

# MINUTES

## Your School Council minutes

March 21st, 2023/6:00 pm | *Meeting called to order by* Colleen Hardy

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### In Attendance

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Aileen Wagner – School Trustee, Ward One  
Shaye Patras – Division Principal,  
Indigenous Education & Numeracy  
Violet Poitras - Elder  
Cherie Lovsund – Principal  
Scott Jaspers-Fayer – Assistant Principal  
Sharon Shave - Secretary  
Kerri Nesbitt – Teacher Representative  
Collen Hardy – President  
Shelby Smigelski – Vice Chair

Lynne How  
Lorell & Trevor Doerksen  
Jessica Lutz  
Jodi Heiblinger  
Michelle Squance-Slade  
Chantell Strowbridge  
Tom Poleck

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### Welcome & Introductions

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Meeting commenced @ 6:01 pm. Colleen asked that we go around the table and introduce ourselves.

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### Review of Agenda and Approval of Minutes

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Colleen reviewed the agenda and asked for approval. Shelby Smigleski approved and Jessica Lutz seconded. Colleen then asked for approval for the February 2023 minutes. Shelby Smigelski approved and Jessica Lutz seconded.

The meeting was then turned over to Aileen Wagner for a board update. Please click on the [link](#) for Aileen's report.

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### Principal's Report

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Cherie gave an overview of what's been happening at Duffield.

- **Edwin Parr Recipients**
  - Cherie gave an overview of this award as was so pleased to announce that our very own Jenna Stumbur was one of the recipients and overall winner who will be representing the division. Click on this [link](#) for further information about this exciting award!
- **Choral Celebration.**
  - Our choir was very excited to attend this year's Choral Celebration at the West Meadow Baptist Church. Please click on the [link](#) if you would like to watch the performance.

- **Marmot Ski Trip**
  - Duffield and Wabamun Grades 7-9's plus a few of our experienced Grade 6 skiers/snowboarders headed out to Marmot on March 17<sup>th</sup>. We left the school at 4am and had a great day on the hill.
- **Three Hat Circus**
  - On March 15<sup>th</sup> we were treated to a performance from the Three Hat Circus. This was a great performance and enjoyed by all grades. We will share pictures of this event in the next school newsletter.
- **Literacy and Numeracy**
  - At the end of Term 2 we did an assessment on our students and have found considerable growth in all areas.
- **Badminton**
  - We are happy to be able to launch Badminton season. Thank you to Colleen Hardy for stepping up to be their coach. We had a big turnout of interested kids wanting to join the team!
- **CTF Term 3**
  - Term 3 courses starts April 5<sup>th</sup>. Were excited to offer new courses this term including Gardening, Track and Field, Drivers Ed and Mr. MacDonald's Podcasting. While on the subject of courses, Shelby Smigelski asked the question why do we no longer have swimming lessons? We do have Play Parkland but that is only for certain grades. One of the biggest obstacles is how far out we are from a swimming pool.

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- **New Business**

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- **Indigenous Education**
  - We were very fortunate to have Elder Violet Poitras come to our meeting and educate us on Indigenous teaching/traditions. Things such as Smudging, Treaty 6 and Truth and Reconciliation. Many expressed that this was a presentation that was filled with knowledgeable information and new learnings happened. While on the subject of smudging, many were in support of this, however there were others that expressed their concerns as they felt that this was supporting a specific religion and if so, why other religions were not being included in classroom teaching. Elder Violet explained that smudging is not a religion and spoke about the 5 senses and how this relates back to Mother Earth. Trustee Wagner also contributed to the discussion and provided a brief explanation about the governance call to action and how PSD supports Truth and Reconciliation. Mrs. Lovsund also explained that 24.8% of our student population is First Nations and like many other schools we will be looking at a spot in which they can start their days with such practices such as smudging. There was a good discussion around this subject and those that supported and those that didn't, learned something from each other through healthy discussions such as this.

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- AGM Executive Elections/Membership

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- Chair – Colleen Hardy
- Vice Chair – Shelby Smigelski
- Secretary – Sharon Shave
- Communications Director - TBD
- Fundraising Liaison – Chantell Strowbridge

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### Adjournment & Next Meeting Date

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Colleen Hardy adjourned the meeting @ 7:30 pm

Next Meeting, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023