



Division School Council Meeting **NOTES**

March 4, 2024

6:30 pm

Education Centre Board Room / Microsoft TEAMS

1. Parent Learning Session - Erin Hurkett led a session on report card
 - a. Erin handed out a sample report card and a feedback form
 - b. Jesse Sadlowski showed us how to do a few things using the PowerSchool app
 - c. If anyone has further feedback, please email Erin: Erin.Hurkett@lethsd.ab.ca
2. Land Acknowledgement
3. Welcome and Introductions
4. Additions to the Agenda - no additions brought forward - one change made to #13, section a) eliminated as that was the parent learning session, other sections moved up
5. Approval of the Agenda - approved and seconded
6. Errors and Omissions
7. Approval of the Minutes of January 15, 2024 - Approved by Tisha, seconded by Aaron
8. Business Arising from the Minutes
 - a. Student Exceptionalities - Mike - about 11% of the school population fall under these categories, about 3.6% have severe coding assignments, around 7% have mild to moderate coding
 - b. Anti-Racism/Anti-Oppression (ARAO) Conversation Follow-up - Genny - questions were asked in January regarding what the history was before the ARAO policy was created and where it came from. ARAO committee started in 2018 (current board started October 2021) and was started with the purpose of examining biases in education, which was prompted by discussion with students at schools. Topic was coming up frequently and there was an official request to create a policy from the previous Board. In March 2021 there was an incident where some racist comments were made in a public manner and responded to in a public manner so that event in combination with the requests that had previously come and conversations that had previously happened caused the board to formally take action. The current board has a policy brought to them for a first reading May 24, 2022 and the second reading occurred June 27, 2022. Third and final reading with passing of the policy occurred September 27, 2022. Definitions were included at the second reading of the policy. It was included in the trustee report of DSC in June 2022. Trustee Steed not sure what feedback from stakeholders looked like/how feedback would have been obtained at that point in time. She will look into it further. Mike mentioned a few forms of feedback that would have

been obtained but would have to review documents from that time to be more specific. There was some feedback regarding just the definitions and some feedback regarding the policy/procedure. Some of the feedback was definitely after the policy was passed. One parent then asked at what point in time did the school board policy extend to include Critical Race Theory. Trustee Steed said her understanding of the role that CRT plays in the policy came from the previous superintendent and the previous superintendent mentioned seminal works surrounding CRT. Steed says it has never been officially related to CRT or given credit to CRT for the birth of the policy. One parent pointed out that the previous superintendent did specifically say that this policy is related to CRT and intersectionality. Parent requested for the board to rescind this policy in its entirety, due to the fact that the board passed the policy without fully understanding the intent of the policy as shown in documentation. Another parent spoke to the fact that he feels that it would be foolish to remove such a policy. Steed will take concerns and feedback to the board. Trustee Christine Light spoke about the year end report from the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee as it included a plan to implement an ARAO policy and provided documentation to explain that the first time the board heard about the AOAR work was not at the first reading of the policy. Trustee Steed will find out if the feedback from stake holders on that could be made available for public consumption.

- c. Active School Councils - Shelley - difficult to tell if all of our school councils are active - as a parent in your school, if you search for the school council section on the website, see if the information is up to date and just proofread it and glean what information you can from that. Every school council would have their own bylaws to determine how many meetings per year, etc., some schools do not have their own bylaws or operating procedures. Shelley will follow up regarding Chinook specifically.

9. Trustee Report - Genny Steed: board meeting was February 27:

- a. motion was passed to support kindergarten teachers in their work with regards to the timetable for parent teacher interviews - need more time as they teach more students.
- b. Board is moving into board strategic planning - coming up this week - the Board takes responses from the Town Hall and uses them to determine priorities and how that will align with the budget in order to prepare for next year
- c. Some policies were reviewed - PAC has revised School Choice policy and those amendments were passed (501.1.3). Policy 600.1 Guiding Principles was voted unanimously to be removed. A lot of the information in that policy was outdated and the important pieces have been reiterated in other policies.
- d. Community Conversations will be held at Petals, Paws & Beans on the west side, date TBD (sometime in March). Will be posted on the website as soon as the date is confirmed.
- e. The Board has contracted with a consultant (David Steel) who will work with the board to establish a new framework for policy, first meeting mid to late March - improvements to policies to come. The reason for this is that our board has a larger number of policies than other school boards compared to similar size divisions and the board recognized that we have a bloated number and would like to pare down the number of policies so that the information is more accessible, more reliable, more informative.

10. Alberta School Councils Association

- a. ASCA Resolutions - seven resolutions are going forward to the AGM. Shelley read the titles of the resolutions to us, they are posted on the ASCA website. Every attending

school council has a vote and those can be submitted in person or online. Shelley brought the credential voting form as well as the proxy voting form. Questions please see Shelley. Will revisit in April. Guest speaker at the conference is Barbara Coloroso. School council needs to have a motion in the minutes saying who is attending the meeting as the representative. Conference is April 27/28 (TEAMS option available), deadline for forms is April 18.

11. Superintendent's Report

- a. ICE Scholarships & Showcase - March 20 @ 6:30pm at CHS, showcase that evening and committee(s) give out scholarships based on showcase items - includes all levels of schools - scholarship applications are currently open, available on the website - due May 6
- b. Town Hall - over 1600 responses, great turnout at the evening, more people than anticipated. There will be a summary of all the information that was collected coming on Thursday - summary of conversations and main points. One parent said they liked that it was something different in terms of questions and seating and that her tables seemed skewed and didn't have as much variety as previous years and noted that previous years registration wasn't required. One parent noted that the noise in a gymnasium was too loud and a different location would have been better. Mike said traditionally it has been held at Victoria Park HS and this year there are ongoing renovations, so it was a bit of a challenge. Parents also agreed that the tables were a bit off balance (such as three administrators at one table). Mike suggested generic place cards potentially for future years, such as Student, Parent, etc. Another parent said the time went by too fast and there was not enough time to hear from everyone at the table. In hindsight Mike said he would have just tried to do two sessions rather than three and given more time to online feedback - have a better plan for collecting feedback, have more devices available, etc. Shelley then shared a quote regarding involvement vs. Engagement.
- c. Budget & Strategic Planning - first item at meeting tomorrow is inflationary pressures - student growth being number one pressure - for the next few weeks the committee will move money around and budget information will go out to schools in the next few weeks. We will continue to petition government to fully fund every student. Board's strategic planning days this week will give the board lots of opportunity to share their goals and ideas.

12. Committee Reports

- a. Policy Advisory Committee Report - School Choice was discussed and feedback was given on the division website and it was sent back to the board. Guiding Principles removed as a policy. School-based Decision Making is going to the administrator meetings and then coming back to PAC. School Year had recommended amendments that were tabled until March 6th meeting. A few other policies are also in the queue. One parent spoke to not knowing ahead of time that different schools have a different focus or different programs available within the school such as an art focus, Montessori, etc. Mike clarified that we are talking about 1) school-wide programs, approved by the board, etc, and 2) specialist model that depends on staff such as a specialist music teacher - Mike suggested using the website of each individual school to find this information.

- b. Community Engagement Committee - Shelley Roest - meeting was February 28th - ICE scholarship, Town Hall logistical pieces were discussed. Very initial exploration of One Division One Book was on the agenda, tabled was technology in schools feedback part. Next meeting - April 10, 7pm.

13. New business

- a. Division Administrative Committees - Viviana Lartiga - can stakeholders be provided a comprehensive list of these committees? Or told where these can be found? Mike listed ATA rep, division calendar committee, joint health and safety committee, PAC, Positive Spaces Committee, Administrative Professional Learning Committee, Indigenous Education reps, ARAO Committee, transportation subcommittee, recognition committee, etc. None of these are currently tasked with creating policy. The Board is not involved in the administrator committees or the creation of these committees.
- b. New policy feedback website - Viviana - has there been any feedback on the website form itself? There was some discussion around anyone/any IP address being able to submit feedback without necessarily being a stakeholder in this division.
- c. Fundraising using School Cash Online - Danica Forsyth - one school finding that SCO has barriers for fundraising - there is a delay where the school has to wait for the money to come from the division before the school can utilize the money - other parents mentioned this is a struggle as well
- d. Expression of School Council interest in sharing cost associated with an Intentional Technology presentation by Kaylee Low - Nicole Williams - an informative document giving background and inviting other schools to pair with Immanuel to view the Intentional with Tech presentation by Kaylee Low. Please share and discuss at your next school council meeting and discuss with Nicole at the next DSC meeting or email Nicole at robinshood2@hotmail.com if your school council is interested. Kaylee spoke for a few minutes about what her presentations entail and what different types and lengths of presentations she offers.
- e. ASCE Grant - this money must be spent by the end of June - \$500 - there are some guidelines that must be met, please discuss at school council and plan to spend

14. Roundtable Reports

- 15. Future Parent Learning Session Topics - open to suggestions, an upcoming one will be budget but there are other learning sessions available

16. Upcoming Events:	March 6	Policy Advisory Committee
	March 20	ICE Scholarship Showcase
	March 26	Board Meeting
	March 29-April 8	Spring Break
	April 8	Division School Council

17. Adjournment

Division School Council 2023-2024 Meeting Dates:

- April 8, 2024
- May 6, 2024
- June 10, 2024

2023-24 Division School Council Representatives

Chair	Shelley Roest
Vice Chair	Carrie Boschman
Recording Secretary	Skye Curtis
Policy Advisory Committee	Skye Curtis/Carrie Boschman/Viviana Lartiga
Poverty Intervention Committee	Sarah Ahlgren/Danica Forsyth
Division Wellness Committee	Edna Asem/Skye Curtis
Community Engagement Committee	Shelley Roest

Members Present:

Shelley Roest

Carrie Boschman

April Matisz

Viviana Lartiga

Christine Light

Skye Curtis

Erin Hurkett

JoAnn Hill

Monnu B.

Tyler Waldron

Tisha Elford

Aaron Fitchitt

Andy Tyslau

Danica Forsyth

Genny Steed

Nicole Williams

Kaylee Low