

Sherwood Heights School Council Meeting

February 16, 2021

The regular meeting of Sherwood Heights School Council was duly called and held on February 16, 2021 virtually via Google Meets.

In Attendance:

Executive: Ashley Frayn (Chair)

Administration: Paul Pallister (Principal), Kris Reid (Assistant Principal)

Parents & Staff: 7 parents, 1 staff member

Community: Trina Boymook (Board Chair, EIPS)

1. Welcome

- a. Ashley Frayn calls to order at 6:34 p.m.

2. Review & Approval of Minutes from January 19, 2021

MOTION: Sheena Singleton motions to accept January minutes as is, Rammi Pandher seconds.

OPPOSED: None

CARRIED

3. COSC Report – Ashley Frayn on behalf of Rammi Pander

- a. Meeting on February 3rd, 2021
 - i. Minutes sent out with January meeting agenda.
- b. Looking for someone to attend COSC meetings. Ashley will continue to attach COSC meeting minutes until a volunteer is found.

4. Program Representative Reports

- a. Logos – Paul Pallister
 - i. Chapel videos to be shared in lieu of in person meetings due to Covid protocols.
- b. Band – Paul Pallister
 - i. Instrument socks in place for band classes.

- c. French Immersion – Paul Pallister / Katharina Staub
 - i. Information session held for elementary students was well attended.

- d. IMPACT
 - i. No update.

- e. Fundraising
 - i. Review of January meeting discussion, updated information via parent group survey & teacher discussion.
 - ii. Discussion: (overview summary)
 1. Hot lunch projected to raise approximately \$6000 this year.
 2. Staff feedback of use unrestricted school generated funds:
 - a. Mascot: Overall, general consensus is that this would have a positive impact on the overall morale of the school. Safety and budget concerns were discussed.
 3. School budget is able to support other material required for classrooms that were expressed as needs by teachers.
 4. Parent feedback from Facebook survey (close to 50 parents voted on three options presented, with no comments):
 - a. Fund to sponsor students unable to participate in hot lunch / student activities.
 - b. Enhanced access to Logos, French Immersion, IMPACT literature and resources.
 - c. Mascot.
 5. Council discussion: A fulsome discussion occurred at this meeting with regards to the overall perception and purchase of a mascot at this time. Parents in attendance voiced both positive comments and concerns.
 6. Support was indicated by several parents and staff that this is a long-term item that has value add to both student and school moral and will be managed according to all protocols and with sensitivity to the presenting environment.
 7. Administration assured parents that at present the budget is able to support school needs and will always prioritize needs of students, including resource provision. The school currently has the resources to support staff and student needs.
 8. Administration made assurance that unfulfilled need identified for enhanced French Immersion novels will be financially supported via school means (not fundraising dollars) and that these items will be purchased.

Ashley Frayn indicated support on behalf of School Council of the school's decision to spend money raised through fundraising to purchase a mascot.

OPPOSED: None.

5. Administration Report – Paul Pallister

- a. Update from Administration
 - i. Various activities in place to keep students engaged during cold snap.
 - ii. Edwin Parr Teacher Award – Sherwood Heights' teacher nominated.
 - iii. [FNMI Engagement Series](#)
- b. Fee schedule for 2021/22
 - i. Review of data from parent survey – 147 surveys returned.
 - ii. Not likely to make significant changes in fees based on parent feedback.
- c. Registration and option choices 2021/22
 - i. Deadline to register February 28, budgets determined early March.
 - ii. Program guide for course options provided March.
 - iii. Honors Programming requisites / staff feedback early selections in April.
 - iv. Virtual Open House for Grade 6 students in April.
- d. French Immersion Project
 - i. Legacy Grade 9 FI experience (trip to Quebec) – looking to replace it this year with a celebration day of French culture, led by Grade 9 class.
 - ii. French Canadian food, dance troupe, musicians from community (virtual or live performances) in the style of Flying Canoe Volant for whole school.

6. Trustee Report – Trina Boymook

- a. In January, the Board reviewed our COVID response costs. The changes made to our budget estimates take into account the most current information. The Board also reallocated \$675,411. \$180,000 to increase Out of School supports for K-6 French Immersion and Grades 10-12. The Board allocated \$366,780 to release some of our Literacy, Numeracy and Assessment consults who have been teaching Out of School students. The Board will continue to monitor our costs throughout the remaining of the year and consider the need for further reallocations if required.
- b. It is expected that the Provincial budget will be tabled February 25. There is a lot of uncertainty with this budget given that Alberta is in the midst of a provincial economic crisis. No one could have foreseen the tremendous additional financial strain the response to COVID-19 would represent, and as such, it's possible we may see more funding reductions when the province releases its 2021 budget. The Board has set a number of budget working sessions in the month of March.
- c. The Division is contemplating implementing a technology fee to support the increasing need to acquire, install and maintain up-to-date technology resources and services to enhance student-learning experiences in the classroom.

- d. A potential technology fee would be charged for each student except for those that are attending a school in which "Bring Your Own Device "(BYOD) is a current requirement.
 - i. The fee would be an amount far less than that required for parents to purchase individual devices for their children.
 - ii. The fee would be used to offset the costs associated with:
 - 1. purchasing student devices,
 - 2. updating classroom computer labs or smart classroom technology
 - 3. student printing
 - 4. network related services including internet demands across the Division.

- e. I met with the Mayor of Strathcona County on January 20 and MLA Walker on January 22 to discuss the Sherwood Heights Value Scope Session recommendation which was approved by the Board in November. I have made a request for Trustee Seutter and I to meet with MLA Glubish.

- f. Returning Student Registration opened on Feb 1 and will go until the end of Feb 28. Those that are planning on attending a school or program of choice please ensure that you declare that during the month of February to avoid disappointment.
 - i. The following schools have closed boundaries for the 2021-22 school year.
 - 1. Ardrossan Junior Senior High
 - 2. Davidson Creek Elementary
 - 3. Lakeland Ridge School
 - 4. Sherwood Heights Junior High

- g. Questions/comments
 - iii. Trina noted that numerous parents have requested fees to be split through each quarter.
 - iv. How much is the Board anticipating for a technology fee? Will it be the same across elementary, junior high, senior high?
 - 1. Currently EIPS provides all devices, the last budget cut funds for updating existing devices to push the money out to schools themselves. EICS requests students Grade 4+ provide their own devices. K-9 students are not equipped to deal with technology issues themselves, nor are their teachers. Senior high TBD. EICS rental \$60-65 /year, EIPS likely not as high. April 22 – school approves fees and allocates funding to schools.
 - v. How does Board decide which schools have closed boundaries?
 - 1. Optimum Enrolment Level is set 92% of capacity. If school's OEL is achieved, boundaries will be closed.

vi. When will families know about Mr. Pallister's replacement?

1. Superintendent will be advertising and interviewing for the principal position, the announcement will be made well before the end of the school year.

7. Schedule of Upcoming Meetings

- a. March 16, 2021
- b. April 20, 2021
- c. May 18, 2021

8. Ashley Frayn adjourns meeting at 8:16 p.m.

The next regular meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. virtually via Google Meets.

These minutes are submitted by Lorena Ellsworth, Secretary.

Adopted by Council in the meeting of March 16, 2021.

Ashley Frayn, Chair