District School Council Minutes for November 6, 2017

In attendance: Christine Light (Trustee), Joy Morris (Gilbert Paterson), Cheryl Gilmore (Superintendent), Brooke Culley (LCI), Tyne Fox (Senator Buchanan), Shannon Pratt (Probe), Heather Paul (Fleetwood Bawden), Shirley Van Mill (Park Meadows), Allison Pike (Chair), Rob Mitchell (WCHS), Corinne Steele (Lakie), Lyvia Hughes (Galbraith/Wilson), Duane Pike (Agnes Davidson/Wilson/Paterson), Amber Johansen (Westminster), Donna Whitton (Davidson), Connie Blackburn (General Stewart), Bill Bartlett (principal new west side middle school), Laura Scarpelli (WCHS/LCI), Edna Asem (Lethbridge Christian), Sarah Musk (Immanuel Christian High School), Alison Alma-North (Davidson), Ryan Vogt (Nicholas Sheran), Katrina Neil (Immanuel Christian Elementary), Pauline Hall (Park Meadows) and Angela Roman (Coalbanks).

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Approval of Agenda:
   Moved by Shannon Pratt, seconded Tyne Fox - approved.
3. Approval of the Minutes from June 2017:
   Moved by Laura Scarpelli, seconded Shirley Van Mill - approved.
4. Elections for District School Council
   Chair - Joy Morris
   Vice Chair - Heather Paul
   Recording Secretary - Lyvia Hughes
   District Policy Advisory Committee - Laura Scarpelli and Allison Pike as an alternate
   Poverty Intervention Committee - Heather Paul, Alison Alma-North, and Joy Morris
   District Wellness Committee - Amber Johansen and Heather Paul as an alternate
   SAPDC - has a South East rep and so will not need a representative from DSC
   Community Engagement - Pauline Hall, Heather Paul, Allison Pike, Corinne Steele
5. Business Arising from the Minutes
   5.1. Follow-up to Middle School after-school Science programs
       There has been contact and a program has been designed through the University of Lethbridge. Elementary schools (grades 4 & 5) will be targeted first. The program will run for 6 week cycles in different schools. The next step will be to see if a Middle School program will be designed next year. The elementary after school program will take place in the new year. Information will be communicated to parents by schools.
6. Trustee Report (Christine Light):
   • Chinook High School Golf team won the Alberta School Athletic Association Provincial Championship.
   • Sock It to ‘Em Campaign has kicked off. This is a campaign in conjunction with Holy Spirit and Palliser school districts.
   • Appointment of Committees of new trustees.
   • Minister Eggen re: South Lethbridge School - encouraged the district to continue the school design however unable to confirm budget for such a school at the point of reporting.
7. Alberta School Councils Association (ASCA) Report – Allison Pike
   Allison spoke on behalf of ASCA. Workshops provided upon request are listed on the ASCA website. She also spoke about the handbook (Resource Guide) for School Council, which can be found on the ASCA website. She spoke about the conference in Edmonton in April. The District covers registration fee as well as up to $250 to cover expenses for each School Council. This year the focus - including the key note speaker - will be on Mental Health. Bill 24 will be discussed, and more information will be provided on the ASCA website as it is determined.
8. Reports from District Committees:
   District Policy Advisory Committee - Policies that were reviewed were sent out to school chairs. Feedback is still currently being accepted until November 13. It was noted that some parents had not seen the policies that were sent to the School Council Chairs. It was suggested that a note could be in the email that encourages the Chair to share with the rest of the parents.
Poverty Intervention Committee - Has not yet met.
District Wellness Committee - Met in September, broadened focus around wellness. Next meeting TBA
SAPDC - Allison Pike spoke on the most recent meeting of SAPDC. There is a website. SAPDC provides resources/workshops for parents however generally targeted towards teachers and educational assistants.
Community Engagement - Cheryl Gilmore spoke on this. There was a brief meeting to discuss certain logistics regarding the ICE breakfast (speaker for the event). Next meeting is November 29 (6:00 – 8:00).
District School Council Resolution Committee - Met once. Currently no resolutions were brought forth. No further meetings are planned.

9. Resolution Writing Trina Tymko was not present, so this item was tabled.

10. District School Council Calendar of Events and Shared Opportunities - Learning opportunities for parents will be on the District Calendar, which can be found on the District website at http://www.lethsd.ab.ca/view.php?action=calendar&id=249. Currently there is a Parent Session entitled Parenting the Self-Regulated Child that is scheduled for Nov 7, 2017 at 6:30-8:00 at LCI Large Lecture Theatre. Self-regulation is a universal skill that applies to all children. Advance registration is required. If a school has an event that is open to the public or parents of other children, they can be submitted and added to the website.

11. Superintendent’s Report - Cheryl Gilmore

   District School Council learning sessions - Learning sessions were organized last spring for the 2017/18 school year. Opportunities for parent engagement before the District School Council. The next one scheduled is a Blanket Exercise on December 4, 2017. This is an interactive exercise for individuals to learn the history of residential school and other colonization factors that affect the Indigenous peoples of Canada. Other Learning sessions have also been planned for the January, March, April and May meetings.

   ATA Classroom Improvement Fund - (CIF) has been provided for the 2017/2018 school year. These funds were received from Alberta Education. The intent was to improve the student experience in the classroom. A plan was then required to be submitted to the province for approval to ensure that this intent was being met. A majority of the funds went to staffing - teachers and educational assistants. Professional Learning for EAs as well as Resources and Technology at the Elementary level.

   Fundraising and Internal Controls - As there was an allegation within the news (CTV) of fundraising fraud, there is a gentle reminder to have controls in place when fundraising, especially those councils that have a Society. Some controls include - 2 signers for cheques, not electing family members to be signers of cheques, refusal to sign cheques in advance, counting money with 2 or more people.


13. Adjournment at 7:55

BLANKET EXERCISE December 4, 2017 spots available ... contact LeeAnne Tedder leeanne.tedder@lethsd.ab.ca / 403.380.5301 to sign-up.