

DRBS School Council Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2024

Meeting called to order at 6:50pm

Attendees

Nick Berdusco	Diana Lasso
Mitra Zare	Chris Kozelj
Jacqui Lund	Theresa Phan
Evelyne Lamontagne	Karen Wotton
Teresa	Kim Howden
Lin Cheng	Natasha Monk
Nicole Leung	Evelyne Lamontagne
Andrea Suarez	Jodi Prazak
Cheryl Balfour	Lisa Talbot
Johanna Tugbo	Tessa Ethier
Lauren Ing	Brenda Labregue
Jenn Lowry	Sheena Masesar
Jamie-Lynn Leci	

Land acknowledgement given by Tessa Ethier.

Motion to approve the agenda for this meeting made by Jamie-Lynn Leci, seconded by Jacqui Lund.
Motion carried.

Principal's Update

Ms. Talbot: Learning Leader for Language. Responsible for building capacity among teachers and students. Currently working with ELL/ESL students, now referred to as English as Additional Language learners.

Ms. Prazak: Math Leader. Oversees and runs Professional Development (PD) days focused on math learning.

Ms. Lebreque: Literacy Learning Leader. Holds certifications in literacy learning challenges, focusing on improving literacy skills among students.

Ms. Ethier: Indigenous Learning and Wellness Leader. Responsible for promoting Indigenous learning and student wellness initiatives.

Update from Sheena Masesar – Special Musical Project

Budget Overview:

- Venue Rental: \$3,000
- Sound Technician: \$1,500
- Bus Transportation: \$4,000
- Costumes & Makeup: \$2,000
- Set Design: \$1,000-\$1,500

Total: Approx. \$12,000

Event Details:

- **Who:** Grade 5-6 (Approx. 180 students)
- **When:**
 - **Rehearsal:** May 21, 2025 (All day)
 - **Show:** May 22, 2025 (Matinee 12:30 PM, Evening 6:30 PM)
- **Where:** St. Michael's Parish
- **Help Needed:** Volunteers for costumes, props, transportation, and setup.

Action Items:

- Confirm venue and transportation.
- Organize volunteers for costumes and setup.

Q- will there be a winter concert? Yes, that too. Stay tuned.

Q- people that can help? Can we post on social media and ask for people to help? Yes. That would be helpful.

Principal's Update

Student numbers have grown from 300 to over 600, and the school year has started very well.

Staffing is not yet finalized but should be set by September 27.

Some student placements are still being finalized. Residencies are still being booked for activities.

Upcoming Events:

Terry Fox Run: September 25, 2024.

Orange Shirt Day: September 26, 2024.

Ski Trip for Grades 5 & 6: This year the trip will be to Nakiska (instead of COP, which was difficult to book). The ski trip will alternate with the camp every other year.

New Playground:

The removal of the fence surprised many, but the kids are enjoying the new space.

Basketball courts are very popular.

New rules had to be quickly put in place to manage the space.

Thanks were extended to everyone involved in the playground project.

Volunteer and Event Planning:

Still looking for a Special Event Coordinator.

Volunteer Coordinator is working on setting up SignUp Genius for the Halloween dance.

Social Media: Planning to post the school's musical needs on social platforms.

Hug 'n' Go Process:

Many new families are unfamiliar with the Hug 'n' Go process, leading to bad parking practices and U-turns.

School needs to educate families about the process. Start time is 8:00-8:10 AM.

Q: Would it help to send out safety info? A: Yes, Evelyn will send it out again.

Blurb about Hug 'n' Go will be sent to Ms. Prazak to include in teacher emails.

Fundraising Update

The DRBS store is up and running with new products coming soon.

Halloween Dance: Planning to sell merch, glow items, and cake pops to fundraise.

Cheque Drive: The only direct fundraising for the year, set to launch by the second week of November.

Movie night will also include fundraising, but details are still being worked out.

Council Elections

Yearbook coordinator: Jamie-Lynn Leci nominates Johanna Tugbo. Seconded by Jacqui Lund. Motion carried.

Secretary: Nick Berdusco nominates Jenn Lowry and Lin Cheng. Seconded by Diana Lasso. Motion carried.

Special Event Coordinator: Assistance is needed to support Andrea.

Fun Lunch Co-Coordinator: Position open to work with Karen. The new coordinator will work alongside Karen and eventually take over the role, with Karen continuing to provide support. More than one person can fill this position.

Kim Howden update

A grant is secured from the Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA) for the 3 Left Feet Dance Residency.

The residency costs will be split evenly between the school and the AFA.

The new librarian, Ms. Pepita, will be brought up to speed and prepared for the upcoming Book Fair.

The Jacket Racket program will run again this year. The group running it is willing to continue, and the school supports the initiative. Evelyn emphasized that it's an excellent resource for those in need. Sadaf will take the lead in organizing it.

Meeting adjourned at 7:27pm.