

School Council Annual General Meeting

School Council Minutes – May 17, 2023

6:30 p.m. School Library

** indicates written report/attachment provided*

Attendance

Parents: Kim Scott (Chair), Desiree Williams (Vice-Chair), Christan Rasmussen (Secretary), Hilary Schmidt (Logos Rep), Sarah Lakusta, Matthew Lakusta, Allison McColl, Mallory Jackson, Karry Biri

School Staff: Mike Lastiwka (Principal), Tracey Prouse (Vice-Principal)

1) Call to order at 6:33 p.m.

2) Review of the Agenda

Motion: Moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mallory / Karry. Motion carried.

3) Approval of the Minutes

March 15, 2023

Motion: Moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mallory / Karry. Motion carried.

4) Logos Report: Hilary Schmidt – Logos Rep

Next chapel is May 23, 2023

Courtney Richard is planning a full school community project for the final chapel in June.

5) COSC Report: Kim

COSC minutes available here:

<https://www.eips.ca/parents/committee-of-school-councils-cosc/meetings-agendas-minutes>

6) Trustee Report*: Trina Boymook – Trustee (read in absence)

See attached

7) Administration Report:

Mike Lastiwka – Principal

- Class configurations are still in transition and won't be confirmed until later in the summer.
 - Typically, class requests are not taken; class configurations take precedent in building classrooms, priority is for the configuration and teachers are usually already aware of who students socialize with.
 - Staffing is still in progress, for the most part there aren't dramatic changes to staff assignments.
 - Plenty of communication will be sent out in advance regarding teacher and classrooms assignments.
- School goals:
 - Goal 1 - Focusing on Resilience and Mental Health Strategies
 - Looking forward, would like school council to work with teacher and administrators to bring in guest speakers to parents and the school to talk about mental health.
 - Modelling education and health care together as a wraparound solution.
 - Supporting students and families to connect with AHS for full health in order to facilitate the health to be able to learn.
 - Reintroduce peer support groups.
 - Goal 2 - Working on measurable growth in numeracy as indicated by Math screeners.
 - Mike is currently developing a program to track student growth and determine who is requiring support.
 - Tracking data over time to use the data to inform instruction and small groups based on where a student is in the learning continuum.

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- Goal 3 - Creating an instructional focus around the 5 pillars of literacy, working on measurable growth in reading and working on app development for literacy to track student growth and support requirements.

Tracey Prouse – Assistant Principal

- This is typically an emotional time of year, this year even more so with the program changes.
- Italy day is always a big hit, grade ones had a great day and thank you to all the volunteers involved.
- Track team finished their outdoor event at Bev Facey.
- Mrs. Gilmore had a group in, Run Wild promoting healthy living & activities and speaking on serving your community; it was very motivating and it's great to provide ways for kids to succeed beyond academics.
- Kindergarten open house - about 15 kids came, about 23 are currently registered.
 - Mrs. Wheeler and her group put on a successful Mother's Day tea with the kindergarten class with centres making cupcakes and painted flowerpots.
- PD Day went well, good feedback from all involved.
 - Excited about the possibility of EAs being able to attend PD days with their teachers.
 - We hosted a speaker who presented on trauma with a good understanding of what challenges both kids and teachers face these days.
- Lots of field trips happening right now.
 - Due to air quality, indoor field trips are fine unless they're walking to.
 - Outdoor field trips are mostly being postponed right now to mitigate the risks from air pollution.
 - Lots of good things coming up planned both in and out of school.
 - PLACE & STEPS kids are going together to the pool, and it's been amazing to see that happening, these students being served so well by our staff.
- Air quality is being monitored hour by hour right now, kids are being kept indoors if it's above 10, between 7-9 kids are going outside with awareness of those having respiratory illnesses.
- Special guests this month:
 - SCA band here yesterday and they did a great job, they highlighted not just music, but also different instruments.
 - Elk Island Honor Choir was also here, info sent to kids for those who are interested.
- Fun in the Sun is coming up with K-6 all participating (Kindergarten scheduled changed to accommodate)
 - Society has agreed to pay for lunch (hot dog, drink & chips).
- PATs started today and are being written right until the very last day of school.

8) AGM Election

- Karry nominates Christan as Chair, nomination accepted. Christan Rasmussen acclaimed as Chair.
- Hilary volunteers as Vice-Chair. Hilary Schmidt acclaimed as Vice-Chair.
- Secretary position to stay open at this time.

9) General Discussion

Suggestion made to possibly have less meetings (perhaps every second month rather than monthly) in order to reduce commitment and increase engagement.

Suggestion to add council topics as an item in the newsletter, not just in the agenda link.

10) Next Meeting

Wednesday, September 20, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

11) Adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Trustee Report
Trina Boymook

- April 13 EIPS held a French Immersion engagement session. An option was developed to generate a robust discussion among stakeholders that will inform the best path forward that will enhance the program, increase retention at the junior high and senior high levels, address anticipated enrolment pressures in Ardrossan and balance enrolment at the elementary level. Senior Administration is currently complying feedback received, which will inform next steps.
- The Board has been busy over the last month working on our budget for 2023-24. Although there are specific areas of the budget has experienced an increase it has come as result of repurposing funding from other areas. Due to the introduction of reserve caps, the Board is on track to deplete a large portion of our operating reserves in this current year in order to stay under the cap. There will be limited use of reserves in building next year's budget. The Board approved allocations to schools at a special meeting held on April 27. The Board will be approving the final budget at our May 25 Board meeting.
- The Board will be moving forward with optional implementation of the new eligibility milage for student transportation. (Elementary 1Km or more to designated school. Jr/Sr 2Km or more to designated school) For the 2023-24 we will remain with walking distance and will have our software adjusted to calculate shortest driving distance in time for mandatory implementation in 2024-25. The Board has approved student transportation fees at the April 27 Special Board meeting. School and program of choice remains as an enhanced service as this is still not considered a mandatory service that Board is required to provide. Parents will be notified of their eligibility standing and fees that will be associated with that.
- The Board will be holding information nights on May 31 and June 6 5:30-7:30 to share the designs for the Sherwood Heights/Ecole Campbelltown replacement school.