

# École Morinville Public School Council

## Minutes

### École Morinville Public School **November 20, 2023**

Morinville Public School Council acknowledges that we are on Treaty 6 territory, a traditional meeting ground, gathering place, and travelling route to the Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Metis, Dene and Nakota Sioux. We acknowledge all of the many First Nations, Metis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries.

**(Insert all individuals in attendance – in person and online)**

*Kendra Thompson, Kelsey Soparlo, Caelie Landry, Kristen Moltzan, Margryt Rispens, Michelle Keller, Courtney Derouin, Aimee Blanchette, Jill Hibbs-Pinney, Alison MacIntyre, Megan Knahs, Sheena Sadoway, Krista Case*

1. Call to order: **Chair calls to order by Courtney Derouin at 6:00pm**
2. Adoption of Agenda: **Motion by Michelle Keller to adopt agenda as AMENDED- Margryt's name misspelled. Carried unanimously.**
3. Approval of Minutes: **Motion by Kelsey Soprlo to adopt minutes as PRESENTED. Carried unanimously**
4. Principal Report
  - Christmas Fringe:
    - i April concert due to inability to get location booked for December dates- dates were spread out and one of the days was Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup> which is an unpreferred date.
    - ii Trying April concert as a large celebration as the concert is important for the school community
    - iii April 9, 16, 17 for dates for April concert. Kids will sing a song and make a craft (wooden ornament)
    - iv Having a small celebration in classes in December- families are welcome to attend to watch a song being sung and Ms. Straughan is also recording the songs to be sent to families digitally
    - v December 21, afternoon for Christmas Fringe- encouraging all family members (Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles) to attend in addition to parents
      - 1 Morning and afternoon performances for Kinder
      - 2 Multiple performances throughout the day for other grades
      - 3 No limit for how many families can come into the classroom at once

- 4 Times to be announced
  - vi Christmas concert will be recorded in music room to be shared digitally
  - vii Unable to have in evening for Christmas concert due to contract obligations for teacher hours- will go towards April concert
  - viii Want to be able to celebrate together
  - ix Will look for feedback after April concert regarding how parents felt about the new structure this year
  - x Wanting this to be a warm, welcoming event and students will get to take home an ornament they make with their family (teachers will find adults to help those students whose families can't make it)
  - xi Kindergarten performances will be 11:15pm and 2pm
- Photos
  - i Met with Edge photography, meeting with Smart tomorrow, and meeting with Life Touch to share feedback and see how they can make it better
  - ii Questions being asked:
    - 1 Pricepoint
    - 2 What are the proofs (digital, paper, not sending a pack expecting families to purchase)
    - 3 Free shipping?
    - 4 Kindergarten grad pictures
    - 5 Sibling pictures
    - 6 Download to Powerschool capability
  - iii Edge- lower pricepoint (but all are similar)
    - 1 If you have 3 kids, 3<sup>rd</sup> child is free
    - 2 Camilla has used them for long time
    - 3 Pictures can be shipped home
    - 4 Kinder grad and caps supplied for kinder grad photos
    - 5 Can digitally load, store and download
    - 6 Have paper copy for proof
    - 7 Canadian company
    - 8 Alberta-owned
    - 9 Will do outside photos
    - 10 Yearbooks would look similar as to the ones we have now through Life Touch
    - 11 Option for pictures on certificates
  - iv When meeting with Life Touch, will ask about the original picture day photos that were lost
  - v Feedback received so far is that families preferred the code, would like better options for backgrounds
- Education plan:
  - i Available on the website
  - ii Brief overview:
  - iii Goals:

- 1 All students will demonstrate growth in Alberta Education numeracy and literacy year end assessments.
    - a Strategies:
    - b Address learning gaps through intentional instruction to support phonemic awareness
    - c Empower educators to use data and evidence, collected through small group instruction to provide tailored learning activities that drive student achievement
  - 2 Public School Communities are safe, caring, respectful and inclusive.
    - a All staff are trained in Therapeutic Crisis Intervention in schools. Through this training, staff will be able to implement common language and effective strategies to address behavioural challenges.
    - b HURDLE HELP, knowing when to provide support to get them over their hurdle, working through behaviour challenges to ensure safety for staff and students
  - 3 Parent engagement- fill all roles of School Council and Parent Fundraising Association and increase attendance and participation rates in school meetings.
    - a Implement regular communication channels, such as newsletters, emails and social media to keep staff, families and community leaders informed about school initiatives, achievements, and opportunities for involvement
    - b Enhance engagement, explicit communication- what does it look like, how can you contribute, trying to build a sustainable Parent Council and PFA so we have a plan for continuity and ongoing. Parent involvement is low. Aiming to increase volunteers (spring carnival will happen again)
  - 4 Alberta Education Assurance Measure Results: survey given in Spring to our grade 4 families. We are trying to target parent engagement- hopeful that more volunteer opportunities will be helpful, Spring Family Carnival and communication through Dragon News
- Feb 15/2024
    - i Morinville Community Stakeholder Engagement Night- approximately one hour of families times to work with the Director of Education Planning will host a time to gather family feedback on Division initiatives and what family priorities are.
    - ii Suggestion to have Parent Council meet for Feb 15 for February's meeting
  - ICE presentation at Four Winds
    - i Applicable to this grade level
    - ii Would like to arrange something in the Spring- these conversations need to start happening at our grade levels. How to be ready to navigate this as a parent. Arrange something May 6 around parent council meeting.

- iii Digital citizenship week- would love to create something to start this conversation now while the kids are young
- iv Websites: Common sense media
- v Beneficial to attend as a parent!

#### 5. Vice Principal Report

- Talking through emergency protocols
  - i 3<sup>rd</sup> fire drill of the year- kids are getting faster
  - ii 2<sup>nd</sup> one- fire alarm was pulled by fire department
  - iii 3 more to go
- Next steps are
  - i Lock Down (threat inside of the school)
    - 1 Turn lights off, get kids down, lock door
    - 2 Practice the protocol
  - ii Hold and Secure (threat outside)
    - 1 Stay inside school
- Friday the 24- next set of assemblies
  - i K-2 at 1:15
  - ii 3-4 at 2pm
  - iii Kids who are receiving awards- parents will be contacted
- Anti-bullying week
  - i Each student gets a leaf
  - ii Each leaf will have messages of hope
- Hour Zero

#### 6. Teachers Report

- Pre K
  - i Fieldtrip to gymnastics Nov 30
- Kinder
  - i Presentation from Alberta Trappers association
  - ii Learned about the land
  - iii Brought in furs
- Grade 1
  - i Metis week
- Grade 2
  - i Halloween Centers
- Grade 3
  - i Learned about India and celebrated Diwali
- Grade 3s and 4s
  - i Rec center for Remembrance Day
- Grade 4
  - i Clay for kids- used glass to create a craft
- French immersion

- i Remembrance Day ceremony
  - ii Grade 1s doing roots of empathy
  - iii Home reading programs have started
- All classes are preparing songs for the Christmas Fringe
- Jersey day Nov 30

## 7. Trustee Report

- Kendra speaking for Stacy- At a conference today
- Thank you to our School Council Chair and Vice Chair for joining the Council of School Council meeting. From my perspective, it went well, and was effective in bringing forward some valuable information through shared conversation. I look forward to hearing feedback.
- The Board has just begun to review the Division AERR and our schools are doing the same at the local level- as these results are based on the 2022 Education Plan, we are already focused on improvements in some areas as seen in our 2023 Ed Plan from last Spring. As a division, we are working on meaningful community engagement and look forward to hosting public conversation nights in all of our communities beginning early in the new year.
- Please take a look at the latest Trustee Talks for a briefing of the last Public Board meeting. There are always some great links if anyone is looking for more information about what happens around the board table.

## 8. Chair Report

- Courtney Derouin
- Met with Dale Nally
  - i Follow-up regarding questions sent out before election
    - 1 Aging building and how will he support that:
      - a Recognizes that Alberta's population is increasing, therefore creating a demand for more schools
      - b Can lobby for more funding for education
    - 2 Standardized testing
      - a Some teachers might teach to test, concerns regarding grade inflation- can't create your own test to make yourself look better
      - b Helps to ID gaps
      - c Only one tool and doesn't necessarily work for all students
    - 3 Alleviating need for fundraising by parents and instead increase funding for education provincially
      - a Can apply to Community Facility Enhancement Program (CFEP) grant- a lot of school societies have applied and average awarded \$150,000
    - 4 Diversity and inclusion

- a Can lobby for more funding for education to support this goal
  - ii Top 3 priorities
    - 1 More schools for new incoming Albertans
    - 2 Changing funding model so it's more equitable for both rural and urban schools
    - 3 Advocating for quality of education
- Council of School Councils:
  - i Neat ideas that can be built in to our School Council
  - ii Council meetings- build in parent engagement- ex. Math Games night. Activity to do with families to increase parent engagement.
  - iii Be upfront and center in the community- invite trustees, have them present
  - iv Student presentations at council meetings: parents would come with them and can increase engagement that way. Potentially do the grade report?
- Interesting talking to so many parent council members throughout the school division
  - i Parent engagement- people are looking for something for their family: gets parents more engaged if they can bring their family and make it more of a family night
- Redwater Hype
  - i Can come and do a presentation at one of our parent council meetings. They talk about shopkins and can present and explain such to parents.
- Therapeutic Support Presentation
  - i Presentation one school council night so we can have that information and same language for parents to use at home
- ASCA
  - i Engagement presentation last week, unable to attend
  - ii Have recordings that can be accessed afterward or other links that are accessible for parents

## 9. Old Business

- ASCE Grant:
  - i Using it to build school council this year- new faces and new people have joined. Wanting to book the School Council Purpose. Two dates available Dec 5 and Jan 16. Open to every parent in the community if they are interested.
    - 1 Jan date more popular as December is so busy.
    - 2 Booking for January 16
  - ii Will find out if can attend from home
- School Picture parent feedback- already covered

## 10. New Business

- Parent had come forward on MPS Parent group facebook page- had to turn away the comment because of too many personal details involved
  - i Comment was regarding bullying and strategies to help with same
  - ii Going to piggyback on anti-bullying week and share information regarding

- 1 Adding rights of victims of bullying and violence to the Education Act
  - 2 Parent engagement night on how to support your kids around bullying
  - 3 Karen Young- We're not lions book regarding this topic
  - 4 Sharing resources around bullying that parents can access
- Surveys on MPS
    - i Rather than focusing on what they would change, ask: What is something you love about MPS? What is going well?
    - ii Suggestion to send our digital survey when sharing recordings?
  - Ask the Staff quarterly

11. Adjournment: ***Motion by Courtney Derouin to adjourn at 6:49. Carried unanimously (this one is always unanimous)***

Next meeting: Jan 8, 2024