaire regarding the Boards new Vision and Mission, which is currently in draft form. The district would still like more feedback, see link on District website. A short questionnaire/survey will be mailed out to all school council reps to have their councils respond and rate how effective certain mechanisms have been for parent engagement with the
district (ie. Town Hall Meeting). This request has come from discussion at the Community Engagement Committee, and the Board would like feedback on how they are doing.

➢ **Question for the Superintendent:** Can schools have their own Facebook pages? Answer: Yes. There is a district policy on the Responsible Use of Technology that will have an addendum to be added stating that the Communications Officer, Garrett Simmons must be made an administrator of the page. The district needs to have the ability to shut it down should posts or dialogue take an unbecoming turn. The policy will be more clearly defined by the fall; and will include such things as district social media guidelines and school councils & Facebook pages.

➢ **Question for the Superintendent:** Can or will the district make every school run the Leader In Me Program? Answer: No. The district would never mandate any school that they 'must' run or offer a certain program. The district understands the costs behind such programs and as such some schools could afford or fundraise to offer something, but other schools may not be able to. The district also firmly believes that a school should have the passion, the 'buy in' for offering such a program as all the staff need to be engaged and part of it.

➢ **Question for the Superintendent:** Will there need to be a parent training presentation on the new system that is replacing HomeLogic? Answer: No. At the moment district administration is getting set up on the system. The Superintendent has accessed the parent part of it and has found it very straight forward and super easy to use.

➢ **Question for the Superintendent:** In reality, aren't all achievement tests meant to test "Teachers"? Answer: No. Achievement tests were created to with the intent to measure systems, not individual students; for example to be able to compare Lethbridge school district with Calgary school district as districts as a whole. Over time, reporting of these tests has changed for public consumption - the ability to rank individual schools, to give the appearance that one school may have low scores because the teacher instruction is also poor. What the achievement tests fail to have in place are measurements for socio-economic statistics which may greatly affect test results with no fault to anyone.

11. Roundtable Reports

12. Adjournment 8:38pm - Next meeting: Dinner meeting (buffet style) with ASCA Conference information available on Monday, June 6th beginning at 6:00 pm.
TRUSTEE report to school councils:

May 24, 2016

1. Parent presentation regarding the Alberta School Councils Association AGM
Antonia Ormston, a Lethbridge parent who attended the AGM in April, made a presentation on behalf of the 12 local parents who attended the ASCA conference. Allison Pike, who attended the AGM, and was elected president of the ASCA, was also in attendance. Ormston mentioned some of the highlights of the conference, and emphasized the importance in family and community engagement for schools throughout the District. Ways to improve the operation of school councils were also topics of many sessions, Ormston added, as she went on to mention the importance of the parent voice in education. For more information about the ASCA, visit this link: http://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca

2. Policy review
Trustees discussed a number of policies, as the Board removed one policy and amended three others. Policy 502.4, Harassment and Discrimination of Students, was deemed redundant as was removed. Policy 404.5 (Secondments and Exchanges), Policy 404.3.1 (Leaves of Absence) and Policy 402.8.1 (Harassment and Discrimination) were amended. Policy 400.1 (Welcoming, Caring Respectful and Safe Working Environments, including an Employee Code of Conduct, Appendix A), was given first reading. Policy 608.1 (Counselling Services) was giving second reading and third and final reading. Policy 1001.3 (Communications), was sent back to the Policy Committee. To view these policies, click on this link to the May 24 meeting agenda: http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/documents/general/2016-05-24%20Board%20Meeting%20Agenda.pdf

3. The new Copperwood-area elementary school has a name
The Board of Trustees announced the new westside elementary school, set to open in the fall of 2017, will be named Coalbanks Elementary School. For the full story, click on this link: http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/view.php?action=object&id=33277&stream=Homepage%20News

4. Fleetwood-Bawden Elementary School teacher honoured at Edwin Parr banquet
The Board of Trustees recognized Dawson Kennedy as this year's Lethbridge School District No. 51 nominee for Zone 6. Kennedy and the other nominees throughout the zone attended the annual Edwin Parr banquet, held this year on May 11 in Taber. For a story and video on Kennedy, visit http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/view.php?action=object&id=32919&stream=Homepage%20News

5. Public presentation of the District's 2016-2017 budget
The District's Director of Finance, Christine Lee, presented the preliminary budget during a presentation inside The Education Centre. Details from the presentation can be found here http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/view.php?action=object&id=33279&stream=Homepage%20News

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Mich Forster, Jan Foster, Keith Fowler, Lola Major, Donna Hunt, Tyler Demers, Don Lacey
# District School Council

## School Highlights

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<th>School:</th>
<th>Galbraith School</th>
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### School Highlights:

- Gymnastic Equipment came and went, the kids always enjoy the time they get with the equipment.
- One School One Book was “Kenny and the Dragon” it ran from May 9th-May 24th.
- To wrap up One School One Book the school hosted a Medieval feast with a menu of chicken legs, cheese, grapes, peas and carrots.
- Sports day was on May 24th.
- Welcome to Kindergarten evening was May 26th and had a good turn out.

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


### Fundraising (Do you have a successful event to share?):

Grade 4 classes ran a market to raise money for the Fort McMurray fire evacuees with many items to sell including baked goods and homemade jewelry. The total amount raised was $1119.60.

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

- How do others schools get parents engaged?
- How do other schools recruit more parent volunteers?

### Best Practices *(program, speaker, or other item at your school that has worked very well)*


School: Park Meadows School

School Highlights:
All students in grades 1-5 will be going to the Telus Sparks Science Centre on June 7th for a day of learning and discovery. We are grateful for the fundraising efforts of the School Council to make this happen at no cost to students.

The school has permission to go ahead with the development of a new playground space that will incorporate a large climbing structure, an outdoor classroom space and a wheelchair access playground. The largest structure will cater to children in wheelchairs and those with limited mobility. Made completely of ramps, this playground will have colored ramps for the visually impaired, areas to stretch and play while sitting in a wheelchair or frame and will have textured surfacing for children with sensory needs. The low to the ground climbing structures will have easy to reach monkey bars to ensure safe play while promoting brain development and the development of large motor skills.

Participation in Decision-Making and/or Advocacy
Parents participated in developing survey questions for the Tell Them From Me Survey. Questions will be sent out again in October to gather data about parent and community engagement.

Fundraising (Do you have a successful event to share?):
Park Meadows partnered with Scotiabank to host an afternoon and evening Talent show raising $3500 for new instruments.

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

Best Practices