District School Council Minutes for May 7, 2018

1. Welcome and Introductions
   - Joy Morris called to order at 6:51. Round Table introductions.

2. Approval of Agenda:
   - Corinne Steel moves to adopt the agenda as presented. Heather Paul seconds this motion. All in favour. None opposed. Passed

3. Approval of the Minutes:
   - Trina Tymko moves to adopt the minutes as presented. Heather Paul seconds this motion. All in favour. None opposed. Passed.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes:
   - Cheryl presented an infographic regarding how budgetary monies are being spent, with clarification regarding percentage increases in the professional and non-professional staffing allocations.

5. Trustee Report:
   - Unified Laptop Project – G.S. Lakie has decided that they will not pursue the project next year, but may do so in the future. They will continue to discuss what this might look like. Senator Joyce Fairburn School (SJF) is in a different situation, as they do not have any established technology. SJF staff representatives will be visiting schools that have this program. They are wanting to do their homework. While there are benefits for the kids moving forward also has some details to iron out.
   - Art’s Alive and Well in Schools is running from May 6 – June 9 and strongly encourage parents to take a look at it. The gallery has 350 pieces of art from 32 different schools.
   - Breakfast with the Board took place at Gilbert Paterson Middle School on May 1, 2018
   - 2018/19 Budget will be presented on Tuesday May 22, 2018 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Education Centre.

6. Alberta School Councils Association Report:
   - Allison Pike and Hollie Tarasewich – local parents- have been voted in for a second term to the ASCA board.
   - Discussed the resolutions that were carried and defeated. These resolutions can be found on ASCA website: https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/

7. Committee Reports
   - District Policy Advisory Committee – Joy attended the last meeting. Report cards and French Immersion policies were up for discussion as well as policy guiding other language programs. These were sent to parents for feedback.
   - Community Engagement Committee – Communication Plan - some feedback regarding the updated plan was provided. The plan will be presented to the board. Scholarship Breakfast Committee received 18 applicants for the scholarship; last year only received 4; very excited for the growth. Shortlisted 9 finalists and these finalists will present to a panel of judges. Realtor luncheon will be on May 23. The Board will highlight why Lethbridge School District No. 51 is a great district. Speaker for ICE scholarship breakfast (February 14, 2019) will be Marty Park.

8. Superintendent’s Report:
   - 2018/19 District Priorities – Achievement, Inclusion, and Innovation. This will be the skeleton that forms the next 3-year plan. Handout with the three priorities and outcomes under each priority was distributed.

9. Roundtable Reports:
   - Were attached to the agenda

10. Adjournment at 7:32 pm

   Next Meeting will be Monday June 4, 2018 – Dinner Meeting
ASCA Report

Social Mixer – Friday Night
Really great discussion in a roundtable sort of way. Allowed for networking by having every person move tables between each question. Theme was Health and Wellness. Some ideas for council include:

- Have a health and well being coordinator on your team, newsletter, research community resources, minute email list, popcorn parties to create awareness, check the schools education plan to see where school council can help, stay connected with trustee, workshops for principals, stay connected with teachers, ASCA workshops, TELUS workshops for kids, how to make a friend training, social and emotional learning for kids,

Student Wellbeing Comprehensive School Health - Saturday

- EverActive Schools initiative aims to improve health and learning outcomes.
  
  HEALTH IS FOUNDATIONAL TO LEARNING

- Aim to increase physical literacy, both in students and staff.
- What School Councils Can do:
  - VALUE physical education. Our children need a champion
  - Encourage parents to park further. (I know we have done the park and walk campaign before, is this something we an look into again)
- Biggest take away: #DontWalkInTheHallway
  - Hopscotch type decals that can be put in the hallways.
  - Increased daily steps by 872 steps a day
  - Increased the amount of time a child stayed on task.
  - Kids in the hallway were MORE orderly
  - Also provides a leadership opportunity as the children can help change the pattern each month.
- Other options: Have the bus park a bit further away and have a "walking bus driver" Someone who will walk the kids the ½ - block to the bus. This increases physical activity.
- EverActive.org – lots of resources and Professional learning.

Keynote Speaker

MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

- Health Literacy in Mental Health includes- recognizing mental health disorders, knowing where to go, and knowing the myths
- Anxiety is THE MOST TREATABLE mental illness.
- 90% Teachers report mental health issues are the biggest concern in the classroom
- 94% of Administration know and understand how important mental health literacy
- Kids report MORE stress than adults
- Anxiety is not always a bad thing. Some famous people have channeled their anxiety into their careers.
- Social competence in Gr 3 is a Better predictor for success than Academics in Grade 8.
  - Making friends should be THE most important skill to teach to our kids (initiate, maintain and end.
Interpersonal Skills - #1 reason for losing a job in Canada.

Resources:
- www.Anxietybc.com
- Mindshift app

Role of Social-Emotional Learning
- Emotional- Self management/ Self awareness
- Social- social awareness, relationship skills
  - These two together lead to Responsible Decision Making
- There is a connection between social-emotional learning & Safe, caring, welcoming and respectful learning environments
  - In safe environments children feel safe, learn the importance of caring for others, learn respect for others, and are treated fairly.
- Bullying and Social Emotional Learning
  - Youth are more likely to bully others if they lack self control or emotion regulation skills
  - Through social awareness, youth learn skills to empathize with and take someone’s perspective

Brain Architecture Game
- Interactive game using straws, and pipe cleaners that illustrates the importance that life events (positive, tolerable, and toxic events) can have on a developing brain. Quite insightful.
- Take-away message: Be the straw in a child’s life. – Be a natural support. Sometimes even the most toxic situations can become tolerable with the right natural supports.
- https://dev.thebrainarchitecturegame.com/articles/build-your-own-complete-game/

Minister Eggen’s Address
- There will be 20 school upgrades across the province
- Mentioned hiring 1000 new teachers and support staff
- Minister Eggen had 300 applicants to the Youth Council Program
- There will be Student Transportation Eligibility Regulations
  - There will be surveys, and breakout sessions
  - Online survey at education.alberta.ca
- K-4 curriculum
  - Regional parent focus groups will be held – by the end of June
  - Opportunity to provide feedback
- Q &A
  - Meaningful Engagement – a parent requested a hard copy of the survey so that other parents can provide meaningful opinions. Minister Eggen will do so.
  - Morality/Sexuality – Minister Eggen stated that the province respects the values of families and privacy of parents but also the safety and security of students.
  - A question about the “Per-student Funding” process – one parent raised a concern about the availability of funding for rural communities. Eggen acknowledged and respected this concern and has said he will look at more equitable ways of funding for all schools.
AGM – Sunday

- Emergent Resolution – Maintaining Parental Right in Sexual Education
  - In response to Edmonton Public School board put forth a resolution to ATA proposing that all curricular outcomes related to human sexuality be mandatory for students attending k-12 schools in Alberta, with no option for opting out. This resolution had to be accepted by 75% of the attendees. It was not, however, this may come forward for the 2019 AGM

- Resolutions:
  - P18-01- carried with amendments (every 3 years) (not every volunteer)
  - P18-02 Cumulative CEU- carried with amendments (150 not 135)
  - P18-03 carried
  - P18-04 DEFEATED
  - P18-05 Carried – this was the most surprising. Very little discussion
  - P18-06 DEFEATED

- Vote
  - Allison Pike has been voted for a second Presidential campaign
  - Brandi Rai is our new Vice President
  - Hollie Taraserwich has been voted for a second term
  - John Tomkinson from Raymond
  - Other members can be found on the website