

MINUTES

EPC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

CALLED TO ORDER @ 19:05

May 8, 2023

Meeting called to order by Nicole Schweer

In Attendance

Kathleen Butler, Michelle Purdy-Hemmons, Andrea Bickerstaff, Janelle Duplessis, Desmond Nolan, Nicole Schweer, Annie Karczmarczyk, Dora L'Heureux

Approval of Minutes

Approved. Were emailed out.

School Council Chair Report by Nicole Schweer

School Council Chair report:

- ASCA Conference attended. Went well. All schools facing same difficulties with lack of volunteers.
- Reset Room implemented and trialing in every school for Elk Island School Division – spear headed by a parent council and new president and VP/Social worker at one junior high. – There is hope for positive change. Utilized for students who need a MH break during the day, for students requiring slow transition into classroom or back into classroom, not for counselling but funded to have a teacher and an EA for any school assistance during school hours, needed at that time. Decorated and funded by volunteer donations for the space / environment physical needs.
- Science Fair- went well. Had 6 parent volunteers. Teachers appreciative of help.
- Rural health Care Day put on by RhPAP – went amazing. Nothing but great feedback – “This was the poster child for how it should go”.
- Mass casualty event education June 8/9. May need volunteers.
- Positive response to Family Lunch May 5th.

EPC Administration Report by Dez Nolan

EPC School Administration report:

- Staffing: New superintendent- Constantine Kastrinos. New EPC principal- Stacey Mabey. New assistant principal to be announced soon. Also have 2 new teachers- Jr high math and physical education.
- Planning for buses- fundraising- for bus replacement. May have meeting with fundraising committee to approve.
- Skills Canada: 26 students went last Thursday to see trades. Great event.

- Plan to transition back to basics. Next year will be 5 block day. Jr high: social, science, math, English, and 5th block: ½ physical education, ½ option course.
- 3-year EPC assurance model (see attached). Need to improve on “excellence” category.
- Indigenous grad is Wednesday, Convocation is May 27th. Due to low parental involvement, no formal event after.
- Budget: school is underfunded. Money has been decreasing year over year. Short on teachers which leads to large class sizes. Encouraged to write letters to division.

Aspen View Public School Board Trustee Report

School Board Trustee report:

- Has budget meeting on Thursday. Will discuss transport fees. No changes to catchment areas.

Fundraising Society Report by Michelle Purdy-Hemmons

Fundraising committee report:

- Casino went well. Don't have dollar amount yet.
- Bussing meeting- tba.
- Will now fund fuel for cheer.
- Next meeting: Sept 11th. AGM tba.

Student Feedback

- See attached student summary.
- Tabled from last meeting to review at initial meeting of next year:
- Discussed splitting activities between Jr and Sr high (ie 2 dances, 2 student councils) to encourage Sr high participation. Tabled to next year.
- Cheer team at games/ pep rally. To look at an invitation next year to see if interested.

Round Table/ New Business

- June Welcome Fair – Hosted by Student and Parent Council DATE: _____
 - Welcome table with info sheets manned by Parent Council Volunteers
 - Tour by Student Council members and one administrator?
- Discussion on Out of School Suspensions / In School Suspensions – How and When are they deemed the most appropriate first line of discipline?
 - 69 suspensions to date this year

-
- Teachers/admin has limited resources. Unable to do in-school due to lack of staffing/supervision. Parents are contacted after investigation completed. Students meet with the counsellor for follow-up after suspension.
 - Brave Viking Event – May 11/2023 at 6:30pm at EPC. All welcome. To use ASCA money for event if possible. Michelle motioned to use ASCA money. All council members in agreeance. Michelle will confirm if council can get a receipt and contact Paula.
 - Vice principals attending school council meetings- to be discussed next year with new principal.
 - Master Volunteer List – to discuss at next year initial meeting again, as well as have sign up sheet at June Welcome Tour day.
 - Discussed faith-based clubs in school- legally allowed. All voluntary. Supervised by admin. “Soul food” has been at EPC for approx. 8 years.
 - Discussed a parent upset that their child was forced to attend SOGI sesh preds as no other options were available. Clubs like this should be optional only.
 - Change rooms open again for students. Issues resolved.
 - No preds time next year.
 - STEM group discussed- robotics equipment very costly to replace. Jason M to look into grants.
 - School council will NEVER condone aggressive behaviour/comments/harassment towards council members, staff, parents, administration, or district members.

Next Meeting – Sept 11/23 @ 7pm

MEETING ADJOURNED @ 8:52pm
