Lethbridge School District No. 51
DISTRICT SCHOOL COUNCIL

Monday, April 3, 2017, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
6:00 p.m. SUPPORTING MATH UNDERSTANDING FROM THE PARENT PERSPECTIVE
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 6, 2017
6:35  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:
       SAPDC:
       Community Engagement Committee:
7:00  8. District School Council Calendar of Events and Shared Opportunities
7:05  9. Superintendent’s Report – Cheryl Gilmore
       • Bill 1
       • Minister’s Student Advisory Council
       • Provincial Budget
       • District Budget Development: Timelines
7:15  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
7:25  11. Adjournment
District School Council Meeting Dates
May 1, 2017
June 5, 2017 – Dinner meeting

2016-2017 District School Council Representatives

<table>
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<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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<tr>
<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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<tr>
<td>SAPDC</td>
<td>Hollie Tarasewich, Amanda Cross (alternate)</td>
</tr>
<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 March 6, 2017

Prior to the meeting, there was a presentation on Technology software: what are students using in schools and what can be accessed from home. These included Office 365, Microsoft Classroom, Moodle, MyBlueprint, Learn Alberta (username: LA33, password: 7434), MyPass, Discovery Education, amongst others. Many of these are not used by every teacher in every classroom. We were also told that the District is ready to provide printable report cards next week.

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

2. **Additions to the Agenda:** School Council meeting nights for feeder schools as 10.4

3. **Approval of Agenda:**
   Moved by Hollie Tarasewich, seconded Edna Asem - approved.

4. **Approval of the Minutes from January 2017:**
   Moved by Trina Tymko, seconded Courtney Lamb - approved.

5. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

   5.1. **Town Hall results**

   Cheryl Gilmore thanked parents for attending the Town Hall meeting. At the Board’s retreat they discussed the new format, including challenges of hearing in large groups, and the rotation schemes. People enjoyed moving around, and thought the facilitation was well done. Results are available on the District web site, at [http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/Town%20Hall%20Meeting%20Summary.php](http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/Town%20Hall%20Meeting%20Summary.php). There were some overlaps in responses. The Board felt that a resounding message from the Town Hall was a desire for more direct involvement for students in the community and with businesses, and more opportunities to leave the classroom, with credit available for non-classroom activities. There was also support for increased use of real-world problems in the classroom, which may often require strong background understanding of fundamentals. There was support for encouragement of risk-taking, and for improved support of parents to engage in their children’s education. The Board will put further thought into all of this over the next month or so.

6. **Trustee Report - Keith Fowler reported:**

   At their February meeting the Board was pleased to meet the new Edwin Parr Award nominee from Mike Mountain Horse school - Brittney Petkau. They reviewed several policies. Some of these policies didn’t go out to stakeholder groups for consultation. Concern was raised about a policy change that removes stakeholder groups from consultation on reviews of the superintendent, but was not sent out for consultation to stakeholder groups. Mich Forster responded that stakeholder groups to be consulted are kept the same from review to review in order to compare apples to apples. Donna Hunt reported on her trip to China as part of a southern Alberta delegation. About 15-20 students from Anyang, China will visit Lethbridge this summer, as well as students from Japan in 2018. The District received a donation from RBC of $5000 for the Gay-Straight Alliance conference on March 22. There is a parents’ portion of the GSA conference, but parents must register in advance. We don’t know how the recent government announcement about the elimination of school fees will play out for districts like ours who have already eliminated basic fees. We also don’t know exactly what school fees will be affected (for example option course fees, agenda fees, etc. that we do still charge) - the government will need to define “basic education” and “basic school fees” amongst
other terms in regulations, after the bill has been passed. The amount of funding that has been announced works out to about $83/student, which does not cover the fees that many parents pay. There has been some question as to whether or not the 2.4 km cut-off (distance from home to school) at which students are bused will be changed. If it were to be decreased without increasing funding, the expense would have to come out of funding for classrooms.

7. **Alberta School Councils Association (ASCA) Report** – Brooke gave a report from Allison, and Hollie added some details. Registration for the ASCA Conference and AGM is open; registration fees and $250 for expenses is provided by the district for one parent from each school council. School Councils can complete proxy forms to allow another school council to cast their vote. Representatives should be in touch if they are interested in carpooling to the meeting. The Conference will include the Blanket Exercise, and Chief Wilton Littlechild (one of the Truth and Reconciliation Commissioners) will give the keynote address. There will be a session on the fentanyl crisis and many other sessions on topics of interest, including practical help in running school councils.

8. **Reports from District Committees**

8.1. **District Policy Advisory Committee.** Joy Morris reported that the committee has reviewed various policies and circulated drafts for further feedback. Some went to the February Board meeting; others will go to the March meeting; the deadline for feedback on these is March 20. Some policies that she had not seen at the committee were also on the February Board agenda, as was discussed in the Board report. The next meeting will be on April 5.

8.2. **Poverty Intervention Committee** Joy Morris reported that the other parent representatives are now definitely on the committee’s contact list. There has not been a meeting since the last District School Council Meeting. The next meeting will be on March 30. Cheryl Gilmore reported that the committee received a generous donation of approximately $92,000 from E-Free Church’s Christmas donation drive.

8.3. **Healthy Schools Committee** Laura Scarpelli was not present.

8.4. **SAPDC** Hollie Tarasewich reported that the Fall sessions engaging the community in consultation around the Curriculum Development had good participation, and the next round of consultations will be forthcoming in May. They will work to improve communication with parents from the Fall sessions. The committee’s next meeting will be on May 3.

8.5. **Community Engagement** held their first annual scholarship breakfast for scholarships on Innovation, Creativity and Exploration. It was very successful, with almost 200 people in attendance (which was the capacity). The District is very grateful for this support. The breakfast included an amazing speaker, student displays, and a robotics demo. Parents should encourage grade 9-12 students (there are junior- and senior-level scholarships) to apply for the scholarships by March 31. Students can apply singly or in groups. The next step will be to evaluate the applications.

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

Remember to look at it on the District web site for this. High school basketball championships are next weekend.

10. **New Business**

10.1. **Correspondence from LCI School Council** A letter was included in the agenda and read at the meeting expressing concern over the amount of time that local school councils and District School Council (DSC) have allocated to discussion of policy proposals for ASCA through DSC;
the DSC guidelines are also in the agenda. A document requesting feedback from school councils around this was also circulated, and is attached to these minutes. School councils should discuss and respond to the questions that have been raised, and bring their responses to the May 1 DSC meeting for further discussion.

10.2. **School Board Elections - candidates’ forum (sub-committee)** Keith told the ATA local council that District School Council is interested in working with them on a forum, and they were also interested in a shared event. School councils could be asked for question suggestions. Format, moderation and publicity need to be planned. Ask school councils for volunteers for this subcommittee. This will come back to our April meeting.

10.3. **Minister’s Youth Council** The Minister has put out a call for 32 students to join a youth council that will inform him on matters related to education. Information can be found at [https://education.alberta.ca/student-engagement/minister-s-youth-council/](https://education.alberta.ca/student-engagement/minister-s-youth-council/).

10.4. **School Council meeting nights for feeder schools** Hollie Tarasewich reported that school council meetings for two different schools one of which feeds into the other are sometimes scheduled on the same night in months when one or the other doesn’t meet on their “typical” night for some reason (eg. Easter or other breaks), which is a problem for parents with older and younger kids. Cheryl said she would talk to principals about avoiding this.

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

11.1. **A Public Education video** was produced about our parent math help workshops. It is available at [https://youtu.be/jJ4QvwbEww](https://youtu.be/jJ4QvwbEww). It was shown at the meeting. There has been quite a bit of positive feedback about the sessions. Turnout has varied from 7 to about 30 participants. Two sessions remain, March 8 and 15 at 6:30 p.m. at G.S. Lakie.

12. **Roundtable Reports**

are in the agenda for information. Grade 8 Lethbridge Christian students have produced a My Parks Canada video that they would like people to vote for. More information is at [http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/view.php?action=object&id=46945&stream=Homepage%20News](http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/view.php?action=object&id=46945&stream=Homepage%20News), and voting can be done at [www.myparkspass.ca](http://www.myparkspass.ca).

13. **Adjournment**

14. **Announcements.** The next DSC Meeting will be on April 3.
TRUSTEE report to school councils:

March 29, 2017

1. Provincial champions recognized
The Board of Trustees handed certificates out to the 2A provincial girls basketball championship team from Immanuel Christian High School and the boys provincial curling champions from Lethbridge Collegiate Institute. The ICHS Eagles team members are: Jenna Aleman, Caitlin Veldman, Jennifer Pastink, Juliana Middel, Pam Veldman, Catherine Wever, Reagan Post, Megan Vanee, Mykalah Leenstra, Kirsten Barwegen, Brittany Veldman, and Britney VandeMunt. Coaches included Scott Forster and Gerald Veldman and the manager was Mikaela Konynenbelt. The LCI Boys Curling team consisted of Ayden Whitmire, Kyler Kurina, Daegan Nickel, Jackson Fletcher and Dawson Wikkerink, along with coach David Fletcher.

2. International trip to Germany receives approval
Winston Churchill High School will take a group of students on a Twin City Exchange trip to Weilburg, Germany from March 27 to April 7, 2018. The trip was approved by the Board of Trustees, on the condition all District policies and procedures are strictly followed. WCHS teacher Nevin Morrison noted this September, 20 students from Germany will be coming to Lethbridge. He added when WCHS head to Germany in 2018, they will stay with billets, which allows the Lethbridge students to immerse themselves fully in German culture.

3. Policies reviewed
Policy 601.1.3 School Accounts was amended, while policy 100.1 Mission Statement was removed. A replacement policy, 100.1 Foundational Statements, which included exhibits 100.2 Mission Statement and 100.3 Guiding Principles, received first reading.

Christine Lee, the District’s director of finance, delivered the report, and indicated to Trustees the District is exactly on track with where it is expected to be at this point in the year. The report included an executive summary, a breakdown of spending by program, a Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Operations and other information.

5. 2018-2021 Capital Plan
The capital plan was approved as presented, as Trustees learned the updated plan was identical to the 2017-2020 plan, with the exception of an update on project costs. A south Lethbridge elementary school remained at the top of the list, followed by a west Lethbridge Garry Station-area elementary school and a southwest Lethbridge elementary school. The top projects for modernization included Galbraith Elementary School, Senator Buchanan Elementary School, Westminster Elementary School, Nicholas Sheran Community School and Park Meadows Elementary School, in that order.
6. **Education Centre appointments**
The Board approved the appointment of [Rik Jesse](#) to the position of **Associate Superintendent, Human Resources** (effective Aug. 1, 2017) and the appointment of [Christine Lee](#) to the position of **Associate Superintendent, Business Affairs** (effective Sept. 1, 2017)

7. **School name change**
The Board approved a name change for Immanuel Christian High School, which will be known as Immanuel Christian Secondary School. The name change will commence for the 2017/2018 school year.

8. **Public forum presentation**
Karen Smith and Lisa Weiss spoke during the public-forum portion of the meeting on the topic of the new multi-age philosophy for grade 2-5 French Immersion classes for 2017-18 in Nicholas Sherman Community School and Ecole Agnes Davidson Elementary School. The speakers requested the Lethbridge School District No. 51 Board of Trustees include school councils in the development of the new philosophy.

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

**School:** Galbraith

**School Highlights:**
- Celebration of learning happened March 16th
- Galbraith Cares: A Celebration of Us! A book created by Galbraith school and students went on sale. Currently available on cash online
- Grade 2/3 choir started during the lunch hour

**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?):**
- Grade 3 held a cupcake sale all proceeds went to “Me to We” organization.

**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)*
School: Immanuel Christian Elementary School

School Highlights:

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<td>Spring Program, “I am Second” held on March 31, based on the musicale by Pam Andrews.  An amazing performance by students! Through songs and drama, we are reminded that God is first and we are second.</td>
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<td>ICES Eagles Read Contest is going on. Students have read and reviewed 217 books so far.</td>
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<td>Grade 2 did a special wool felting art project as part of their Inuit culture study. They had fun Beauty Creating with sheep wool, and the help of local artist Tracey Kuffner.</td>
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<td>Due to high kindergarten numbers for next year, a third kindergarten class will be added.</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?)*

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

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<td>Friends of Immanuel Dinner held on March 29. Guest speakers were Julie (2001 ICHS Alumni) and Lowell Taylor, from the Amazing Race Canada. Those in attendance also enjoyed food, fellowship, and the ICHS Choir. Money raised this year is for the new Trades building at ICHS.</td>
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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:** Lakeview Elementary School

**School Highlights:**
We created a googldoc email sign up sheet, (similar to what Wilson? has done) for parents wishing to receive emails from school council, so far we have about 70 emails signed up, which is greater than the number who are able to regularly attend meetings. Our hope is that this can eventually take the place of the information sheet which is currently included in school registration packages.

**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 Superhero Fun Run registration is open for the event on May 10\textsuperscript{th}. 5k and 2k events are being held as a fundraiser for Lakeview School Playground Society. Come on out and have some super fun with us!

**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: Mike Mountain Horse Elementary

School Highlights:
- Our School Council focus for March was encouraging families to get active with their kids. We hosted 4 evening events of Fun Family Fitness – STIXX, Zumba, Kickboxing, and Yoga. We had a great response from families and plan to continue this next year.
- Our school hosted Dr. Eva Olssen, a holocaust survivor who spoke to our Grade 4s & 5s, as well as a community presentation in the evening. This was attended by over 250 people.
- An FNMI Art Gala was held during our Celebration of Learning.
- Grade 5 classes are learning to curl – first with Rocks & Rings, and then with several field trips to the Lethbridge Curling Club.
- Grade 5 Chess Leaders have begun to teach chess to the Grade 4 students.
- Jr. & Sr. Choirs performed at the annual Singing for The Soup Kitchen fundraiser, and at the Kiwanis Music Festival.
- ROCK your SOCKS for World Down Syndrome Day

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?):
Starting in December, we offered families the opportunity to donate a hot lunch to a less fortunate student. We have had an overwhelming response and have been able to provide free hot lunches to approximately 30 students each month who have been identified in partnership with our Making Connections worker.

Are there things your School Council is talking about/questions you have for other School Councils?
We invited Lyndsey Spring (Health Promotion Coordinator, Alberta Health Services) to our School Council meeting in March. We discussed current wellness programs within our school and areas that need improvement. One major concern expressed by our families is movies/screen time during lunch. We believe that this practice is detrimental to students’ healthy relationship with food and that it inhibits development of social skills between peers. Our questions are:
- What are the current practices in other elementary schools during lunch?
- Do students eat in their classrooms or in a communal lunch room?
- Who supervises the students?
- Do any other schools currently use movies/screen time to aid in supervising the students?

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