

**École Morinville Public School Council**  
**Minutes**  
**École Morinville Public School *December 9, 2024***

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.

**(Courtney Derouin, Kendra Thompson, Aimee Blanchette, Megan Knahs, Stacey Buga, Margryt Rispens, Tasha Collins, Letisha McCamper, Alison MacIntyre, Nicole Wilson, Sheena Sadoway)**

1. Call to order: **Chair (Courtney Derouin) calls to order at 6:04pm.**
2. Adoption of Agenda: **Motion by Letisha McCamper to adopt agenda as AMENDED to add CWP and remove Vice Principal Report. Carried unanimously.**
3. Approval of Minutes: **Motion by Letisha McCamper to adopt minutes as PRESENTED. Carried unanimously.**
4. Principal Report
  - Christmas Concert
    - i Had the idea to move all English classes to the same night? Putting all the grades together would make for a more impressive concert. However, then we would run into capacity issues of 600 people maximum and would have to have limited tickets per family.
    - ii Any feedback on this?
    - iii Arena could hold more people. However, then it's arena seating. Also, the arena has not as much tech as the MCC has to offer to utilize for the concert.
    - iv Kendra will be sending out a mid year survey for feedback sometime in January
  - Thank you for the book fair support
    - i November book fair raised \$3000 in book credits
    - ii MPS Library's current chapter book selection are more junior high level and not much interest at this level
    - iii Looking at getting new chapter books
    - iv Looking at getting new pictures books that are more engaging to the kids

- Request for extra snow shovels even if they are adult sized
  - i Kids are chopping and building with the snow shovels to create in the snow.
  - ii MPS has bought 9 new play shovels
  - iii More sleds are being purchased by MPS and standing snowboards have also been purchased
    - Students will be shown how to use this equipment safely
- Assembly last Wednesday
  - i New award: The positive playground award- Was awarded to Grade 3s and 4s- opening the award to grades 1 and 2 as well
    - Caring for our playground equipment and increasing positive sportsmanship
    - Nominating one grade 3/4 and one grade 1/2 each month
- MPS Google Review: December 20 draw date for gift card
- Staff appreciated the acknowledgement in the staff room
- Quarterly Budget Update
  - i 27 FTE teachers, counsellors and school admin- decrease of 6 FTE from 23/24
    - Student population reduced from 513 in 23/24 to 436 in 24/25
  - ii Support services: 21 CUPE staff, 1 Child and Youth Care Worker, 2.4 Office and library- decrease of 10 EAs from the 23/24 school year
  - iii Nutrition Program- \$68,000
  - iv School Collected Revenue: possible field trip fees \$56,500; facility rental \$6990 (rental of daycare space), local grants or donations \$3200 approximately
  - v Operating budget \$109,258- target expenditure for the first quarter is 25% of the operating budget- October 31, 2024 expenditure is 31%

## 5. CWE Report

- Presented by Kendall Monti
- Counselling and Wellness Plan
- Meeting social and emotional needs to increase student achievement
- Each school develops their plan based on the division goals
  - i Universal supports/interventions are tier 1- these are class wide initiatives/school wide
  - ii Tier 2 is more targeted- 5-15% of students. Small groups that are pulled out of class to work on things like friendship skills or self esteem, etc

- iii Teir 3 are individual supports. Referred out to community resources
- MPS:
  - i Universal: school feels safe physically and emotionally
    - Lunch and recess clubs are open to everyone
    - Snack and nutrition program
  - ii Targeted: small group supports
    - Group together kids working on similar goals
  - iii Individualized/intensive:
    - Short term check-ins with kids going through something they need extra support in
    - Community supports: division social worker
- Ongoing monthly duties:
  - i September: Theme: Expectations everyone knows school rules and expectations
    - HYPE (helping young people excel); mental health capacity building team- in our school once a week, few classes identified as needing extra support
  - ii October: responsibility
  - iii November: humility
    - Bullying awareness week in each classroom teaching about this- made a kindness chain
  - iv December: Truth and Honesty:
    - Worry stones- give worries to the stone and releasing those worries. Such a popular activity that they are now going into classes one by one so all students can participate in making one.
- Counsellor: Kendall Monti last year 1.0 FTE- this year 0.3FTE. She is also the learning support lead.
- CWE report will be available on the MPS website

## 6. Teachers Report

- Presented by Margryt Rispens
- Kindergarten going to the museum on Dec 11/12- walking field trip
- French immersion: Dec 17- French-Canadian style Christmas celebration
- Last week before Christmas break: 5 days of Christmas

- i Santa sweaters
  - ii Grinch day
  - iii Sock exchange
  - iv Rudolf antlers
  - v Last day is PJ and movie day
- Jan 9/14 Grade 2s have in class RCMP presentation
- Grade 4 field trip to Tawatina on Jan 21
- Jan 24 Hero versus villain day

## 7. Trustee Report

- Presented by Stacey Buga
- Attended the Pre-K French Immersion Concert
  - i Enjoyed the Christmas Concert and thank you for the invitation
  - ii Kids are good representatives of the school
- Christmas Card artwork: received lots of submissions: one winner from each division- will be mailed out as the Christmas Card to all stakeholders from the division
- Last public board meeting:
  - i Annual Education results report: submitted
    - Guides the next education plan
  - ii Approved audited financial statements
  - iii Update to administrative procedure 315: went out to all families to clarify roles and align volunteer expectations with staff expectations and student expectations- Four Winds hiring volunteers for lunch supervision
  - iv Virtual academy- created during Covid- down to a handful of students now. This means that kids are back in the classrooms. Adapted at the learning centers to accommodate students that need this access. Officially voted to close the virtual academy. Will close next school year.
  - v Nutrition grants: Federal government has announced their new nutrition program. Provinces have to sign to access these grants. Alberta has not yet. Division is keeping an eye on this.
  - vi ASCA- alignment of ASCA areas of advocacy between School Council, trustees, ATA, and School Division

## 8. Chair Report

- Presented by Courtney Derouin

- ASCA advocated on behalf of school councils:
  - i Standardized testing:
    - Literacy and Numeracy is assessed right at the beginning of the year before students have even learned these things: puts a lot of pressure on the teachers and the students
    - No research for benefits of this
  - ii Use of Mobile devices:
    - Adjustment period
    - Has been positive: Students are more engaged/less distracted/more connected to their peers.
  - iii Bill 27 has gone through- amendments to the education act
    - Added in the right to in person learning even in the event of a state of emergency
      - a Takes effect Jan 2025
      - b Gender piece takes effect next September
    - Other groups fighting via human rights against this
  - iv Funding for Education Model
    - School funding is currently based on a weighted 3 year average- model has received a lot of criticism
    - Looking at a new model- private education
    - Alberta funds up to 70% for private student education (other provinces 35-50%). 90% of students are in public education system.
    - Parents should be aware that charter schools are not inclusive- chance of students not being accepted especially if they have behaviour needs
    - Other provinces have a cap on education fees- not here in Alberta
      - a This has created elite super schools that exist in Calgary
      - b These students are receiving more funding per student and yet are taking the same standardized tests which is skewing results
- Letter writing campaign:
  - i Creating talking points around the above points to inform participants
  - ii Fireside chat events: how do you support positive mental health and engagement in your community- for example, providing suppers for staff that

have to stay for council meetings or breakfasts when they have to be here but no students; presentations around the effects on students around technology

- iii Cost pressures on schools have gone up 34% (health benefits, cyber security, insurance, utilities, etc) without an increase in school funding

#### 9. Old Business

- Launch letter writing campaign mid/late January
  - i Series of posts

#### 10. New Business

- Window of Tolerance
  - i Ideas to do things with our council engagement budget?
    - Unplugged: pledge to have a smartphone free community childhood education
  - ii Ideas for parent engagement?
  - iii Kendra to bring ideas

11. Adjournment: ***Motion by Courtney Derouin to adjourn at 6:56pm. Carried unanimously.***

Next meeting: Jan 6, 2025