LETHBRIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 51
District School Council
Monday, March 6, 2017 - 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
6:00 p.m. Technology Software: What are students using in schools and what can be accessed from Home – Rik Jesse / Karen Rancier

Education Centre

AGENDA

6:00  1. Welcome and Introductions
6:30  2. Approval of the Agenda
6:32  3. Approval of the Minutes from January, 2017
6:33  4. Business Arising from the Minutes
       Town Hall results
6:43  5. Trustee Report – Keith Fowler
6:47  6. Alberta School Councils Association - Allison Pike
       Conference and AGM – contact LeeAnne Tedder for registration

7:00  7. Reports from District Committees:
       District Policy Advisory Committee:
       Poverty Intervention Committee:
       Healthy Schools Committee:
       SAPDC:
       Community Engagement Committee:

7:10  8. District School Council Calendar of Events and Shared Opportunities

7:12  9. New Business
       9.1 Correspondence from LCI School Council
       9.2 School Board Elections – candidate’s forum (sub-committee)
       9.3 Minister’s Youth Council

7:15  9. Superintendent’s Report – Cheryl Gilmore

7:25 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

7:35 11. Adjournment
**District School Council Meeting Dates**
April 3, 2017
May 1, 2017
June 5, 2017 – Dinner meeting

**2016-2017 District School Council Representatives**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Members</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Allison Pike</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice Chair</td>
<td>Brooke Culley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recording Secretary</td>
<td>Joy Morris, Lyvia Hughes</td>
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<td>Policy Advisory Committee</td>
<td>Joy Morris, Laura Scarpelli (alternate)</td>
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<td>Poverty Intervention Committee</td>
<td>Trina Tymko, Heather Paul, Joy Morris</td>
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<td>Healthy Schools Committee</td>
<td>Janene Moch, Laura Scarpelli</td>
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<td>SAPDC</td>
<td>Hollie Tarasewich, Amanda Cross (alternate)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Engagement Committee</td>
<td>Heather Paul, Pauline Hall, Hollie Tarasewich, Shelley Roest, Carlye Lynnes</td>
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District School Council Minutes for January 16, 2017

Prior to the meeting, there were presentations on Literacy as a District Priority in District 51: one focusing on the K-3 level, and one on the grade 4-9 level.

1. Welcome and Introductions
   Joey Gentile, the principal for the new Coalbanks school attended the meeting and was welcomed.

2. Additions to the Agenda: none.

3. Approval of Agenda:
   Moved by Amanda Cross, seconded Katrina Neil - approved.

4. Approval of the Minutes:
   Moved by Cindy Veluw, seconded Amanda Cross - approved.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes
   5.1. Math Parent Tutoring Opportunity (grades 6–9) update
       Joy Morris reported that these sessions will begin this Wednesday, January 18, at 6:30 p.m. in Room 127 at GS Lakie. They are strictly drop-in and there will be no expectation that parents at a session have been to any of the other sessions, although they will focus on different material each week for those who don’t have their own questions. She has about 15 math education students volunteering to help, and the schools have provided excellent publicity and support.

6. Trustee Report - Keith Fowler reported:
   At their December meeting, the Board met local students who won an Independent Order of Odd Fellows speech competition for this zone. As their prize, they will be going to the United Nations Pilgrimage for Youth next July in New York.
   The calendar dates for 2017-18 and 2018-19 were reviewed and approved, as were several policies. The Town Hall topic has been finalised and invitations have been sent out.

7. Alberta School Councils Association (ASCA) Report – Allison Pike reported that the annual conference and general meeting will be April 28-30. School councils should consider who they will send to the meeting. ASCA held its Board Meeting this past weekend, and Paul Lamoureux who is one of the Ministry people in charge of the curriculum redesign came to discuss that with the ASCA board. In May and June there will be local focus groups for further parent feedback; locally these will be run by SAPDC.

8. Reports from District Committees
   8.1. District Policy Advisory Committee. Laura Scarpelli reported that the committee reviewed a number of policies and will be circulating drafts with some changes for further feedback. An email with these will be sent to LeeAnne to be distributed to school councils for discussion.

   8.2. Poverty Intervention Committee Joy Morris reported that the committee had provided over $15,000 to school food programs, 26 $1000 grants for special projects, and agreed to buy stands and decorations for some Christmas trees that had been donated to FNMI families. They also agreed to fund the purchase of hygiene kits for the 2017-18 Ready, Set, Go fair on a one-time basis. Heather Paul and Trina Tymko noted that they had not been informed of the meeting.

   8.3. Healthy Schools Committee Laura Scarpelli reported that visual aids have been produced with information around poverty, anxiety, stress, social media pressures, and other health topics, and will be posted around schools. Cafeteria food choices were also discussed, including the issues
raised by contracting out. Start times were discussed; our district is the earliest to start by about 1/2-hour.

8.4. **SAPDC** will be meeting on January 25. Amanda Cross has not received communication about the meeting.

8.5. **Community Engagement** met Wednesday. The scholarship breakfast will be on February 14 from 7-9 a.m., at the Coast hotel. All details are finalised now, with a cost of $50/ticket. Information is on the district web site. The proposed scholarship is innovative and the information has now been circulated to students. Please share this information at school councils and encourage parents and businesses to buy tickets. The suggestion was made that some people might wish to sponsor students to attend the breakfast.

8.6. **District School Council Resolution Committee** Joy Morris reported that our resolutions have been submitted, and should appear on the ASCA web site shortly, http://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/?page=AGM.

9. **District School Council Calendar of Events and Shared Opportunities**

Please distribute information about the math drop-in sessions for parents. This has been emailed to school councils.

10. **Superintendent’s Report - Cheryl Gilmore**

10.1. **Town Hall Meeting** The structure will be slightly different from past years, with some movement. The question examined will be what strategies can be used to develop innovative thinkers, with a focus on looking for actionable strategies; involving parents, community, businesses, etc. The invitation is open if schools have more interest than assigned spots; register online if possible.

10.2. **Report cards** PowerSchool told us that they had no plans to make printable report cards possible (their old version had this capability). Accordingly, the district has hired a programmer to work with PowerSchool to create a solution. We expect it to be ready for the next report card cycle. The plan is to be able to go into the parent view and click a button to access a printable pdf.

11. **Roundtable Reports**

are in the agenda for information.

12. **Adjournment**

13. **Announcements.** The next DSC Meeting will be on March 6.
TRUSTEE report to school councils:

February 28, 2017

1. Edwin Parr Award Nomination
Lethbridge School District No. 51 has selected the District’s Edwin Parr Award nominee for the 2016/2017 school year.
At Tuesday’s meeting of the Board of Trustees, it was announced Brittney Petkau, a Grade 2 teacher at Mike Mountain Horse Elementary School, will be representing the District in this year’s competition.
Erin Hurkett, principal at Mike Mountain Horse, pointed out Petkau has been a welcome addition to the school’s staff.

2. Policy review
A total of seven policies were amended, and one policy was removed. The amended policies included:
Policy 202.1 Trustee Code of Conduct
Policy 207 Campaign Contributions and Campaign Expense Discloser
Policy 301.3 Evaluation Process for the Superintendent
Policy 403.3 Employee Discipline
Policy 505.9 Appeals
Policy 600.1 Guiding Principles for Educational Programming
Policy 600.1.2 Annual School Budgets
The following policy was removed:
Policy 605.4 Inclusive Learning Supports – Placement Appeals
The policies can be viewing the Feb. 28 meeting agenda

3. Trip to China and Japan
Trustee Donna Hunt recapped her trip to China, as part of a southern Alberta delegation. Hunt visited Anyang, China, with a group that included representatives from Lethbridge County, the City of Lethbridge and many others. Hunt added 15-20 students from Anyang will be visiting will be visiting Lethbridge this summer, and added middle schoolers from Lethbridge’s sister city, Haebaru, Japan, will be visiting Lethbridge in 2018.

4. RBC donation
Mich Forster and Morag Asquith accepted a $5,000 donation from RBC, to go towards the District’s Gay-Straight Alliance Conference on March 22.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Mich Forster, Jan Foster, Keith Fowler,
Lola Major, Donna Hunt, Tyler Demers, Don Lacey
February 1, 2017

District School Council
c/o 433 – 15th Street South
Lethbridge, AB
T1J 2Z4

Attention: Allison Pike, Chairperson

Dear Members:

Re: ASCA Resolution Committee

Our LCI School Council is writing this letter to you to express our concern with the committee proposing resolutions being forwarded to the Alberta School Councils Association (ASCA) on behalf of our School District.

The purpose of our DSC is for collaboration of the school councils that make up District 51. It is not a provincially mandated group such as our school councils and we draw your attention to the guidelines for DSC (attached) which state that consensus of all school councils is required for any formal action by DSC.

These resolutions that are being forwarded on behalf of our district are depriving our district of time that could be spent to specifically benefit the students of 51. We are not opposed to the idea of resolutions being forwarded to ASCA for consideration, however, we feel that this action needs to be left up to individual school councils. Each school council is a member of ASCA and can choose to submit a resolution for consideration at the Annual General Meeting if they choose. We feel this is a better approach due to the fact that the resolutions would then be created by a broad group of parents who make up our school councils, rather than a small group of parents drafting ideas for a whole district. As these resolutions are being submitted under District 51's name, we must be careful when writing these resolutions to ensure that we consider the impact on all stakeholders.

It has been stated with some of this year's proposed resolutions that although it may not be a concern within our district, the proposals are being sent to assist other districts in the Province. However, this is not our mandate and it would be up to ASCA to work with those districts rather than encroaching on our work here in Lethbridge.
DSC could serve a valuable purpose but we must ensure that we function within the guidelines and are careful not to blur the lines between the work of ASCA and the work of the parents of Lethbridge School District 51.

Please consider this letter as our formal opposition to the resolutions being drafted by DSC. Our intent is not meant to be a personal attack on any parents involved in this process, but merely ensure that we stay accountable regarding the mandate of District School Council and ensure we focus on working in cooperation with all stakeholders in our district.

Therefore, we are requesting that this matter be placed on your next agenda for discussion. Thank you for your consideration of this.

Sincerely,

LCI School Council
RATIONALE

The school council and school-based decision-making impact education at the site. However, issues that arise at school council meetings may be regional, provincial or affected by district decision. According to the School Act, “a school council may advise the school board respecting any matter relating to the school”. While a trustee might attend a school council meeting and the principal can bring district news to the school, school councils can seem isolated. Forming a district school council with representatives from each of the school councils, the school board and the Superintendent of Lethbridge School District No. 51 will improve communication and promote cooperative action among our school councils.

FUNCTIONS OF THE DISTRICT SCHOOL COUNCIL

a) Share information among school councils
b) Consult with other school councils on wider education issues
c) Communicate information both ways between the district/school board and the school councils
d) Provide input to the school board and central office on broader education issues, including the district budget
e) Inform the community about education concerns
f) Promote school council in-service and training
g) Assist in providing parent representatives for standing and ad hoc school board committees

STRUCTURE OF DISTRICT SCHOOL COUNCIL

Membership shall include:

- 2 representatives from each school council; however, each school has one vote should any decision be decided by District School Council
- 1 ATA Representative
- 1 Principal Representative
- the Superintendent (who is a non-voting member); and
- 1 Board of Trustee Representative (who is non-voting member)

Because the District School Council is not intended to detract from the legislated powers of the School Council, any formal actions of the District School Council require consensus of all School Councils attending the meeting.

A District School Council executive consisting of a chairperson, vice-chair, and secretary will be elected annually.

There will be a minimum of 5 meetings, normally occurring on the last Monday evening of the month held at the board office. These meetings are open to the public.

Agenda items should be forwarded to either the chairperson or the superintendent’s executive assistant. The agenda will be drawn up jointly by the chairperson and the Superintendent.

CALL TO ORDER will be the reference for rules of procedure during the meetings.
**District School Council**  
**School Highlights**

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<th>School:</th>
<th>General Stewart</th>
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**School Highlights:**
The kids and administration have been very busy with Grade 5 basketball, after school skating/hockey, and 100 day celebrations. We are pleased to report our Kindergarten registration is very strong this year. We have increased our hot lunch program from six per year to twice a month and we have seen higher than expected participation.

We changed the focus of our fundraising this year, hosting an anniversary celebration in the fall to honor our 60 years in the community. Plans are underway to supplement our "field trip fund" with a Bunny Bingo in April. All are welcome!

**Participation in Decision-Making and/or Advocacy** *(did you participate in any decisions at the school such as policy or join the school in advocating for something or decide as a School Council to advocate for something?)*

**Fundraising (Do you have a successful event to share?):**
We have designed and installed a "Legacy Wall". Legacy Wall plates can be purchased by anyone at a cost of $100 per plate. The plates look like a book and are engraved with names or other messages. The intent of the legacy wall is to capture and preserve the school's historic legacy while providing an annual source of funds to school council for use towards field trips, concerts and other activities. So far we have raised approximately $4,000.

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

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

| School: | Immanuel Christian Elementary School |

**School Highlights:**

ICES celebrated Friendship day! Kindergarten through Grade 3 students celebrated school community and friendship by connecting and participating in games and activities in their “cross-grade groups”.

The grade 4 & 5 students went on an ice fishing trip, and invited the grade 4/5 Syrian students (and some of their family members) from across the district to participate in this community building activity. David Fuller came to speak to the students first about the experiences the Syrian students have gone through in the last 12-18 months. The day was a huge success! [http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/view.php?action=object&id=46031&stream=Homepage%20News](http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/view.php?action=object&id=46031&stream=Homepage%20News)

**Participation in Decision-Making and/or Advocacy** *(did you participate in any decisions at the school such as policy or join the school in advocating for something or decide as a School Council to advocate for something?)*

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

Our annual Family Fun Skate was held on family day at Nicolas Sheran Ice Arena. It was a fun day for families, with food, skating, and prizes.

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

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

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**School Highlights:**

- **My Parks Pass Canada - 2017**
  - Vote for Lethbridge Christian School (LCS) at [www.myparkspass.ca](http://www.myparkspass.ca)
  - Lethbridge Christian School Gr. 8 Class has entered a contest at My Parks Pass Canada where we have completed a one minute video promoting Waterton Lakes National Park. We need your support.
  - Where to vote: [www.myparkspass.ca](http://www.myparkspass.ca)
  - Click on - View Entries
  - Search for our video:
    1. Class Name: Waterton - The Best in the West
    2. School Name: Lethbridge Christian School
  - Vote once a day from March 6, 2017 to March 24, 2017
  - Please encourage all staff and students at your school to vote for us as we promote Waterton Lakes National Park.
  - Thank you for your support.

### Participation in Decision-Making and/or Advocacy
*(did you participate in any decisions at the school such as policy or join the school in advocating for something or decide as a School Council to advocate for something?)*

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

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

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

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School: Park Meadows School

School Highlights:

Participation in Decision-Making and/or Advocacy *(did you participate in any decisions at the school such as policy or join the school in advocating for something or decide as a School Council to advocate for something?)*

Fundraising (Do you have a successful event to share?):
Park Meadows School Parent Council raised $20,060 at the Dance-a-thon.

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

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