

District School Council Minutes for October 1, 2018

1. Welcome

2. Additions to the Agenda

12. Other Business

12.1 Isolation Rooms

12.2 Protests Outside Schools

3. Approval of Agenda

- Allison Pike moves to adopt the agenda as amended. Shannon Pratt seconds the motion. All in favour. Motion carries.

4. Approval of the Minutes of June 4, 2018

- Error noted – Allison Pike was not in attendance – name should be removed.
- Heather Paul moves to adopt the minutes as corrected. Alison Alma-North seconds the motion. All in favour. Motion carries.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

5.1. Parent Information Nights

- There has been a request for parent information nights. The first one will be held on October 18, 2018 about the “Stressed Out Teen”- self regulation strategies for your teen. Information flyers distributed at the meeting. Information and registration on District website.
- October 24 – FNMI Parent night. Is there interest from DSC parents that would be interested in supporting, through representation, of this night, in an effort to develop relationships and help FNMI parents and other parents within the district understand the role of School Councils in a positive way. The night is scheduled from 6-8 pm at Victoria Park School on October 24, 2018.
- A number of parents indicated they would attend and host a table to represent the work of School Councils.
- Allison Pike will find / prepare a short flyer regarding School Councils.
- Cheryl Gilmore will prepare a short flyer regarding District School Council.
- Parents from all Councils to share information and encourage attendance.

6. Elections for District School Council

Chair – Hollie Tarasewich nominates Joy Morris for chair. Joy is present and accepts. No other nominations for chair. Joy Morris is Chair for 2018/19 school-year for District School Council.

Vice Chair – Joy Morris nominates Heather Paul for Vice Chair. Heather is present and accepts. No other nominations for vice-chair. Heather Paul is Vice-Chair for the 2018/19 school-year for District School Council.

Recording Secretary – Hollie Tarasewich nominates Lyvia Hughes for Recording Secretary. Lyvia is present and accepts. No other nominations for Recording Secretary. Lyvia Hughes is Recording Secretary for the 2018-19 school year for District School Council.

Committee Reps:

Policy Advisory – Purpose is to advise on the development of District policies. Meets on Thursday afternoons from 12:15- 3:30. They then send the policy out to stakeholders for feedback. Allison Pike has volunteered to be the rep for this committee. Joy Morris will be the alternate if Allison is unable to make it.

Poverty Intervention – Meets during the day. The purpose is improve educational opportunities and achievement of students affected by poverty as well as to heighten awareness and promote action on issues related to poverty. Heather Paul and Alison Alma-North will volunteer to be on this committee.

District Wellness – Dates and time TBD, however meet during the day. General healthy lifestyle choices for schools, and the issues surrounding such. Shannon Pratt will volunteer for this. Amber Johansen will be the alternate.

SAPDC – Southern Alberta Professional Development Consortium – meets 3-4x a year and during the day. General purpose is to create professional development opportunities in Southern Alberta. Hollie Tarasewich volunteers to be a part of this committee.

Community Engagement – Develop and implement strategies for the Board to fully engage all sectors of the community. Allison Pike, Heather Paul, Amber Johansen, Cynthia Young, Hollie Tarasewich, Lyvia Hughes

7. School Hot Lunch Programs in relation to District Health Nutritional Choices Policy 504.11

- Discussion regarding what the district policy states in regard to what is permitted and what is not according to policy. Some parents are finding that there is no consistency between the schools. Some schools are being denied the opportunity to provide certain Hot Lunches whereas other schools are allowed the opportunity to provide the same hot lunches.
- Superintendent and Associate Superintendent will sit down and discuss possible solutions, clear guidelines on what the policy is stating and will then agree on the common understanding. There will be a message sent out by the end of the week regarding clarifications.
- Healthyhunger.ca was suggested as a possible support for organizing hot lunches. It is being used in Edmonton, Calgary, and Red Deer.

8. Trustee Report – Doug James

- The Board approved that a letter be written in support of the city in its advocacy for support from the office of the Solicitor General.
- Board Committee reports were delivered. All reports can be viewed on the Agenda (located on the district website)
- FNMI Grant for Urban Indigenous Youth- grant application has been approved. \$250,000 has been approved, funding accessible over two years. The grant is provided to fund pilot project activities. Sustainability of the pilot project initiatives will be a priority throughout the project's planning process
- Junior Achievement Program is an organization dedicated to educating students about work readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy through experiential hands-on programs. Feedback about how the district is doing on the program.
- District won the Meritorious Budget Award from the Association of School Business Officials International.
- Priorities are innovation, inclusion and achievement.

9. Alberta School Councils Association Report – Allison Pike

- District pays for school councils to be members of ASCA and allows the school councils to access workshops for free.
- ASCA meets with the board of education about 5x a year and discusses many different topics.

10. Superintendent's Report

School Council learning sessions (brainstorm ideas)

- Usually half an hour in length, that will take place before DSC meeting.
- Technology – what programs do students have? Websites that support learning?
- Inclusive education at the high school level
- How can School councils support reconciliation
- Grant Writing
- Social Media usage
- New Curriculum – and learning competencies
- Encouraging FNMI School Council participation
- Celebrating Students and Innovation
- IPP, IEP, ISP meetings (how do parents navigate for success)

Board support for School Councils

- Board is committed to supporting School Councils.
- Pays for ASCA membership, registration to the ASCA annual Conference, as well as \$250 to attend the conference

School Council Membership List

- There is a spot on each school website that allows the parents to sign up for updates through school councils.
- Encourages parents to invite their school councils to request that this is put in school newsletters, etc.

Inclement weather procedures

- Severe Weather Conditions Procedure- School Closure Guidelines policy was reviewed.
- Schools are closed if transportation is not running (City of Lethbridge Transit)

11. Roundtable Reports

- Coalbanks, Immanuel Christian Elementary, Lakeview, Park Meadows all submitted roundtables

12. Other Business

12.1. Isolation Rooms

- Is this a common practice? Isolation room, quiet room. Isolation room is not automatically a part of building plan.
- Sensory rooms are in located in a lot of schools.

12.2. Protests/Signage Outside Schools

- There was a protest outside a high school that had quite graphic images. Discussion regarding what can be done if something like this were to occur
- Nothing can be done if the protest is OFF school property, however SROs are generally notified and included.
- When protests that occur that may traumatize a student, staff works to limit exit/entry to avoid confrontation.

13. Adjournment at 8:21 p.m.