District SCHOOL COUNCIL
MINUTES - Monday, March 7, 2016

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of the Agenda - Approved by Hollie Tarasewich

3. Approval of the Minutes from January, 2016 - Approved by Daniel Gosselin

4. Business arising from the minutes

   Email lists for School Councils
   Cheryl Gilmore informed group that this year’s school registration form packages will include a form for school council to gather parent contact information. Suggestion was made to add child name and grade so that school room reps could use this information.

   Procedures for communication regarding lice
   Cheryl Gilmore informed the group that Wendy Fox is working with individual school Principals for approaches that are a bit more site specific while still following district policy.

   Town Hall 2016 results
   Cheryl Gilmore reviewed results from town hall combined with the online survey. The board is looking at all of this to determine mission, vision and guiding principles for the district. This information will be put up on the district website when it is ready.

5. Trustee Report – Keith Fowler
   Report is in meeting agenda package. Donna Hunt reported in Keith’s absence

6. Alberta Schools Council Association – Allison Pike called in via teleconference

   DSC Proposed Resolution Amendments
   Draft resolutions included in agenda packages.

   Resolution on IPP’s and ISP ‘s
   – motioned by Shanea Nilsson to approve the amendments; seconded by Hollie Tarasewich; carried unanimously; motion passes

   Resolution on LGBTQ toolkit
   - motioned by Shanea Nilsson to approve the amendment; seconded by Hollie Tarasewich; carried unanimously; motion passes

   Resolution Policy

   Conference & AGM
   April 22-24, 2016 in Edmonton at the Delta South Hotel – add to individual school council
agendas to see who is interested. Attendees would register on their own and then seek reimbursement through their school (who in turn will forward to District to cover registration portion - in addition to registration, up to $200 additional expenses will be covered out of money the District sent to each school council in the fall for this purpose). District will pay to send one rep from each school. Each school council gets one vote at the ASCA AGM.

On proxy voting form for AGM – be sure to check the two boxes to be able to vote for issue resolutions and for the ASCA Board of Directors and fax to ASCA.

If you are sending someone to represent your school council, you need to complete the Credentials Form and fax in to ASCA.

Be sure to fill out all forms and fax into ASCA prior to the April deadline. And send the original copy of either the Proxy form or the Credentials form with the representative from your school.

At your March/April school council meetings – review and vote on the 5 resolutions, ASCA Bylaw revisions and Advocacy Policy revision

The 5 resolutions can be found on ASCA website at
ASCA resolutions

The proposed ASCA Bylaw revisions can be found on ASCA website at
ASCA proposed Bylaw revisions

The Advocacy Policy revision can be found on ASCA website at
Advocacy Revision

Proposed By-Law Changes
- these are ASCA by-laws - they are your provincial voice's bylaws, just like your school council bylaws are your local parent voice bylaws.
- these should be sent out ahead of time to school council members by council chairs for review prior to your council meeting.
- major changes in 3.11 & 3.12 regarding membership

Individual School Council By-Laws
- there will be a 2-part workshop offered by ASCA – dates Thursday, April 7, 6:30-8:30pm and Monday, May 16, 6:30-8:30pm at Lethbridge School District 51 Education Center.
- please send 4 people from your school council, and administrators are certainly welcome.
- in between the sessions, you will need to work on your council’s bylaws.
- the sessions will include assisting with how/when to get bylaw changes approved by your school council members.

7. Reports from District Committees

District Policy Advisory Committee
- Allison and Brooke not present to give update
- Library commons info covered in Trustee report, as well as school year calendar approval

Poverty Intervention Committee
- community meeting tomorrow afternoon, March 8, 2016

Healthy Schools Committee
- Lyndsey Spring reported
- Healthy Schools Forum March 16, 2016

**Digital Citizenship Committee**
- Hollie Tarasewich reported
- Met February 9th
- Two digital citizenship software programs were reviewed
- Committee is going to start reviewing programs that might be useful to parents
- Will do a parent info session on PowerSchool Parent Portal
- Discussed asking DSC Executive to propose to school councils that they go to their school websites and check all links to see if there are changes to be made, additions, accesses
- next meeting April 5th at 6pm

**SAPDC**
- Allison not present to report

**Making Connections**
- Brooke not here to report

**Community Engagement Committee**
- Hollie Tarasewich reported
- reviewed TOR changes – would like more parents on committee
- discussed the pros and cons of forming a foundation and if the district wants to create one
- discussed ASBA Community Engagement survey from 2012 – Mich would like SD51’s results and Wendy Fox is currently looking for these
- discussed adding parent engagement to the budget process
- March 14, 2016 is next meeting at 6pm

8. **District School Calendar of Events and Shared Opportunities**
- Hollie Tarasewich reported April 20th fundraiser at Wilson Middle school, tickets are $15 for pasta dinner, live auction at 7:30 and music by Trevor Panzack; dinner at 5:30; music at 7:45
- April 12, 2016 the City Police are having Internet Safety night at the Yates
- Lakeview school is doing a 2km and 5km fun run fundraiser – superhero theme, Wednesday May 10th, 2016
- Park Meadows school raised over $18,000 in their dance-a-thon

9. **New Business**

**District School Council Meeting Highlights**
- Allison Pike let us know that DSC would like to come up with a highlights sheet for sharing back to school councils. Watch for this next week. The DSC membership expressed interest in this idea. Cheryl Gilmore will determine the highlights and send these out to DSC membership to share with school councils.

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

**Online feedback regarding Westside capital projects and programs**
- Feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Facilities are addressing questions that came up
- Questions on boundaries are in draft form; there was very little feedback on elementary school boundaries and most feedback was for middle school. Whoop-up drive would be a natural boundary line. School choice policy will be applied.
- Opening capacity of the new elementary school and middle school is about 600 students each
- Feedback will be online in about two weeks
- Regarding Spanish bi-lingual school – this will not be an immersion school and would start with K & Grade 1 in the first year
- Regarding a French Immersion school on the westside - some parents are concerned about moving from Agnes Davidson to the westside French immersion school and this would be taken under consideration

**Process for Public Meetings in accordance with the School Act**
- review of draft process
- developed in response to Policy 502.2 Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression and the petition to have a town hall meeting regarding this
- format for the evening will be consensus based
- The policy, the law and documents that are background to the policy, and the notice of meeting will all be on the website
- Notice of the meeting will be promoted broadly
- The school act says that the meeting needs to be in 90 days; the location will be Wilson Middle School; the board wanted to have the meeting March 23, so that there was time before the April board meeting to meet and draft recommendations
- Q &A will be up on website March 8, 2016

**Syrian Refugees Question**
- So far we have approximately 6 high school students enrolled (Churchill) and there are specific ESL programs at the high schools; first students undergo a language proficiency assessment
- All intake so far for elementary have been at Nicholas Sheran, approximately 13 students
- Next intake will be some families on the northside
- Integration of children at the elementary level works very well
- Many schools use google translator app
- extra trauma support is available for any student who wants it regarding the adjustment to our country, Lethbridge and our schools

11. **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

12. **Adjournment** – 9:00pm