Lethbridge School District No. 51
DISTRICT SCHOOL COUNCIL

Monday, October 3, 2016 - 6:30 p.m.
Education Centre

AGENDA

6:30  1. Welcome and Introductions

6:35  2. Additions to the Agenda

6:36  3. Approval of the Agenda

6:37  4. Approval of the Minutes from June, 2016

6:40  5. Business Arising from the Minutes

6:45  6. Elections for District School Council – Chair, Vice Chair, Recording Secretary, Committee representatives

   *District Policy Advisory Committee:*
   Meetings occur from 12:15 to 3:00 pm on the following dates:
   October 12, November 9, January 11, February 15, March 15, and April 12

   *Poverty Intervention Committee* – dates/times TBD (meets during the day)

   *Healthy Schools Committee* – first meeting was held September 14, future dates/times TBD (meets during the day)

   *SAPDC (Southern Alberta Professional Development Consortium)* – dates/times TBD
   October 5 (9:30); 3 per year, usually Wednesday morning.

   *Community Engagement Committee* – Thursday, Oct. 6 at 6:30;
   other dates/times TBD (evenings)

   *Resolution Sub-Committee* – first meeting was held September 27,
   future meeting dates/times TBD

7:00  7. Brainstorm: Topics for Professional Learning, Discussion and Exploration

7:10  7. Trustee Report – Keith Fowler

7:15  8. Alberta School Councils Association - Allison Pike

   Resolution Committee Update (Joy Morris)

   ASCA Parent of Distinction Award
School Council Engagement Task Force
ASCA Website and Workshops

7:30 9. District School Council Calendar of Events and Shared Opportunities

7:35 12. Superintendent’s Report – Cheryl Gilmore
   • 2017 Excellence in Teaching Nominations
   • Support for School Councils
   • Update on Provincial Curriculum Development
   • Update on funding of Mental Health supported project (Making Connections)
   • School Council Membership List

7:45 13. 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

7:50 14. Adjournment

District School Council Meeting Dates
November 7, 2016
January 16, 2017
February 7, 2017 – Town Hall
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
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<th>2016-2017 District School Council Representatives</th>
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District School Council Minutes for June 6, 2016

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

2. **Antonia Ormston - ASCA conference overview**
   Antonia gave an overview of the conference, touching on the various sessions, and elections. Joy Morris touched on the motions that were passed at the meeting.

3. **Hollie Tarasewich - ASCA conference presentation/sharing**
   Hollie talked about the workshops she attended at the ASCA conference, all of which fell into the general theme of welcoming, safe, and caring learning environments. She brought handouts that she had picked up at the conference. She thanked the Board for their support of our delegates.

4. **Additions to the Agenda:**
   4.1. Minister’s statement on the Education Act (under Superintendent’s Report)

5. **Approval of Agenda:**
   Moved by Hollie Tarasewich, seconded Antonia Ormston - approved.

6. **Approval of the Minutes:**
   Moved by Hollie Tarasewich, seconded Nancy Mitchell - approved.

7. **Antonia Ormston, Duane Pike, Hollie Tarasewich, Jesy Malik, Joy Morris - ASCA conference presentation/sharing**
   Antonia, Duane, Hollie, Jesy, and Joy talked about the workshops they attended at the ASCA conference. One was about strategies for involving the community to ensure high school completion, and the difficulties encountered by those who fail to complete high school (about 30% of students). The presenters offered to make similar presentations to school councils if asked. Another was about inclusive education, and how to encourage that at home. Another was about dual credit programs (for work and school). Another was about LGBTQ student safety and inclusion. Another was about bullying prevention, and some resources were suggested as well as some strategies and consequences (you are free to choose, but you are not free of the consequences of your choices); Jesy has a slide presentation from this. Another was called Connected and Protected, about encouraging safe implementation and inclusion of technology. Another was about mental health. Another was about students with exceptional needs, and dealing with conflicts that arise in this context. Another was about the CTF (Career and Technologies Foundations) program for grades 5-9. Another was about strategies for reconciliation, but focused more on a particular program (graduation coaches) that Boards can implement to increase the graduation rate of FNMI students, than on anything for parents. An idea that arose out of this was that many FNMI parents are uncomfortable in schools due to the history of residential schools, and perhaps we could invite FNMI liaisons to present to school councils about how we can encourage FNMI parents to be more comfortable and hopefully active in their children’s schools. Another was about suicide prevention, which is a very important and timely issue, but disappointingly the statistics presented by the AHS representative were out of date. Another was about running effective meetings. Another was about welcoming refugees and other cultures, including being sensitive about language, food, encouraging mentorships, etc. A presentation from Lethbridge Family Services might provide more suggestions.

8. **Business Arising from the Minutes - none.**

9. **Portable classrooms/bathrooms**
   At Mike Mountain Horse, there are 684 kids and not enough bathrooms or stalls. There are lines that mean students who try to use the bathroom during recess don’t get recess. What can be done? Cheryl responded that currently we meet provincial building codes, and we do not get approved for portable bathrooms until we fail to meet code. This is an issue at several schools, both in terms of student numbers, and in terms of distance between classrooms and bathrooms. Cheryl and the Board will look into the precise implications of the code for when we will be able to expand the bathrooms at these schools, and will get these included in these minutes. A suggestion arose later in the meeting that this might be a good issue to bring forward to ASCA as a policy motion.
10. **Trustee Report** - Keith Fowler reported: The Board thanks parents for their attendance and engagement at the ASCA meeting, and the feedback they provided. Next year the Board will pay the registration fees up front for one parent per school, rather than reimbursing that expense.

The Board reviewed a number of policies and updated, removed, or amended them, or sent them back for further work.

The Copperwood school will be called Coalbanks Elementary. The city has already provided a playground.

Dawson Kennedy represented our District well as our nominee for an award, but was not put forward as the regional nominee.

The Board passed the budget as presented, but did hear concerns about the number of Educational Assistants. They see this as an ongoing challenge, both in terms of maintaining staff and paying for them. They have put money into providing time for teachers to take on some related work.

11. **Alberta School Councils Association Report** – Allison Pike was not able to be present. There has not been a Board meeting since the conference. Workshops are wrapping up across the province, and the first Board meeting is this coming weekend.

12. **Committee Reports**

12.1. **Poverty Intervention Committee** – the Committee held its annual appreciation luncheon for donors. Presentations from schools and kids who had been beneficiaries of funding were greatly appreciated by donors. This year was the first year bus passes were made available to students for attending extracurricular activities after school. There was limited uptake, but hopefully it will increase in the future. The Committee is suggesting to the Board that passes be made available to younger students, if their parents sign a form promising to accompany them when they use the pass.

12.2. **Healthy Schools Committee** – there was a meeting today. The ownership of Healthy Schools issues have been taken over more by individual schools, so this committee is discussing revising their role to be more of a steering committee, setting direction and coordinating the school-based activities.

12.3. **Digital Citizenship Committee** – haven’t met since the last report.

12.4. **SAPDC** – there was no report

12.5. **Making Connections** - there has not been a meeting. This standing committee was required by previous funding structures for Making Connections, but is no longer required, so will probably be laid down.

12.6. **Community Engagement Committee** - will have a meeting later this week, and welcomes input from parents. They are planning some events for the Fall. Feedback can be given to Hollie. Some suggestions for events were put forward.

13. **Duane Pike - ASCA conference presentation/sharing**

Duane added some additional information from the high school completion workshop, about programs that track students and try to analyze why they have dropped out if they do.

14. **District School Council Calendar of Events and Shared Opportunities:**

Lakeview raised $14,000 through their Fun Run. It will be an annual event.

15. **What is the role of DSC and DSC reps?**

LCI raised this question. It appears that DSC is becoming more involved in legislation and policies, but each representative is supposed to be representing their school; is this happening? Are the parent representatives for district committees being sought broadly from schools? Should our subcommittee that drafts policy for ASCA have broader representation? We all bring our own experiences to the table, but also have responsibility to represent the parents at our school.

This is an informal consultative and information-sharing body, not a decision-making body, as laid out by the DSC guidelines. The DSC has no control or say over how involved individual schools choose to become in ASCA. When we vote in DSC, it is typically to facilitate ASCA business if we choose to do so. Any parent can bring forward a policy motion for ASCA, and if it is approved by a school council or DSC then it will go to the floor of the ASCA AGM. The
DSC is not a legislated body. The role of the DSC is what the parents want to make it. Could staff be provided so that minutes are always provided in a timely fashion? Could a summary be provided more quickly? Committee representatives should be reporting to DSC if possible even if they don’t come from DSC, so that we all receive the information. These questions arose because of a survey that came from the Community Engagement Committee. Some school councils had the opportunity to respond to that survey, and others didn’t.

16. Superintendent’s Report:
Does the Superintendent know what policy areas the Minister is considering before implementing a new Act? The answer was speculative: probably the funding consequences of raising the ages for when students can leave school and the age to which they are funded; and of including students whose parents or guardians live in Canada but not in Alberta as funded students, which has implications for some boarding schools in particular. There were some questions raised about the “new” math curriculum, and the related outcomes, e.g. is there a diminished emphasis on numeracy? What are the strengths and weaknesses of our students in math? The feeling of the administrators’ present was that there is not a diminished emphasis on numeracy. Cheryl will provide more information about this, to be attached to these minutes. Would the DSC like a presentation on this, or a broader presentation aimed at more parents? This could be considered in the Fall, along with any other possible presentation topics that come forward.

17. Roundtable Reports:
Only two were circulated. No additional items were brought forward.

18. Adjournment.
19. Announcements. The next DSC Meeting will be October 3, with elections. The Resolutions Committee (developing policy resolutions to bring to ASCA) will meet Tuesday September 27 at 1 p.m. Any parent is welcome to attend. We will schedule some evening meetings also. There was discussion of the resolution process for ASCA.

High School Completion Framework Link:

ASCA 2016 – Bullying Prevention: Ripples & Dominoes:
District School Council
2016-17

Topics for Presentations

Please circle level of interest with 1 being very low interest and 8 being very high interest.

1. FNMI: Programs and support services; provincial Truth and Reconciliation focus in curriculum and instruction; School Councils – strategies for connecting with parents)
   1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8

2. Technology: Software - What are the students using in schools and what can students access from home?
   1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8

3. Literacy: What is literacy as defined by Alberta Education and the District; what programs are in place in the schools and how parents can support literacy skills at home.
   1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8

4. Numeracy: What is numeracy as defined by Alberta Education and the District; what programs are in place in schools and how parents support numeracy skills at home.
   1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8

5. Mental Health and Support Services to Lethbridge School District No. 51 students.
   1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8

6. ISP – Individual Student Plan for students with individual program needs
   1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8

7. Governance structures: levels of responsibility of schools, District/ Board and province.
   1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8

8. School Community engagement
   1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8

9. Other: ____________________________________________________________________________
   1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8

10. Other: __________________________________________________________________________
    1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8
TRUSTEE report to school councils:

September 29, 2016

1. Trustee Work Plan
The Board of Trustees discussed the Board’s Trustee Work Plan, which identifies the major work area and tasks the Board will be engaged in throughout the 2016-2017 school year.

2. Policies Reviewed
The Board passed first reading of Policy 400.1.1, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression, a policy for staff members in the District. The policy closely mirrors the student policy regarding Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression, as the Board added Policy 400.1.1 is the last piece of the puzzle to make sure all of the District's policies are in order. Policy 400.1.1 will be up for second, and possibly third reading, during the October Board meeting. For more on the policy, please click here: [http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/view.php?action=object&id=38673&stream=Homepage%20News](http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/view.php?action=object&id=38673&stream=Homepage%20News)

3. Breakfast with the Board
Dates were finalized for the 2016-2017 school year, concerning when and where Breakfast with the Board events will be held. The schedule for this school year includes:
- October 13, 2016 – Fleetwood-Bawden School
- November 8, 2016 – Westminster School
- December 14, 2016 – Education Centre
- January 12, 2017 – Lakeview School
- February 16, 2017 – Nicholas Sheran School
- March 7, 2017 – Attwell Building
- April 11, 2017 – LCI
- May 2, 2017 – Dr. Probe School

4. Literacy Resource announcement
The Board agreed to contributed $350,000 for the purchase of literacy resources throughout the District, for use in Grade 1 through to Grade 6. For more information on the initiative, please click this link: [http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/view.php?action=object&id=38681&stream=Homepage%20News](http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/view.php?action=object&id=38681&stream=Homepage%20News)

5. Sock it to 'Em
The Board learned the annual campaign will take place between Nov. 1-Dec. 14 this year, under the direction of Gail Petrie. This will mark the 14th year for the campaign. The campaign is also supported by CUPE 290 members of Palliser Regional Division No. 26 and Holy Spirit Roman Catholic Separate Division No. 4. The Board made a contribution of $100 to the Sock it to 'Em Campaign, and extended thanks and congratulations to Petrie and the CUPE 290 members for their efforts.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Mich Forster, Jan Foster, Keith Fowler, Lola Major, Donna Hunt, Tyler Demers, Don Lacey
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
September 2016

7  School Council Purpose

Understanding the legislated role of school councils including which topics/areas are open for discussion and which require caution helps to prevent tension and dysfunction within a school council and the school community. Learning how to identify each, how to frame a “personal issue” from a school council perspective and how to broach sensitive topics will assist all school council members. Review of relevant legislation, exploring rights, responsibilities and choices, and advising examples.

https://ca-sas.bbcollab.com/m.jnlp?sid=2013181&password=M.6DED1CBDCEE3EAE1BD42D9C547DE31

14  Chair Basics

Chairing a school council meeting can be exciting, confusing or down-right scary! Having confidence with a clear understanding of chair responsibilities and processes will help to keep meetings focused, productive and fun! Overview of the roles of the Chair, agenda preparation, duties of other members, communication, meeting management tools and skills.

https://ca-sas.bbcollab.com/m.jnlp?sid=2013181&password=M.DEA6D8E2A65AB9B0AB446C5B5ACA4D

21  Fundraising Association Partnership Purpose

Fundraising Associations (FRAs) are separate, legal entities with distinct rules to follow, responsibilities to comply with and liabilities to consider. Positive, collaborative, mutually respectful relationships with the principal and school council are integral to the success of each and in the best interests of students. Clarity of who has authority for what, is essential. Review of relevant legislation (Societies Act and School Act), “Which Group” identification activities, and case studies.

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28  Meeting Management

Meaningful school council meetings require strong leadership and clear, easy to follow processes for all participants. Having a solid Agenda, some simple Rules of Order and learning how to Direct Discussion will help to ensure the school council meetings are not a waste of anyone’s valuable time. Exploration of some common challenges for school council meetings and introduction of three important solution-oriented tools.

https://ca-sas.bbcollab.com/m.jnlp?sid=2013181&password=M.27EB0796DCF95F19FA14C20C3474C1
October 2016

5 CAREERS: Choosing a Direction

Join CAREERS: The Next Generation to discuss the opportunities and realities that face youth as they seek pathways to explore careers.

The webinar is the first of three that will provide a foundation for parents of youth in grades 8 to 12.

CAREERS: Choosing a Direction WEBINAR

This first webinar (Oct 5) will provide information on careers that will be in demand in 2023 and some programs that will help youth try out careers while in high school.

CAREERS: Helping Youth Choose WEBINAR

The second webinar (Jan 11) will bring resources to assist youth in identifying careers that may interest them.

CAREERS: Supporting Youth Exploring WEBINAR

The third in the series (April 12) will provide tips for parents on helping youth prepare for and gain a paid internship or work experience.

About the organization:

CAREERS: The Next Generation is a non-profit organization raising youth awareness of career options and helping students earn while they learn through internship. Partnering with government, educators, communities, industry, parents and students, they introduce youth to rewarding careers and develop the skilled workers of the future. CAREERS believe introducing students to great career options in high school motivates them in school, grows their skills, expands their opportunities and ultimately creates communities with a large and diverse skilled workforce.

12 Masterful Minutes

Minutes are among the most important documents used to conduct business in a transparent and accountable manner. However, taking minutes can be daunting. Minute-takers are often expected to produce minutes out of chaotic and disorganized meetings. Understanding how much is too much, and what format is best in a school council setting will reduce stress and minimize conflict. Explanation of the various types of minutes, the ideal format for school councils, and how to create and use templates efficiently.

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26 Chair Basics

Chairing a school council meeting can be exciting, confusing or down-right scary! Having confidence with a clear understanding of chair responsibilities and processes will help to keep meetings focused, productive and fun! Overview of the roles of the Chair, agenda preparation, duties of other members, communication, meeting management tools and skills.

November 2016

2 Fundraising Association Partnership Purpose

Fundraising Associations (FRAs) are separate, legal entities with distinct rules to follow, responsibilities to comply with and liabilities to consider. Positive, collaborative, mutually respectful relationships with the principal and school council are integral to the success of each and in the best interests of students. Clarity of who has authority for what, is essential. Review of relevant legislation (Societies Act and School Act), “Which Group” identification activities, and case studies.

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23 Tools for Effective School Councils
Understanding the culture of the local community and basic volunteer psychology will help to identify tools and strategies that can assist the school council in its work. Identification of what school councils can do, and the resources available to assist. Understanding school community culture/barriers and volunteer motivation.

https://ca-sas.bbcollab.com/m.jnlp?sid=2013181&password=M.F621A26820C9B053C04A50A5C4721A


"Students are the artists, scientists, thinkers, innovators and leaders of the future. They will be tasked with solving the problems of today, while imagining and creating a new tomorrow. Competencies are critical for equipping students with the attitudes, skills and knowledge that they will need to successfully navigate their personal journeys in learning, living and working." (Alberta Education) **Who** needs to be involved in competency development? **What** are competencies? **When** should teachers support the development of competencies? **Where** should competency development take place? **Why** is the development of competencies important? This webinar will provide you with answers to all these questions and more! Join us for an engaging, fast paced session and leave with a deeper understanding of why a competency focused approach is necessary for success in learning, living and life.

This webinar is the first of a two part series for parents of children and youth in grades K to 12.

Link to the second one – January 18  Competencies: Supporting Your Child’s Development

**Corrie Ziegler** has been an educator for over 37 years and prior to joining Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium (ERLC) as a facilitator. She has been a teacher, principal, supervisor and director with Edmonton Public Schools. She has led AISI projects, managed teams, and has facilitated numerous sessions on a broad spectrum of topics related to teaching and learning. Corrie believes in the power of collaboration and has coached numerous learning communities in working together to achieve high levels of engagement and learning for all students.

January 2017

11 CAREERS: Helping Youth Choose

Join **CAREERS: The Next Generation** to discuss the opportunities and realities that face youth as they seek pathways to explore careers.

The webinar is the second of three that provide a foundation for parents of youth in grades 8 to 12.

This second webinar (Jan 11) will bring resources to assist youth in identifying careers that may interest them.

The third in the series (April 12) will provide tips for parents on helping youth prepare for and gain a paid internship or work experience.

(The first webinar (Oct 5) provided information on careers that will be in demand in 2023 and some programs that will help youth try out careers while in high school.)
To view the Oct 5 recording, click the link below:

View the Blackboard Collaborate recording

About the organization:

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18 Competencies: Supporting Your Child’s Development

"Competencies are not just for school, they are for life." (Alberta Education). Teachers of every subject and every grade are working hard to plan meaningful, real life learning activities the challenge your child(ren) to apply and develop competencies. There are many practical ways that you, as parents, school councils or community members can help to support your child(ren)'s development of competencies both within and outside the school. This dynamic and interactive webinar will engage you in exploring what a competency focused approach to learning might look like in a classroom, and how you can support your child(ren)'s development of all 8 competencies.

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25 Focus on Inclusion

Focus on Inclusion: Creating Inclusive Education Communities – intro and overview with Karen Pedersen-Bayus

ERLC

February 2017

Welcoming Refugees and Newcomers

Welcoming Refugees and Newcomers to your School Council and Community with Nancy Musica
Benefits of Inquiry/Project Based Learning

When you went to school, it was quite likely that your teacher stood at the front of the classroom, shared information to the whole class, and you were expected to listen, practice what you learned by yourself, complete worksheets, and then share what you remembered by writing tests. These classrooms were quite often quiet places, where students worked alone. Today, you can walk into many classrooms and find students talking, experimenting, creating, and working in groups. They are working together to solve a real life complex question, challenge or problem. The teacher is no longer at the front of the class, but guiding teams of students as they work to solve the problem. This kind of learning has many titles: inquiry, project based learning, problem based learning, and discovery, to name a few. Why are teachers using this approach to learning? What are the benefits? As a parent, what do I need to know about inquiry or project based learning? Join us as we engage in our own inquiry about this strategy, and walk away with a deeper understanding of why an inquiry or project based learning approach is one of the "tools" that both teachers and parents should include in the "toolbox" of strategies to support deep learning.

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March 2017

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Join CAREERS: The Next Generation to discuss the opportunities and realities that face youth as they seek pathways to explore careers.

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May 2017

TBA

June 2017

TBA
BOARD SUPPORT OF SCHOOL COUNCILS 2016-17

1. Lethbridge School District pays for the Alberta School Council Association membership fee for each school (currently $50/school)

2. Lethbridge School District will reimburse each school for the cost of one registration fee for the Alberta School Council Association Annual Spring Conference. The participant can pay for the conference registration and then submit the receipt OR have the Executive Assistant of the Superintendent register them and have the School District directly pay. Executive Assistant contact is LeeAnne Tedder (leeanne.tedder@lethsd.ab.ca 403-380-5301).

3. Each school is allocated $200 for the purpose of:
   a. supporting a participant’s expenses at the Alberta School Council Association Annual Spring Conference OR
   b. if there is not anyone from the school who participates, support professional learning for the School Council. Professional learning can be considered broadly and could encompass support for a member who may subsequently share the learning with other parents or be delivered to a group. Learning may be associated with the role of School Council or role of parents in general or a topic helpful for supporting children or youth from the home perspective. Avenues for professional learning for parents include the Alberta School Council Association (http://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/) as well as the Southern Alberta Professional Development Consortium (https://sapdc.ca/en/welcome-to-sapdc)

   The funds are automatically transferred into the school budget for School Council access.
**District School Council**  
**School Highlights**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>School:</strong></th>
<th>Galbraith School</th>
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**School Highlights:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School started on September 6.</td>
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<tr>
<td>One School One Book is “Only One You and You Be You” by Linda Kranz running throughout the year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Welcome back barbeque was held at the school on Wednesday September 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meet the Teacher night was held after the Welcome Back Barbeque on Wednesday September 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Welcome to Kindergarten evening was held on September 7 from 7:00 to 8:00 pm</td>
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**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?)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participation</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fundraising (Do you have a successful event to share?):</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Are there things your School Council is talking about/questions you have for other School Councils?</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Best Practices</strong> <em>(program, speaker, or other item at your school that has worked very well)</em></td>
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# District School Council
## School Highlights

<table>
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<tr>
<th>School:</th>
<th>Gilbert Paterson</th>
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**School Highlights:**
- New playground was built over the summer, and opened in the first week of school.
- 2 of 3 school administration members are new this year, but seem to be settling in well.

**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)*
District School Council  
School Highlights

| School: | Lethbridge Christian School |

School Highlights:

| September 14: Meet the Teacher Night |
| September 16: Family Pancake Breakfast |

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?)*

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|  |

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

| Our Wellness Team, supported by the Lethbridge School District No.51 Wellness Committee, created a vision of building a Middle School Courtyard designed specifically for the Grades 6 – 8 students to use during their outdoor breaks. This vision was embraced by our Parent Council, Lethbridge Christian School Society, staff, administration, and the Middle School students. We held a meeting with students to find out what they would enjoy in a space created for them. A Planning Team was then organized in which we determined the priority issues and developed an action plan. Once the plan was presented to our students, parents and community members, many people signed up to volunteer to help build the courtyard and others made monetary donations. A total of $3,500 was raised and the Lethbridge Christian School Society donated $2,500. |

The courtyard area will include a raised patio with benches/tables, planters, a basketball hoop, tetherball pole, four-square court and trees. When not in use by the Middle School students, classroom teachers will use this area as an outdoor classroom.

About 40+ people came out in July to help build the courtyard. It took about 5 days to complete the project. We are still going to be painting 4-square courts and hopefully having some trees planted.

| 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

<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>School:</strong></th>
<th>Park Meadows School</th>
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#### School Highlights:

- On Friday September 16 we hosted our annual pancake breakfast, followed by the Terry Fox Run.

- We will come together to support the building of a new Wheelchair access playground that is targeted to build in the fall 2017.

- The new Skills program, similar to Nicki’s Den is being embraced by the community. There have been many positive moments and so much laughter with staff and students who are all working at the grass roots to develop programming for children with diverse needs.

- They hot lunch program continues to gain momentum and is well loved by the students.

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#### 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?)*

- The parent council will be hosting a fundraising evening for the playground on Thursday Oct 27, 2016. The parent council will be organizing a carnival that evening, Dory and the Weatherman will be performing and we will be partnering with Scotiabank Bright Futures.

- Families will be invited in October to the Mission Impossible Family Evening where they get to see their children master the obstacle course set up in the gym. Each year the school chooses a new theme.

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

- Playground will require $300,000, we are looking. We hosted a week long Kernels popcorn sale in June raising $7500.00 for the playground.

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

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

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**District School Council**  
**School Highlights**

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<th><strong>School:</strong></th>
<th>Westminster Elementary School</th>
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**School Highlights:**
- Full day kindergarten has been approved for another 3 years as part of the pilot project
- Grade 5’s attending ESI camp in Waterton Sept. 26-28
- Welcome Back family Pancake Breakfast sponsored by Cargill
- First council meeting and AGM

**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?):**
- First day of school we sent home our fundraiser forms. We chose to sell Ben’s Beef Jerky. We are running it for the month of September.

**Are there things your School Council is talking about/questions you have for other School Councils?**
We had a presentation from Tami Pederson from the accounting dept. on School Cash Online and are going to try to advertise the benefits of this system and the ease of use. Since we are an elementary school there isn’t a lot of fees but hot lunches are something we hold. How did you spread the word about School Cash Online to parents in our schools? How did you get parents to check it out and start using it?

**Best Practices** *(program, speaker, or other item at your school that has worked very well)*
- Tami Pederson-School Cash Online Presentation for Parents