LETHBRIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 51 District School Council - Education Cent



District School Council - Education Centre Monday, March 4, 2019

6:00 to 6:45 p.m. LEARNING SESSION Inclusive Learning – high school – Ann Muldoon & School Administrators Parent engagement in working with the school to plan for extra support in the classroom

6:45 - 8:00 P.M. - REGULAR MEETING

AGENDA

6:45	1.	Welcome and Introductions Territory Acknowledgement
6:47	2.	Approval of the Agenda
6:50	3.	Approval of the Minutes from January 14, 2019
6:52	4.	Business Arising from the Minutes
6:54	5.	Trustee Report
7:00	6.	Alberta School Councils Association - Allison Pike Conference and AGM April 26 to 28, 2019 – <i>contact LeeAnne for registration purposes</i> – deadline is Monday, April 22 @ noon
7:30	7.	 Reports from District Committees: <u>Wellness Committee</u>: February 25, 2019 – Shannon Pratt <u>SAPDC</u>: January 29, 2019 – Hollie Tarasewich <u>Community Engagement Committee</u>: January 17, 2019 – Heather Paul
7:40	8.	New Business: Feminine Hygiene Supplies
7:45	9.	 Superintendent's Report – Cheryl Gilmore Town Hall results Scholarship Breakfast One District One Book – March 25th launch
7:55	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
8:00	11.	Adjournment

District School Council Meeting Dates April 1, 2019 May 6, 2019 June 3, 2019 – Dinner meeting

2018-2019 District School Council Representatives

Chair Vice Chair Recording Secretary Policy Advisory Committee Poverty Intervention Committee District Wellness Committee SAPDC Community Engagement Committee Joy Morris Heather Paul Lyvia Hughes Allison Pike Alternate - Joy Morris Heather Paul Alison Alma-North Shannon Pratt Alternate – Amber Johansen Hollie Tarasewich Pauline Hall Heather Paul Allison Pike Lyvia Hughes Amber Johansen Cynthia Young Hollie Tarasewich

District School Council Minutes for January 14, 2019

Presentation on Curriculum by Director of Curriculum, Karen Rancier

To view the most recent drafts of the K–4 curriculum, please visit the links below:

- <u>Summary overview of draft Kindergarten to Grade 4 curriculum</u>
 - o Shifts between current curriculum and future curriculum
- Copies of the draft Kindergarten to Grade 4 curriculum as of December 2018
- <u>Curriculum timeline tool</u>
- <u>New LearnAlberta.ca</u>

Meeting started at 6:45 p.m.

Welcome

Welcome by chair Joy Morris; parents introduced themselves

1. Approval of Agenda

Minutes should read December 3 (not November 5) Allison Pike moved; seconded by Marylou Williams; passed

2. Approval of Minutes of December 3, 2018

Moved Heather Paul; Seconded Brook Cully; passed

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

Joy Morris reminded parents of the opportunity for parents to come to the parent learning nights (can bring their children); curriculum, games, activities. Hosted at Paterson (ALL parents from any school can come); does not have to be middle school age; the activities can be engaged in at all levels. Thursday evenings 6:30 – 7:30. Last night will be February 7th.

It is drop-in – and a parent does not have to have attended the previous session.

4. Trustee Report

Tyler Demers reviewed the Trustee Report. Highlighted the success of the recent job fair in December with adding subs/ regular employees.

Community Engagement Committee – ICE Scholarship

Jan 24th Tender closes for south elementary school – will move forward with approval so that we can get moving on construction.

Solar School Project – will pay for up to 50% - taking a look at Coalbanks.

Big projects at Westminster and Senator Buchanan for new mechanical.

Technology evergreening – replacing smart boards with interactive white boards.

Full day kindergarten – being explored by some schools.

Question by Allison Pike re: Trustee Remuneration – how did it get passed on the December Board meeting when it was not passed on the November Board meeting agenda? Tyler explained that trustees would not let any particular employee group in the district be disadvantaged as trustees were by change in the tax laws. Tyler conveyed that comments from DSC did have some influence on trustee's changing their minds.

5. Alberta School Councils Association Report

Resolutions are due January 15th. Conference is April 26th-28th in Edmonton. All schools in the District are members and can vote. The district pays for all schools to be members.

6.1 Policy Motion for ASCA – Joy Morris

Motion was attached. Joy wanted the DSC to consider voting on the motion because her school (Paterson) does not meet until after the resolutions are due.

Joy provided some background to the resolution calling for the provincial government to continue funding for the Canadian Mathematical Society's math education activities for Alberta students. Joy highlighted the number of benefits students have from the support provided by CMS (see resolution in agenda). It would be helpful if the funding was predictable and reliable.

Brooke Cully moves the motion: "Be it resolved that the ASCA ask the Alberta Ministry of Education to continue to provide at least \$5,000/year support for the Canadian Mathematical Society's math education activities for Alberta students, on an ongoing basis."

Passed - unanimous

6. Reports:

6.1. Policy Advisory

Committee met on January 9th. The policies were distributed for feedback. Policy that may be of interest to parents is the transportation policy.

7.2 District Wellness Committee – did not meet.

7. Superintendent's Report

7.1. Town Hall Meeting – Questions for the meeting were shared:

What do you value most about what is happening in your school community? (parents/ students/ staff).

What do you value most about your relationship with Lethbridge School District? (business/ community agencies/ community members)

What can the District do better? (all)

School Council chairs should have received an invitation.

Even if not invited directly by the school, all community members are welcome.

- 7.2. Innovation Scholarship reminder to parents regarding the opportunity to buy a ticket for breakfast as well as spread the word to secondary age students to apply for the scholarship.
- 7.3. One District One Book

Cheryl highlighted the event and reviewed some of the information in the handout. Exciting event that will roll out on March 25th with the book announcement.

8. Roundtable Reports

Allison drew attention to the Agnes Davidson first place CBC music challenge win.

9. Adjournment

Reminder Town Hall – February 5 Next meeting March 4



Lethbridge School District No. 51

LETHBRIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 51 **Board of Trustees** 433-15 St. S., Lethbridge, Alberta, T1J 2Z5 PHONE: 403-380-5301 FAX: 403-327-4387 www.lethsd.ab.ca

TRUSTEE report to school councils:

January 22, 2019

1. Presentation - Counselling Services - Cayley King

King made a presentation in regards to mental health and support services for students in Lethbridge School District No. 51. The report was focused on the continuum of supports at the elementary, middle and high school levels, which are modelled on a pyramid of intervention.

The Board received the presentation as information.

2. Approval of International Trips

Winston Churchill High School (WCHS) requested approval to take the girls volleyball team to San Diego, California, USA to compete in the Southern California Invitational Women's Volleyball Tournament from Oct. 9-13, 2019. Information regarding the educational benefits of the trip and the proposed itinerary was provided. The estimated cost per student is \$1,200.00. Fundraising opportunities will be available to students to offset the cost of the trip.

The WCHS girls volleyball trip to San Diego, California, USA from Oct. 9-13, 2019 was approved, on the condition that all district policies and procedures are strictly followed.

3. Authorization of Locally Developed Courses

District high schools wanted to use Directing 25 and 35 for five credits, acquired from Edmonton School District No. 7 from Dec. 10, 2018 to Aug. 31, 2020 to enhance program offerings to students.

Previously-acquired courses, Musical Theatre, 15, 25 and 35 for five credits, have had their end dates extended by Alberta Education for one further year from Aug. 31, 2019 to Aug. 31, 2020 to align with other versions of Musical Theatre developed by other school authorities.

The Board of Trustees approved the use of locally developed senior high school courses, Directing 25 and 35 for five credits from Dec. 10, 2018 to Aug. 31, 2020 and any learning resources detailed in the course outline for use in all of our District High Schools.

The Board of Trustees approved the end date extension of previously acquired courses Musical Theatre 15, 25, and 35 for five credits to Aug. 31, 2020 as authorized by Alberta Education.

4. Policy Review

District policies are reviewed on a continuous basis to ensure they reflect the position of the Board. The Policy Advisory Committee has representation from the Board, District School Council, each of the employee groups, and District and school administration. At the Dec. 18 meeting, the following policies were reviewed:

603.1 Animals in Schools - Second Reading and Third Reading.

The Board adopted the revisions to the policy as presented by the Policy Advisory Committee. The policy can be found on Page 14 of the AGENDA.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Clark Bosch, Christine Light, Tyler Demers, Jan Foster, Donna Hunt, Doug James, Lola Major

5. First Quarter Financial Report

The 2018/19 First Quarter Financial Report for the District was provided for review. Director of Finance, Mark DeBoer, was in attendance to respond to any questions trustees had. The report can be found on Page 19 of the <u>AGENDA</u>.

The Board received the 2018/19 First Quarter Financial Report as presented.

6. Public Forum

Brooke Culley asked the Board to consider using its position and influence to co-ordinate two public forums, designed and managed to flesh out candidates for the spring, 2019 provincial election, around their plans for public education. Culley noted it was done in 2012.

7. Associate Superintendent Reports

Christine Lee, Associate Superintendent, Business Affairs; Rik Jesse, Associate Superintendent, Human Resources and Morag Asquith, Associate Superintendent, Instructional Services, delivered their respective reports for the Board. To read the reports in full, see Page 55 of the <u>AGENDA</u>.

8. Response to December Public Forum

A concern was brought forth during the December public forum. The District's response can be found on Page 78 of the <u>AGENDA</u>.

9. Board Reports

Reports were delivered for the Policy Advisory Committee, District School Council, ASBA Zone 6 General Meeting, Joint City of Lethbridge/School Boards committee and the Community Engagement Committee. The reports begin on Page 85 of the <u>AGENDA</u>.

10. Correspondence Received - City of Lethbridge

Mayor Chris Spearman delivered a letter to the Alberta Minister of Education and the Minister of Infrastructure, in support for a new west Lethbridge elementary school for Lethbridge School District No. 51. In the letter, Spearman indicated west Lethbridge was the fastest-growing area of the city, with 2.24 per cent growth in 2018. That was preceded by growth of 3.05-4.09 per cent between 2014-2017. Spearman added due to the emergent need for a new west Lethbridge elementary school, the city will work with the District to find and service an appropriate site for a new school.

11. Correspondence Received - Alberta Health Deputy Minister

Sarah Hoffman, Alberta Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, responded to a previous letter drafted by the District, which called for government assistance with the opioid crisis and needle debris in Lethbridge. Hoffman indicated The Government of Alberta is working closely with The City of Lethbridge and local service providers. She added On Dec. 7, the government announced \$11 million for a new supportive-living housing complex for Lethbridge, that will support adults experiencing homelessness, who have complex issues such as substance abuse.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Clark Bosch, Christine Light, Tyler Demers, Jan Foster, Donna Hunt, Doug James, Lola Major

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, Feb. 26, 3:30 p.m. (public forum begins at 5 p.m.) Education Centre Boardroom 433-15 St. S.



LETHBRIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 51 Board of Trustees 433-15 St. S., Lethbridge, Alberta, T1J 2Z5 PHONE: 403-380-5301 FAX: 403-327-4387 www.lethsd.ab.ca

Lethbridge School District No. 51

TRUSTEE report to school councils:

February 26, 2019

1. Edwin Parr Nomination

On an annual basis, each school jurisdiction is invited to submit the name of one first year teacher as its nomination for the Edwin Parr Award, which is sponsored by the Alberta School Boards Association. Nominees from Zone 6 jurisdictions will be recognized at the May 15, 2019 Zone 6 ASBA meeting in Taber. One nominee from the zone will then be selected as the zone nominee for the Fall General Meeting of the ASBA.

With many outstanding beginning teachers in the District, it was certainly not an easy task for Associate Superintendent Rik Jesse, in consultation with school principals, to select a District nominee.

The Lethbridge School District No. 51 nominee for the 2019 Edwin Parr Award is Melanie Wasylenko, Wilson Middle School.

The Board received the report as information and took the opportunity to have Wasylenko share her experiences during this year.

For a story on Wasylenko's nomination, please see this link: EDWIN PARR

2. Presentation - Numeracy

As one of the strategies under Board Priority #1: Achievement, a Numeracy Lead Teacher was put in place this school year to build capacity with teacher pedagogy and assessment strategies. This first year targeted grades 4-9. Numeracy Lead Teacher, Jenn Giles, reviewed highlights of her work with schools to date, and touched on the development of a comprehensive three-year Numeracy Action Plan.

The Board received the presentation as information and took the opportunity to ask Giles a few questions about her work and the Numeracy Action Plan.

3. Authorization of Locally Developed Courses

Alberta Education requires that all locally developed senior high courses be authorized for use by the Board of Trustees.

The following International Baccalaureate Courses have had their end dates extended to align with the Diploma Programme Curriculum Development and Review Cycle from the International Baccalaureate Organization. The courses are as follows:

Biology (IB) 35 for 3 credits acquired from Edmonton School District No. 7 has had its end date extended from August 31, 2019 to August 31, 2022;

Chemistry (IB) 25 for 5 credits acquired from Calgary School District No. 19 has had its end date extended from August 31, 2020 to August 31, 2022;

Chemistry (IB) 25 for 3 credits acquired from Calgary Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 1 has had its end date extended from August 31, 2020 to August 31, 2022; and

Theory of Knowledge (IB) 35 for 3 and 5 credits, acquired from Calgary School District No. 19 has had its end date extended from August 31, 2020 to August 31, 2021.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Clark Bosch, Christine Light, Tyler Demers, Jan Foster, Donna Hunt, Doug James, Lola Major

3. Authorization of Locally Developed Courses

The Board of Trustees approved the end date extensions of acquired International Baccalaureate courses Biology (IB) 35 for 3 credits to August 31, 2022, Chemistry (IB) 25 for 3 and 5 credits to August 31, 2022, and Theory of Knowledge (IB) 35 for 3 and 5 credits to August 31, 2021 as authorized by Alberta Education for continued use in all District High Schools.

4. Policy Review

District policies are reviewed on a continuous basis to ensure they reflect the position of the Board. The Policy Advisory Committee has representation from the Board, District School Council, each of the employee groups, and District and school administration. At the Feb. 26 meeting, the following policies were reviewed:

502.5 Student Transportation, Bussing - Amendment

604.5 High School Course Sequence Transfers - Amendment

606.5 Educating Students at Home - Amendment

608.7 Sale of Student Supplies and Materials - Review

1003.5 Conducting Research - First reading

The Board adopted the revisions to the policy as presented by the Policy Advisory Committee. The policies can be found on Page 14 of the <u>AGENDA</u>.

5. Approval of Resource Purchases

Over the past two years, the Board has supported literacy resources in our elementary schools. A request was made for intervention resource funding.

The Board approved the purchase of resources for literacy intervention at the elementary level in the amount of \$173,300 funded from operating funds.

6. Approval of Resource Purchases

A secondary interactive technology request was made, including projectors to replace the aging equipment. The Board approved the replacement of secondary interactive technology resources, in the amount of \$813,000, from operating funds. The motion also called for interactive technology resources to be included in the long term technology evergreening plan.

7. Associate Superintendent Reports

Christine Lee, Associate Superintendent, Business Affairs; Rik Jesse, Associate Superintendent, Human Resources and Morag Asquith, Associate Superintendent, Instructional Services, delivered their respective reports for the Board. To read the reports in full, see Page 25 of the <u>AGENDA</u>.

8. Public Forum Request

At the public forum during the January 22, 2019 regular board meeting, Brooke Culley requested the Board host a forum focused on education for the upcoming provincial election. Superintendent Cheryl Gilmore shared some details of the forum held in 2012. The Board has agreed to move forward with hosting a forum, and is currently exploring potential partners for hosting the forum.

The Board received the report as information.

9. Board Reports

Reports were delivered for the City of Lethbridge Community and Social Development Committee, ATA Local Council, FNMI Advisory Committee and the Board Budget Committee. The reports begin on Page 47 of the <u>AGENDA</u>.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Clark Bosch, Christine Light, Tyler Demers, Jan Foster, Donna Hunt, Doug James, Lola Major

10. Correspondence - Received

The Board received a letter received from the Minister of Education, David Eggen, in response to a letter from lethbridge Mayor Chris Spearman. Spearman had wrote to both Eggen and the Minister of Infrastructure, Sandra Jansen, to advocate for a new elementary school in west Lethbridge. Eggen indicated he was aware of the growth being experienced in Lethbridge, as the corresponding enrolment pressures the growth has created in local schools. Eggen indicated Lethbridge School District No. 51 has requested a 600-student capacity Kindergarten to Grade 5 elementary school as the highest priority in the 2019-2022 capital plan. With that in mind, Eggen added the request is being carefully reviewed and considered during the development of Alberta Education's capital plan submission for Budget 2019, along with the capital requests of other school jurisdictions across the province.

11. Correspondence - Received

The Board received a letter received from the Action on Smoking and Health, which indicated the board has been nominated for a Smoke-Free Spaces award for its leadership in the adoption of smoke-free public spaces. The Smoke-Free Spaces awards program recognizes the leadership of public bodies in protecting residents, visitors, youth, students and staff from the health hazards of smoking and tobacco use. Lethbridge School District No. 51 was congratulated for its leadership on this important public health issue.

The District was invited to receive the award at a ceremony in Edmonton on Thursday, February 21 at 12 noon at the DoubleTree Hotel West Edmonton. Over 100 tobacco reduction stakeholders will be attending the ceremony, which will take place at the Western Canadian Tobacco Reduction Forum.



Lethbridge School District No. 51

BOARD OF TRUSTEES Clark Bosch, Christine Light, Tyler Demers, Jan Foster, Donna Hunt, Doug James, Lola Major

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, March 26, 3:30 p.m. (public forum begins at 5 p.m.) Education Centre Boardroom 433-15 St. S.

1

SECTION I: Proposed Advocacy Resolutions for Member Review and Pre-Voting

Please review and discuss with your school council members and pre-vote online at <u>LINK HERE</u> indicating support or opposition for the following 21 proposed resolutions, EXACTLY AS THEY ARE PRESENTED, before **March 22, 2019**.

Note – if additional information or clarification is required – please contact the sponsor of the resolution by email as provided. Resources/references are indicated as applicable.

(https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/about/annual-general-meeting/resolutions Online Pre-voting Link)

Board proposed Resolutions, and member school council proposed Resolutions for the 2019 ASCA AGM

#	Title	Sponsor	Contact
<u>P19-01</u>	Funding for Appropriate Physical and Facility Environments to Support Daily Physical Activity Policy Expectations	ASCA Board of Directors	Wendy Keiver wendyk@albertaschoolcouncils.ca
<u>P19-02</u>	Preservation of Locally Elected Boards of Trustees	ASCA Board of Directors	Wendy Keiver wendyk@albertaschoolcouncils.ca
<u>P19-03</u>	Increased Dedicated Funding for Accredited Mental Health Professionals	ASCA Board of Directors	Wendy Keiver wendyk@albertaschoolcouncils.ca
<u>P19-04</u>	Education Assistant Quality Standards (EAQS)	ASCA Board of Directors	Wendy Keiver wendyk@albertaschoolcouncils.ca
<u>P19-05</u>	Policies and Regulations for use of Seclusion Rooms	ASCA Board of Directors	Wendy Keiver wendyk@albertaschoolcouncils.ca
<u>P19-06</u>	Funding for Mandatory Entry Level Training (MELT) Program	ASCA Board of Directors	Wendy Keiver wendyk@albertaschoolcouncils.ca
<u>P19-07</u>	Ongoing Funding for Math Enrichment through the Canadian Mathematical Society	Gilbert Paterson Middle School Council	Joy Morris joy.morris@uleth.ca
<u>P19-08</u>	Maximum Ride Times for Bussing	Thorhild Central School Council	Lisa Lloyd momlloyd@hotmail.com

<u>P19-09</u>	Change to Funding Model for Schools with Low Student Populations	Bawlf School Council, co-sponsored by Central High Sedgewick Public School Council, Round Hill School Council, Ryley School Council and Sparling School Council	Christee Langkamp christee7@gmail.com
<u>P19-10</u>	Guaranteed In-school Access to Mental Health Programs and Counselling for Students	Bawlf School Council, co-sponsored by Central High Sedgewick Public School Council, Round Hill School Council, Ryley School Council and Sparling School Council	Christee Langkamp christee7@gmail.com
<u>P19-11</u>	Communicating Information Regarding Presentations within the School	Raymond High School Council	Tammy Hill <u>tihill4@hotmail.com</u>
<u>P19-12</u>	General Permission Form for Students Participating in GSA Activities Off School Property	Raymond High School Council	Tammy Hill <u>tjhill5@hotmail.com</u>
<u>P19-13</u>	Student Education Advocate	École Leo Nickerson Elementary School Council	Kristi Rouse thehouserouse@gmail.com
<u>P19-14</u>	Regional Collaborative Service Delivery	École Leo Nickerson Elementary School Council	Kristi Rouse <u>thehouserouse@gmail.com</u>
<u>P19-15</u>	Student Record Regulation	École Leo Nickerson Elementary School Council	Kristi Rouse thehouserouse@gmail.com

<u>P19-16</u>	Playground Supervisor Ratios, Identification and Communication	École Leo Nickerson Elementary School Council	Kristi Rouse <u>thehouserouse@gmail.com</u>
<u>P19-17</u>	Standard Student Injury Protocol	École Leo Nickerson Elementary School Council	Kristi Rouse thehouserouse@gmail.com
<u>P19-18</u>	Comprehensive Education Funding Framework Review	École Leo Nickerson Elementary School Council	Kristi Rouse thehouserouse@gmail.com
<u>P19-19</u>	Counselling	École Leo Nickerson Elementary School Council	Kristi Rouse thehouserouse@gmail.com
<u>P19-20</u>	Identification of, and Penalties for, Traffic Violations around School Buses	George P. Vanier School Council, co-sponsored by École Routhier School Council	Karen Benoit <u>nkben@serbernet.com</u>
<u>P19-21</u>	Equality of CEU Funding for Special Needs Students	Peace Wapiti Academy School Council	Amy Bowie amy_bmj18@hotmail.com

 τ^{1}

School:	Immanuel Christian Elementary School
---------	--------------------------------------

School Highlights:

On Feb. 1st, Grade 5 Students sang at the Hurricanes Game.

On Feb. 27th, students celebrated Pink Shirt day / Anti Bullying day.

Students are preparing for the ICES Spring Program on Mar. 29th.

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)

On Feb. 11th, ICES and ICSS School Councils hosted a Blanket Exercise, facilitated by KAIROS. "The KAIROS Blanket Exercise program is a unique, participatory history lesson – developed in collaboration with Indigenous Elders, knowledge keepers and educators – that fosters truth, understanding, respect and reconciliation among Indigenous and non-indigenous peoples."

School:	École Agnes Davidson School
---------	-----------------------------

School Highlights:

Prior to the break we celebrated our Annual week of Carnaval d'hiver. This week long celebration includes a masquerade ball, winter walk day, hockey day, sugar shack – maple syrup on snow, Bonhomme visit, lumberjack day with pancake breakfast and much more. It was a week of celebrating French Canadian culture and it was another tremendous success. We want to thank all our School Council parents and volunteers for their support as well as the City of Lethbridge for lighting up city hall to help recognize this French Canadian celebration.

Music Gala fundraiser will be held March 21, 2019 from 6 to 8 pm.

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)

School: Lethbridge Christian School	
-------------------------------------	--

School Highlights:

Student Council Carnival

Student Council's Western Themed Carnival, held on January 25th was a huge success. About 250 students and families attended the event. There were games and activities for the whole family. Parent Council had a Bake Sale. Proceeds from the Carnival go towards supporting our Sponsor Child and various Student Council Monthly Activities.

2nd Annual Valentine's Day Read–In for Grades 1-3

We had our 2nd Annual Read-In on Valentine's Day. The Gym was once again transformed into a Big Reading Room. The rationale for this event is simple – Reading together as a family makes students strong readers. The Read-In provided an opportunity for students in Grades 1 to 3 to invite someone special in their lives - a parent, grandparent or a relative - so they could demonstrate their readings skills and have the Special Guest read to them as well. Volunteers were available to read to students whose Special Guests were unable to attend. After the Read-In, the students treated their Guests to Songs, Poems, cookies and iced tea.

One of the highlights of the event for Ms. Brooks, one of the teachers who organized the event, is the excitement on the students' faces when they prepared the invitations for their Special Guests. A big thank you to Mrs. Harris, Ms. Brooks and Mrs. Beswitherick for hosting this event again this year.

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)

School: Park Meadows Elementary

School Highlights:

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

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

We held a Dance-a-thon on Valentine's Day. It was a great success! We thank Hall Dental for sponsoring our live DJ, Sounds Unlimited. Students came dressed up in dresses, shirts and ties, or wearing red or pink. Each Class room had a designated dance time during the day and we all came together at the end of the school day for a large group dance. Students brought in monetary pledges they gathered and earned enough to break the previous record!

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

Our School Council just held a Workshop with an Instructor from ASCA about forming a Fund Raising Association. It was a very informative night and we will be moving forward in forming a Society. We would welcome any suggestions on this process and ideas of fundraisers that worked well from other school councils. Feel free to send a note to <u>parkmeadowsparentcouncil@gmail.com</u> Thank you.

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