

MINUTES

Your School Council minutes

Jan 23, 2024/6:00 pm | Meeting called to order by Shelby Smigelski

In Attendance

Aileen Wagner – School Trustee, Ward One	Kim Trechka
Cherie Lovsund – Principal	Michelle Villadsen
Sharon Shave - Secretary	Jessica Lutz
Shelby Smigelski - President	Melissa Smith

Lynn How

Welcome & Introductions

Shelby called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

Review of Agenda and Approval of Minutes

Shelby Smigelski asked for approval from the November minutes and approval of the January agenda. Jessica Lutz approved and Lynn How seconded.

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

After Aileen's report she asked a question to the group. What might the Duffield community like to see if the Alberta Government was offering support? Melissa Smith brought up the need for more EA support. The group concluded that if they had any other ideas that they would email them to Cherie. Aileen will then bring it up at the next board meeting as this is coming from the Alberta School Board Association.

Principal's Report

Mrs. Lovsund shared an update with regard to what is happening at Duffield School

- **Artist in Residence**

- This has been a huge undertaking, a month long. The Artist spends a half day with each class, then she takes the kids that are really interested in art, takes them for the afternoon and builds the backdrops. Every student's art will be included in the art installation. These will be put up on one of our main walls in the school. The kids are very proud of the work they are doing.

- We now have 11 EA's in total and 12 classrooms. We were able to hire two more teachers for Grades 4-6 and Grades 7-9. We created a new classroom where students will have an opportunity to organize their day and then students will work on literacy and numeracy intervention in 1/2 hour blocks. Students will learn about executive functioning, i.e.: How do I organize my days? What are my goals for the day? What do I need to do to have all of my stuff organized? We do have full time intervention for K-3 already so this will support Grades 4-9 in literacy and numeracy.

We have also built a homework room to help students, ie: extra time to work on projects and or if they need extra support. Both intervention teachers will be there in the room with the students. Kids can choose to go there and complete their assignments, or a teacher will suggest that a student goes there to catch up on missed assignments. This will give kids the opportunity to feel more successful.

- **Student Leadership**

- Our student leadership is going strong, if they could they would like to do something daily for the rest of the year! Cherie mentioned that for the month of February they could focus on kindness and the team came up with many ideas. They thought of a field trip to deliver hearts to the elderly, filling the hallways with messages of kindness. We will have Pink Day on Feb 28th, a Red and White day, then a super hero day this Friday !

- **Report Cards**

- Report cards go home Tuesday, January 30th. We now only have 2 report cards. Cherie would like feedback on:
 - How do families feel about 2 report cards instead of 3?
 - Does it make sense to families?
 - Are families using gradebook regularly to access assignments and assessments?
 - Teachers are now writing a lot more information in grade book to provide more information on that continual progress rather than that one summary statement.
 - Will this help you to learn more about your child's learning?
 - We needed to find another way as we know approximately only 30% of people are reading report cards.

- **Marmot Ski Trip**

- We have a ski trip planned for Mar 18th for Gr's 7,8,9. If we don't have enough we will open it up to our Grade 6 students. Cherie meets with the west end schools on a monthly basis so she decided to invite the other schools to join. Last year we didn't have enough to fill the bus and we need a minimum of 45 to pay for the bus so to fill that gap, we invited Wabamun. This year Wabamun will join us again and Tomahawk.

- **Play Parkland**

- Cherie is looking for feedback on how parents/guardians are feeling about Play Parkland. The kids do love it but we only do grade 3-5. We even had a parent ask about why we just don't do swimming instead, so we are open to all feedback.

- **My Path**

- An email was sent out asking parents if there is interest in the next round of My Path.

- **Alberta Education Assurance Survey**

- Cherie sent this survey out January 23rd. She is looking for parents to fill this survey out. Responses are anonymous. A lot of the development plan that Cherie writes is based on the data that she gets from this survey. Usually Duffield parent information is suppressed as we haven't had enough participants. All teachers, Gr 4 & Gr 7 students participate. We are hoping that parents/guardians take the time to fill out this survey.

- **ASKA – School Council Association**

- Every month Cherie attends the COSC meetings, there is their ASCA Convention coming up, there will be guiding questions, and at the next PAC meeting we will share those questions and if you want you can give feedback, or you can vote on any items we can also give a proxy vote if we don't have anyone from our school that wants to go. The government has given 500 dollars so if you would like to attend we will pay for the cost of the conference.
- Aileen mentioned that last year the board voted to spend \$5000.00 dollars for school councils to attend their conferences, so the schools that maybe don't have the resources to send the people. You can apply through the conferences for parents to go through the board fund. Aileen will double check and will confirm with Cherie via email.

- **Next School Council**

- Bryn Spence will be joining our next PAC meeting. He is the Division Principal of Student Supports. Shelby asked if we could do this and the presentation will be on social media.
- Kim Trechka asked about the ski club that Duffield used to do. She was wondering what had happened to that program? Cherie explained that a date was booked for Rabbit Hill, however, we were short on supervisors and bussing was an issue. Kim mentioned that Jump Start used to fund a chartered bus. Cherie explained that Jump Start has made changes to their funding model and in the last couple of years we have not received bussing support for Play Parkland. Cherie said we could look into it further and let Kim know.

- **New Business**

No New Business

Adjournment & Next Meeting Date

Shelby Smigelski adjourned the meeting @ 6:40 pm

Next Meeting: February 21st, 2024