

Senator Joyce Fairbairn School Council Meeting

Held in the conference room at SJF

October 28, 2024, 7:00pm

Attendance: Stephanie Beakman, Jen Bosch, Skye Curtis, Craig DeJong, Rachelle Neville, Raj Mathur, Sharon Williams-Lang, Meg Fester, Michelle Harding, Karla Wright, Tyler Demers, Kathy Grabowsky, Fiona Kirkby

1. October agenda approved
2. Alberta School Council Engagement Funding (ASCE) grant for 2023/24
 - a. \$750 from prior school year plus additional \$750 for this year. Funds must be spent under the guidelines set by the ASCE. Consider ideas to use this grant for next meeting.
3. Admin report (Craig)
 - a. School Fee Schedule provided for options and extracurricular activities. Fee schedule can be found on SJF website. Admin staff consult with other middle schools when determining fees. All fees are intended to be as low as possible and break even. Some options do not have fees at all. Fee waiver form on division website for families experiencing financial hardship; contact Craig for more details.
4. Key dates (Sharon and Raj)
 - a. Completed Individual Support Plans for students, learning teams are now meeting
 - b. EA hiring completed; 9 EAs, then an additional EA for Jordan's principal (federal funding)
 - c. Music students entered CBC music competition again this year
 - d. Grade 6 vaccines Nov 19
 - e. Picture retakes tomorrow, Oct 29
 - f. Parent teacher interviews were well attended last week
 - g. Term 1 ends Nov 29
5. Athletics (Raj)
 - a. Transitioning out of volleyball, final games coming up
 - b. Basketball tryouts start Nov 13
6. Topics for Town Hall: call for ideas (Craig)
 - a. Curriculum changes: might be good topic for parent sessions
 - b. How will changes in government policy impact inclusion of LGBTQ2S+ kids
 - c. Student led tutor options for SJF
 - d. Discussions around technology
7. Division Report (Meg)
 - a. School Council meeting minutes can be found the in the SJF website as required by the division
 - b. ASCE grant uses ideas- other schools have done parent learning opportunities
 - c. Questions about school council having own bank account; SJF school council does not, school council has budget line in SJF budget. Financial transactions are included in minutes as they occur

- d. Looking for feedback/engagement regarding mobile devices policy; Jan 1 deadline, link on division website
 - e. Looking for learning opportunity ideas for parents; presented 30 minutes prior to division council meetings
8. Trustee Report (Tyler Demers)
- a. Representative for SJF this year
 - b. School boundary review; open house tomorrow Oct 29 @ 7pm at the Ed Centre. Likely Spanish Program to move to West Coulee Station Elementary that is opening next fall.
 - c. West side study results: Government funded study to determine where growth is expected in Lethbridge. Significant growth expected in West Lethbridge, limited infrastructure North and South with impact growth potential there. Study indicated need for an additional west side high school and another elementary school. This is the early planning stage, likely many years before new schools are approved and built.
9. Next meeting Nov 25 @ 7pm.