LETHBRIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 51
District SCHOOL COUNCIL

Monday, November 7, 2016 – Board Room, Education Centre

6:00 – 6:30
Parent Learning Session
Mental Health and Support Services in Lethbridge School District No. 51

6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Regular Meeting

AGENDA

6:30 1. Welcome and Introductions

6:32 2. Approval of the Agenda

6:34 3. Approval of the Minutes from October, 2016

6:36 4. Business Arising from the Minutes
   a. Provincial Curriculum Development Survey deadline Nov. 18
      a. Link: http://fluidsurveys.com/s/curriculumsurvey/
   b. School Council Contact Lists and District email accounts
   c. Topics for Professional Learning

6:45 5. Trustee Report – Keith Fowler

6:55 6. Alberta School Councils Association - Allison Pike

7:05 7. Reports from District Committees:
       District Policy Advisory Committee:
       Poverty Intervention Committee:
       Healthy Schools Committee:
       SAPDC:
       Community Engagement:
       District School Council Resolution Committee:

7:20 8. December District School Council Meeting (December 5)

7:22 9. District School Council Calendar of Events and Shared Opportunities

7:25 10. Superintendent’s Report – Cheryl Gilmore
       • Town Hall Meeting topic
       • Provincial Exam Results

7:40 12. 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
13. Adjournment

**District School Council Meeting Dates**

- December 5, 2016
- January 16, 2017
- February 7, 2017 – Town Hall
- March 6, 2017
- April 3, 2017
- May 1, 2017
- June 5, 2017 – Dinner meeting

**2016-2017 District School Council Representatives**

- **Chair**: Allison Pike
- **Vice Chair**: Brooke Culley
- **Recording Secretary**: Joy Morris
- **Lyvia Hughes**
- **Policy Advisory Committee**: Joy Morris
  - Laura Scarpelli (alternate)
- **Poverty Intervention Committee**: Trina Tymko
  - Heather Paul
  - Joy Morris
- **Healthy Schools Committee**: Janene Moch
  - Laura Scarpelli
- **SAPDC**: Hollie Tarasewich
  - Amanda Cross (alternate)
- **Community Engagement Committee**: Heather Paul
  - Pauline Hall
  - Hollie Tarasewich
  - Shelley Roest
  - Carlye Lynnes
District School Council Minutes for October 3, 2016

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Additions to the Agenda:
   2.1. Proposed Islamic Academy at Wilson (under 12, Superintendent’s Report)

3. Approval of Agenda:
   Moved by Hollie Tarasewich, seconded Dayna Tilleman - approved.

4. Approval of the Minutes:
   Moved by Hollie Tarasewich, seconded Dayna Tilleman - approved.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes
   None.

6. Elections for District School Council
   Motion Rob Mitchell/Lyvia Hughes to allow one vote per parent present - approved.
   6.1. Chair An election was held between 3 candidates. Allison Pike was elected.
       Motion to destroy the ballots - moved by Janene Moch - approved.
   6.2. Vice-Chair An election was held between 2 candidates. Brooke Culley was elected.
       Motion to destroy the ballots - moved by Daniel Gosselin - approved.
   6.3. Recording Secretary Joy Morris and Lyvia Hughes will share the position.
   6.4. District Policy Advisory Committee Meetings are 12:15-3, with lunch provided, typically monthly (6 times per year). Joy Morris and Laura Scarpelli volunteered.
   6.5. Poverty Intervention Committee Meetings are afternoons, 3-4 times per year. Trina Tymko, Heather Paul, and Joy Morris volunteered.
   6.6. Healthy Schools Committee held a Health Forum last year with representatives from all schools. Meetings are 1:15-3:30, four times during the year. Janene Moch and Laura Scarpelli volunteered.
   6.7. Southern Alberta Professional Development Consortium This group plans and runs Professional Development for teachers, and related sessions for parents. Meetings are on Wednesday mornings, 3-4 times during the year, with lunch afterwards. Our representative holds a position on the Board of the Consortium. The first meeting will be October 27. Hollie Tarasewich volunteered, with Amanda Cross as the alternate.
   6.8. Digital Citizenship Committee and Making Connections Committee have been laid down. The digital citizenship committee has completed its mandate; Making Connections has a new format and the committee is no longer required.
   6.9. Community Engagement Committee meets in the evenings; the next meeting is Thursday, October 6 at 6:30. Heather Paul, Pauline Hall, Hollie Tarasewich, Shelley Roest, and Carlye Lynnes volunteered.
   6.10. Resolution Subcommittee will be discussed later in the agenda.

7. Brainstorm: Topics for Professional Learning, Discussion and Exploration
   Parents filled out a survey on topics for presentations to be held from 6-6:30, before future District School Council meetings. Brooke Culley suggested adding the planning of public forums for next year’s School Trustee elections to the District School Council’s plans for this year.
8. **Trustee Report** - Keith Fowler reported:

At their September meeting, the Board reviewed the work schedule for the year. They passed their first reading of policy 400.1.1, a policy for staff members on sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression. They set dates and schools for this year’s monthly “breakfast with the Board” events at various schools and Board-run facilities. They approved $350K for the purchase of literacy resources for grades 1-6 (this money came from carry-over from 2015-16 budget for non-operational expenses). This will allow the purchase of resources that are required to implement a new leveled literacy pedagogy that teachers have been trained in. They were informed that the annual Sock it to ‘Em sock drive will run November 1 - December 14 this year. The budget for 2016-17 will be adjusted and submitted to province based on the final enrolment figures of 10,730.

9. **Alberta School Councils Association (ASCA) Report** – Allison Pike is the President of ASCA. She spoke about some of the work of our provincial organisation, and the benefits of our membership in it.

9.1. **Resolution Committee Update** – Joy Morris reported. District School Council decided last year to work jointly to prepare and season policy proposals to take to the Annual General Meeting of ASCA in the spring. The policies we proposed last year were all adopted, and we decided to continue this effort this year. Policies must ultimately be moved and seconded by individual school councils, and individual school councils can prepare and propose policies without working through this joint process. An email was circulated to all school councils inviting them to send representatives and proposals to the meeting.

Four parents attended the meeting. Six issues were brought forward for possible policy proposals: improving bathroom-to-classroom ratios for portables (currently set by Alberta building code for all public buildings); incorporating a mental health component (as distinct from mental wellness) into health curriculum; knowledge and employability classes and their outcomes and standards; inclusion and special education (what’s the difference and when is each needed); endorsing Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action with respect to education; and ensuring that Speech Pathologists’ research on education is known of and used by educators where appropriate. Our next meeting will be Thursday, Oct. 20, 6:45-7:45 p.m., in the District building. Any parent is welcome. That will be the final meeting at which we want to consider new suggestions for policy proposals. We will continue to meet every 2 weeks thereafter to work on research and wording for the policy proposals.

9.2. **ASCA Parent of Distinction Award.** There haven’t been many applications or nominations from Southern Alberta, for parents or school councils. Deadline is in February. More information is on the ASCA web site, [www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca](http://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca).

9.3. **School Council Engagement Task Force.** Please ensure that school councils have parents on the task force (the deadline was September 30 but late additions are accepted) to provide information and feedback to ASCA on your school council’s take on issues of importance in Alberta education. Email tracyk@albertaschoolcouncils.ca with your representative’s name.

9.4. **ASCA website and workshops.** A full list of Webinar Wednesdays was included in the District School Council agenda, and also appears on the ASCA website. Webinars last one hour, include fun people, and are informative. The School Council Resource Guide is fully digitized and on the ASCA web site, complete with embedded links.
9.5. ASCA had a positive full-morning meeting with the Minister of Education recently.

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

   There is a calendar on the district web site for school events, [http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/view.php?action=calendar&id=249](http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/view.php?action=calendar&id=249).

   On October 11th 1-1:30 the Minister of Education will be meeting with Mike Mountain Horse School Council. He has been accepting invitations to attend school council meetings, so invite him if you have an issue you would like to discuss with him.

   Gary Anaka will be giving a presentation on the teenage brain Oct 11 at 7, tentatively at the Education Centre. Register in advance by email to wilson@lethsd.ab.ca, so they can change the venue if demand is high. He will have presented to middle school teachers earlier that day for their professional development.

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

   11.1. **2017 Excellence in Teaching Nominations** are due in late February or early March. Consider recognising excellent teachers at your school! One letter each from a member of the public, a teacher, and a principal are required in a nomination.

   11.2. **Support for School Councils** The District pays the ASCA membership fee for all of our school councils, and for the cost of one registration (per school council) to the ASCA AGM and conference. It also contributes $200 per school council towards other ASCA AGM expenses (hotel, transportation) or other school council professional development expenses. The $200 is included in each school’s budget. This year, the ASCA AGM and conference will be April 28-30 in Edmonton.

   11.3. **Update on Provincial Curriculum Development** A handout from Southern Alberta Professional Consortium will hopefully be coming out later this week. There will be updates over the next 6 years on 6 subjects: Language Arts (English and French), Math, Social Studies, Science, Wellness. This is a broader curriculum change at one time than has been the practice previously, but perhaps not deeper. They want to reduce the number of outcomes, but increase the depth of the learning, and include literacy and numeracy outcomes in all subjects. This may well require significant purchasing of resources (in the millions of dollars for our district) to cover all of the levels and subjects, or perhaps there will be provincial licenses and a province-wide strategy for resource acquisition.

   As a first step in their Stakeholder Engagement strategy, the Ministry will hold engagement sessions for community members. The Lethbridge session will take place on Monday October 17, 7-8:30 p.m. at the Chinook branch (west side) of the Lethbridge Public Library. This will include a general description of the process and discussion of some questions that will be included in the online survey. It will prepare people who want to take the online survey but feel uninformed, but is not required in order to complete the online survey. The meeting will include all grade levels, even though implementation for higher grades is longer-term. The online survey will open on Oct 12 or 13. LeeAnne Tedder will send out a link to the online survey to all school council chairs when it’s available. The survey will be open for 6 weeks.

   11.4. **Update on funding of Mental Health supported project (Making Connections)** Alberta Health Services have previously funded Making Connections as a project, which was renewed three times. They have now declared it a “sustainable initiative,” with parameters including a
full-time coordinator and other structural changes (it will continue to be reviewed every 3 years). We now need to hire a full-time coordinator instead of the previous structure where this role was shared. The program must become more focused on mental health issues and strategies instead of focusing on social services. This doesn’t mean that the social services will be dropped; just that the focus on connecting families and children to mental health strategies will increase.

11.5. **School Council Membership List** Previously, the consent for schools to share parent contact information with school councils did not include email addresses. District School Council raised this last year as a concern for school councils, particularly around fundraising when there are limitations on what schools are permitted to communicate to parents. Accordingly, a new initiative was implemented this year to follow the practice of Edmonton Public School District by including separate forms with registration forms, for parents to fill out specifically with the information they are willing to share with their school council. This information should be taken and processed by school councils if they wish it. Communications can and should continue to go through school principals in many cases, but this provides an option of direct communication to a more limited group when that is needed.

Parents raised privacy concerns around processing the information. School councils are subject to PIPA in regard to privacy issues, not to FOIP. We should be aware of what’s involved in PIPA regulations for treating the confidential information appropriately. Cheryl will see to distributing information about how to create and use email lists, and about our privacy-related responsibilities under PIPA.

Every school council will be provided with a Lethbridge School District email account; in order to meet district policy, the school principal will have the password and should be cc’d on every message. Having a consistent format for school council contacts across the district will create continuity, consistency, and ease of communication. The new email accounts will be distributed next week. School councils are not required to use them, but transitioning to these standardised addresses over time is suggested.

11.6. **Islamic Academy at Wilson** School District Policy 606.1 guides proposals for alternative school programs. It is based on the School Act’s requirements. We currently have 3 active programs: one is overseen by the Society for Christian Education in Southern Alberta (Immanuel Christian schools), one is overseen by Lethbridge Christian School Society (Lethbridge Christian School) and the other is the Montessori program. The Lethbridge Muslim Association is on Step 1 of the process laid out in the policy, having submitted a proposal to the superintendent. Their proposal meets all of the requirements; the most basic is that it must be based on religious, cultural, language, or pedagogy differences. The next step is for them to put forward a more detailed proposal to the Board of Trustees. Three proposals were received last year; this is the only one that has met the requirements to proceed to Step 2. The detailed proposal has to address projected enrolment and sustainability; the current call for expressions of interest is a pre-registration process to determine interest. Enrolment of about 60 K-6 students would be the target for a successful proposal.

If a program is approved, it is then operated by the School Board (including hiring and supervision of the staff), but the particular alternative component is overseen by the society
that formulated the proposal, who also fundraise for any additional costs required by the program. All Board policies apply to alternative programs. There is no mechanism for broader public objection or input into a new program since the Board is expected and required to provide any programs that meet the requirements laid out in the School Act and are deemed to be sustainable. There are several Islamic Academy programs in various school districts across Alberta. The Fort McMurray superintendent says that there, growing numbers of non-Muslim families are registering in such programs because they want the language, and opt out of the religious component.

There is a wing of Wilson School that was intended to be turned into a health clinic after the modernisation, but the arrangement fell through under the new government. Regular public school enrolment and facility needs take precedence over alternative program needs, so this wing is projected to be available for 3 years. Parents of students at Wilson expressed some concerns around ages and space; the superintendent responded to these.

12. **Roundtable Reports**
   are in the agenda for information.

13. **Adjournment**

14. **Announcements.** The next DSC Meeting will be on November 7.
1. Inclusive education presentation
Morag Asquith, Associate Superintendent, Instructional Services, and Cynthia Parr, Director of Student Services delivered a presentation on inclusive education within Lethbridge School District No. 51. The presentation outlined how District teachers are working to differentiate instruction to meet the needs of a wide number of students. Parr added the goal is to give teachers the tools to teach to the diversity of students in regular classroom settings. The presentation also outlined the three levels of interventions schools engage in, with students who require various levels of supports. Statistics were also presented, which identified the increase in learning-support teachers on staff, from 2010 to 2016, the increased number of educational assistants and a boost in the number of students identified with mild/moderate/severe disabilities.

2. Public forum
Joy Morris delivered a presentation on the benefits of pushing back the school start times for students in middle school and high school. Morris cited research, which she noted was absolutely clear, that later start times are of benefit to teens, who require 9-11 hours of sleep each night. Morris noted most middle and high schools start their days around 8-8:30 a.m., which means many students are boarding the bus early in the morning. She added the first bus route for high school students leaves at 6:55 a.m., while the latest middle-school route begins at 8:15 a.m.

3. Policy review
The policy listed below was reviewed by the Policy Advisory Committee. Subsequently, the policy was distributed to school and District administration, staffs and school councils for input. As a result, Policy 400.1.1 Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression (Staff Policy), received second and third reading.

4. Breakfast with the Board
On a monthly basis Trustees meet with the staff of one District site for a continental breakfast. The informal meeting provides an opportunity for staff to share highlights of their work with Trustees. Additionally, Trustees can share information about District initiatives and respond to questions staff members may have. Breakfast with the Board has been scheduled at Westminster Elementary School on Tuesday, Nov. 8 from 7:45-8:15 a.m.

5. Director of Finance earns School Finance and Operation (SFO) designation
District Director of Finance, Christine Lee, was honoured with the designation of Certified Administrator of School Finance and Operations* (SFO*) by the Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO). Lee joins nine others in Alberta holding this designation. This designation takes many years of experience being a school business official, as well as passing two exams. The Board presented Christine Lee, Director of Finance, with a certificate in honour of this hard-earned designation.

6. Organizational meeting
During the Board’s organizational meeting, Mich Forster was named Board chair, while Don Lacey was named vice-chair. For a complete list of Trustee committee representation for 2016/2017, click this link: [http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/Board%20Committees.php](http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/Board%20Committees.php)

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

School: Chinook

School Highlights:
- Teachers Jamie Bach and Joanne McHugh received their M.Ed.
- Golf team was 1st at zones and 3rd at provincials.
- Cross Country team was first at zones.
- Coyote Junction, a Chinook staff rock/country band is making the rounds in the local music scene.

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: General Stewart Elementary School

School Highlights:
General Stewart held a celebration to honor their 60th Anniversary. The kids performed at a late morning assembly and an open house with appetizers and refreshments was held between 4 and 7 for the neighbors, parents, former General Stewart students and staff. We had guests who were some of the first students 60 years ago when General Stewart first opened its doors. Was wonderful to hear stories from the early years. Pictures and displays were posted all over the school of prior years. During this event we unveiled our “Legacy Wall” which we are hoping will provide for continuous fundraising for the school to be used towards further learning and leadership opportunities for the students.

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 initiated Legacy Wall, as noted above. This wall provides an opportunity for current and former students and staff members as well as General Stewart supporters to purchase and inscribe a plaque to honour their years at General Stewart. We are hopeful that each student/family will at some point purchase a place on our legacy wall to commemorate their years at GSS.

Are there things your School Council is talking about/questions you have for other School Councils?
Curious about how often other schools are hosting hot lunches. We have decided to increase to two per month and we are receiving a mixed reaction. Curious if this is significantly more than other schools.

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

**School:** Gilbert Paterson

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<th><strong>School Highlights:</strong></th>
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<td>Parent-teacher interviews ran smoothly.</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?)*

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

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<td>We sold “ADmazing coupon books” with 50% of the cover price going to the school, and raised over $12,000 toward resurfacing our outdoor basketball courts.</td>
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<td>We had our first hot lunch of the year. This is new to Paterson (last year), and we’re still working out some kinks around distribution, etc. About 1/3 of students ordered lunches.</td>
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<td>Library’s Scholastic Book Fair was extremely successful. Holding it during parent-teacher interviews helped.</td>
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**Are there things your School Council is talking about/questions you have for other School Councils?**

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<td>Smart phones in classrooms. The school is looking at ways to incorporate these into school work since most students seem to have them. Some parents remain reluctant (for various reasons) to have their kids have smart phones and/or take them to school.</td>
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<td>Parking and traffic flow. There are some parking restrictions around the school that are often disobeyed and for which the rationale isn’t clear. Some of the school buses as well as some parents stop in places that impede traffic.</td>
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**Best Practices** *(program, speaker, or other item at your school that has worked very well)*

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School: Immanuel Christian Elementary School

**School Highlights:**

Grade 4/5 options have begun for Term One and will be once a week from the end of October until the end of December. The same options will be run in the spring, with students having a chance to try a different option at that time. Options are coordinated with a school throughline and will culminate with an end of term project. The options will be as follows:

**ART**
Throughline: Beauty Creating/Servant Working
Project: Create a class project that will be displayed at “Streets Alive”.

**FISHING**
Throughline: Earth Keeping / Community Building
Project: Plan and lead ice fishing trip in which we invite Syrian student to come and experience some Canadian traditions with us.

**COOKING**
Throughline: Servant Working/Community Building
Project: Plan a bake sale in which the proceeds go towards Compassion Canada / Haiti

**EMBROIDERY**
Throughline: Beauty Creating/Servant Working
Project: Design and develop a class art piece that will be shared with the Lethbridge soup kitchen

**DRAMA**
Throughline: Image Bearing / God Worshipping
Project: Write and act in a skit that will be used for our Christmas Assembly
We also have a computers option, but we are still working through what the project will be.

**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 ICS Bazaar will be held on Saturday, November 26, 2016. Each year our school organizes this fundraiser in support of our two campuses. The money raised this year will go directly to the construction of the new Trades facility at ICHS.

**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)*
School:  Lethbridge Christian School

School Highlights:

“Feed the Bug Campaign”
The annual feed the bug campaign this year was a huge success. The LCS community donated over 1000 pounds of food items for the Lethbridge Food Bank. It all began when a Grade 1 student brought in bags of food. This set off an “intense” but friendly inter-class competition with staff and students checking the daily tally of donated items on the wall. Eventually, Mr. Epp’s Grade 5 class prevailed.

Sports Equipment Donation
Parent Council purchased and donated sports equipment worth about $700 to the students. The items include basketballs, soccer balls, footballs, volleyballs, skipping ropes and a tetherball.

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: Mike Mountain Horse

School Highlights:
- Mr. Wevers (Grade 4 teacher) created a fantastic Mission Impossible course for all the students in the school. The kids talked about nothing else for 2 weeks!
- School Council provided treats and apples for staff on World Teacher’s Day
- In conjunction with University Drive Alliance Church, volunteer parents make fresh sandwiches each day to provide healthy lunch to approx. 5-9 students who come to school with no lunch. This is a monitored program.

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?)
- Based on a suggestion at School Council meeting, our staff have decided to begin a recognition program for students at a monthly Spirit assembly. This recognition is awarded based on the 3 E’s (Engaged Thinker, Ethical Citizen, Entrepreneurial Spirit)

Fundraising (Do you have a successful event to share?):
- During the month of October, we raised just over $8000 from a fundraiser with Ben’s Beef Jerky.

Are there things your School Council is talking about/questions you have for other School Councils?
- A constant topic is how to get more parents involved in school council and family events within the school.

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

School: Park Meadows School

- After school opportunities in December include Grade 4/5 hand bells and GR 2/3 dance club. Our hand bells will perform for the Downtown Rotary Club and at our Winter Concert.
- Intramural basketball starts in January.
- The school will enjoy a presentation of Earth Rangers in November as a result of an anonymous donor.
- The scholastic Book fair will run concurrently with the Parent Teacher Interviews. Profits of the sale go toward buying more books for the learning commons.

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 school will be selling School Spirit T shirts and Hoodies. They will be available starting mid November. Parents are able to customize their orders online and have them delivered by Christmas.

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

- Our Parent Council Carnival and Fundraiser, attended by over 500 people, was a huge success. It was great to see all the families dancing, practicing their accuracy skills with the carnival games and enjoying all the costumes. With a $1000 donation from the Gord Laurie Foundation, the support of many businesses, families and the dollar matching commitment from Scotiabank we raised over $13000 which brings our fundraising efforts to $20000 for the new all-access playground.
- The school has received a gift of tickets from the Nikka Yuko Japanese Garden for their Winter Light Festival that runs Dec 2 - Feb 2. The school will be selling tickets for this event with profits going towards the playground.

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:** Senator Buchanan School

**School Highlights:**

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<th>Senator Buchanan is in year two of a three year grant from Scientists in School who visit classrooms from grades 2-5 twice a year. Grades k to one receives a visit once a year thanks to a grant from Telus. On November 14 we will have a family night with Scientists in School, with help from Wilson Middle school students.</th>
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<td>Staff had their first open gym night on October 13 with a game of Flag Football. Over 100 people attended. School council has donated $200 towards snacks and beverages for future events. The next open gym night will be held on November 17.</td>
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<td>Staff has come up with the idea for Fresh Fridays. With support from the community, each child will receive a healthy snack of fruit or vegetables. School council voted on supporting the initiative with a $500 donation for the school year.</td>
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<td>School Council is starting a contest that will run all year. The class that participates the most in fundraising and hot lunch through the year will receive a prize. We will have a bulletin board so the students can see their progress. The prize will be determined by the teacher and students of the class that wins. Our first fundraiser was Ben’s Beef Jerky. Kindergarten is currently in the lead!</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?):**

**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)*