

# Sherwood Heights School Council 2021 - 2022 Summary

## Executive

Jacquie Surgenor Gaglione –Chair  
Lesley Bowman – Vice Chair

Jacquie Surgenor Gaglione – COSC Rep  
Lorena Ellsworth - Secretary

## Meeting Dates

September 28, 2021  
October 26, 2021  
November 23, 2021  
January 25, 2022

February 2022 - cancelled  
March 22, 2022  
April 26, 2022  
May 24, 2022 – postponed until June 2

## School Council Activities

Our biggest focus this year was student mental health which was a standing item on our agenda. We received monthly updates on the programs and resources related to improving student mental health. As presentations were given to students, parent presentations were also arranged. We talked a lot about the Reset Room which opened part way through the school year. Open to all students, parents appreciated the opportunity for our children to have somewhere to go and regulate when they felt overwhelmed, whether that was for 15 minutes or the whole day. Emerging out of the pandemic, we know that many of our students are struggling, and school council appreciated the dedication and effort the school put in to addressing the concerns we all have (knowing students aren't learning if they are experiencing mental health challenges).

We also implemented the staff recognition program that Salisbury started last year which was very well-received by staff. We are planning a staff appreciation event at the end of the year and have sent a final letter of appreciation to all staff.

Another large topic was the replacement school, beginning with advocacy and then after the announcement about design funding, continuing around next steps. We talked a lot about how we still need to serve our existing students as we don't know when the new school will be actually built so we focused discussions on what we can do things which can go with us to the new school. We are working with Councilors Robert Parks and Lorne Harvey to access Councilor Priority Funds to purchase 3-5 picnic tables for behind the school. There is a large need for student seating for lunches and we believe adding picnic tables will be great for our students, but also for the greater community as there are the beach volleyball courts, pickleball courts and baseball diamonds in that same area.

While school council does not fundraise directly, we have worked with the school to administer the Save On Foods fundraiser. A parent collects the receipts and tallies them and then drops them off to Save On Foods. Cheques are written to the school though, although school council provides input into how the money should be spent. But as we do not have a

bank account, the school retains control of the money, and it will show up on their financial statements. Support was given to purchase bleachers for the stage, rock/gem polishing equipment, basketball hoop replacements, and staff appreciation.

In addition to “required” discussions on the accountability pillar, budget and fees and the school education plan, we also discussed topics such as:

- Facility: updates and upgrades to existing building, as well as advocacy for the new school
- Student Mental Health
- Staff recognition
- High school transition idea
- “Paws”itive Referral Program
- Reset Room
- SRO Program
- School Council Engagement Grant
- Career pathways
- Staff appreciation
- Grade 9 Farewell 2022
- Alberta School Councils Association

We do not do any fundraising (and hold no money) other than acting as a supporting role for the Save On Foods fundraising, and as such, discussions were focused on education and school-related issues.

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Jacqueline Surgenor Gaglione–Chair

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Date