

Senator Joyce Fairbairn School Council Meeting

October 19, 2021 – 7:00 pm

Attendance: Craig DeJong, Calvin Kirby, Bonnie, Jana Cardozo, Moira Holley, Mikayla Chasse, Mike Nightingale, Rochelle Neville, Shannon Pratt, Sherri, Stacey Goldstein, Stephanie Beekman, Stacey Wetmore, Karen Granzow, Kaylee Low, Leah Heidinger

1. Welcome:

-meeting called to order by Craig @7:00 pm

2. Reports:

a) School Division (Mike Nightingale- executive council liaison)

-Student enrolment is up across the division.

-Most teacher staffing is complete, some support staffing still happening.

-BOOST program (helps to fill learning gaps related to COVID), some money could potentially come from that, to be used for staffing.

b) Administration (Craig)

i. Facility Update- Renovations started just before the break last week. Some access points have been added (ie. Shop and art room, computer lab & art room). Phase two will be happening above shop area, expand the space and add mezzanine. Transition was smooth.

Once the school council can meet in person, Craig is happy to show the parents the changes.

ii. Athletics- two guardians per athlete are now able to view indoor extra-curricular sports. Proof of vaccination or negative COVID test must be provided upon entry.

iii. Professional Learning – Topic for universal design for learning. Staff growth as professional. ISPS student plans for students with needs, bench markings for ELS.

c) Division School Council Meeting (attended by Stacey G. & Stacey W. on Oct. 4)

i. Trustee Report-

Education Minister Lagrange has committed to reviewing feedback gathered by school boards regarding the proposed draft curriculum. Community information sessions will be offered by LSD. Feedback topics will then be offered for attendees to provide their input. More information can be found here:

<https://lethsdpublicengagement.schoolsites.ca/current-public-engagement-projects/curriculum-feedback>

LSD offering Meet & Greet with school trustee candidates

<https://lethsdpublicengagement.schoolsites.ca/current-public-engagement-projects/candidate-meet-and-greet>

ii. Alberta School Councils Association-

School Councils can let Division know if they are interested in having any workshops.

<https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/public/download/files/191114>

Alberta government is providing \$500 to each school council through the Alberta School Council Engagement Grant to enhance collaboration between parents and schools on education priorities. Details on funding allocation to come.

iii. Superintendent's Report – Cheryl Gilmore

- New section on LSD website for public engagement. This includes results from the Re-Entry Plan Survey <https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/download/367572>
- At upcoming meetings LSD will offer inquiry & Exploration Sessions so that parents can bring issues and feedback. Topics can be added to the agenda.

iv. Roundtable Reports – Wellness committee is looking for topics related to health and wellness; AHS will develop courses and/or resources to address these topics and make them available to schools. Submit any ideas.

3. New Business:

a) Re Social Media Message from Superintendent–

Tik Tok challenge promoting students to engage in illegal activities at their schools and then post online. SJF had some light vandalism to the washrooms, soap dispensers kicked off the walls. Letter from superintendent has been effective in discouraging the behaviour. SJF also has video surveillance.

- No cell phone policy currently in place, some classes may build the use of a cellphones into their curriculum, however there should be an alternative option in place if a student does not have a cell phone.

- AB Teachers Association encourages teachers/ admin to not confiscate phones due to liability costs of the phone (if it happened to break), and due to potential illicit content, that might be on a phone.

- Potential cellphone policy being worked on across four middle schools.

b) School Clubs- parent asked about who heads up school clubs and the amount of information provided about the clubs (a student attended GSA club as advertised for free candy and historic video was shown without explanation prior viewing. Student was uncomfortable).

- Large variety of clubs at the school to engage all students, not only sports. Usually run by a staff member, clubs are approved by Craig, usually held weekly. In keeping with COVID rules, students eat lunch prior to attending the club, they mask and distance.

- GSA club mostly about inclusivity or friendship, run by family liaison councillor. Craig has followed up since that occurrence.

- Craig will look into having clubs (and info about them) listed on the school website.

c) Future Meeting Dates (Shannon)

- Proposed and was agreed to plan for the third Tuesday of each month (and to skip December & June).

- Meeting dates would be: Nov 23, Jan 25, Feb 22 (option or perhaps delay one week due to family week), Mar 22, Apr 19, May 24.

d) Grade 6 COVID Protocol/ Contact Tracing –

- contact tracing for students K-6 (this will include options classes and clubs).

- Gr 7 & 8 is tracking three cases in five days.

Contact Craig to address any concerns you may have.

4. Adjournment @ 7:40 pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday, Nov. 23 @ 7:00 pm