

DDS School Council Meeting

Monday March 20 at 3:45pm

In Person & Virtual Meeting

Attendance: Crystal McGregor, Jodi Gurr, Mike Oliver, Michelle Marti, Mandy Zeinstra, Danielle Ross, Steph Winch & Roxane Drake

Virtual: Alicia Bourque, Jenae Emond & Amanda Burke

• **Welcome & Call to Order @ 3:49**

• **Agenda:** Approved by Danielle

• **Previous Minutes:** attached to email. Approved by Steph

• **Business arising from previous minutes:**

• Ukuleles: They have been ordered. Motion passed by Steph to spend \$1374.45, Mandy seconded, all in favor.

• **Principal's Report (Crystal McGregor):**

- Thanks to everyone who participated in the cake auction. The grade 5's and 6's raised over \$900 to go towards their field trip to the Royal Tyrell Museum. The bus driver for the trip has been confirmed so it is definitely a go.
- All buses have been booked for all field trips. The school has about \$3000 in the field trip fund so between that and council money there should be some left over that could be put towards swimming.
- Kindergarten is going bowling. Grades 1 and 2 are going to Calgary Zoo. Grades 3 and 4 are going to the Belleview Mine and Frank Slide. Grades 5 and 6 are doing the overnight trip to the Tyrell Museum.
- Steph motioned to spend \$5000 to go towards the field trips. Mandy seconded. All in favor.
- Laurie Neufeld, our wellness and music teacher, has been nominated to receive the Edwin Parr Teacher Award. This award honours outstanding 1st year teachers.
- At the last teacher meeting, the date was set for the family dance. The date will be Thursday May 18th. The plan is to have the outdoor classroom ready to showcase at that time.

• **Trustee's Report (Mike Oliver):** Attached

• **Hot Lunch Report (Laurell Greene):** Not much to report. All orders are now due on the 15th of the month. This will be in the April newsletter.

• **Treasurer's Report (Mandy Zeinstra):** There is \$840 in the account with one invoice outstanding, for the Chili hot lunch, for \$246.

- **Betterment Report:** No changed to accounts. The casino account is sitting at \$1407.93. The new Casino money should be received in the next couple of months.

- **New Business:**

- Administrative Professional Day – April 26.

-decided to do the same as last year for Crystal Stauth. Roxane motioned to spend \$75 on a gift card to the Cattlemans Chophouse. Steph seconded. All in favor.

- Education Week – May 2 to 5

- Will look at doing the same as previous years. A catered lunch that the teachers can eat together while council volunteers do lunch supervision. May 2nd is the best date to have it if enough people can volunteer. Previous budgets have been \$500 but it will probably be more due to more staff and rising food costs. There are 25 staff members at the school including the counselor that will be there that day. Michelle will call Cattlemans and see what they can come up with.

Around the table:

- Grade 6's are going to attend a basketball tournament at Coalhurst Elementary on March 29th. They will play multiple games and will be there 10:30 until the end of the school day.
 - Jodi asked everyone's opinion on what to charge parents for the field trips. Everyone agreed \$10 is more than fair. The Grade 5 and 6 will be \$20 due to the cost.
 - Kona ice will be at DDS for the last day of school which is June 27th.
- **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 4:29. Next meeting will be Monday April 17th at 3:45.

DDS School Council
March 20, 2023
Trustee Report
Michael Oliver

Human Resource Services

The Human Resource (HR) Services Department provides support and services in a multitude of areas including employee on-boarding, teacher and support staff allocations, employee contracts, and substitute and casual employee processes. HR Services coordinates professional development, union negotiations, workplace investigations and staff evaluations. The team serves 1761 employees and casual/sub employees across the division including 1101 contracted employees (613 Certificated Staff, 488 Support Staff), and 660 casual employees and substitute teachers. Approximately 5300 tasks were completed by HR Services in the past year. HR Services plays a key role in preparing proposals for the bargaining process with the Alberta Teachers' Association and CUPE Local 290. Several areas of focus for 2022-2023 include updating Administrative Procedures, facilitating the Aspiring Leaders program, reviewing current evaluation processes, reviewing onboarding and preparing for the HR Management System, Edsembl, migration. The division is grateful for the dedication of the HR Team.

Family School Liaison Counselling Program

The Family School Liaison Counselling (FSLC) team supports students in mental health and wellness. Areas of support include anxiety, depression, grief and loss, symptoms of trauma, education issues, peer issues and crisis support, to name a few. Fifteen full and part time FSLCs and 4 practicum students make up the team. Government grant funding promised in Fall 2022 has allowed for increased access to mental health support for student, family, and school team(s) and has allowed the division to hire a Youth Systems Navigator, two Family Systems Navigators and a Consulting Clinical Psychologist to increase the supports available. Moving forward, there will be continued emphasis on providing adequate staffing to meet the growing needs of our staff and students and on community collaboration and partnerships to ensure our students and families feel supported.

Palliser Joins Southern Alberta Pathways Partnership

Five school divisions from southern Alberta, along with Palliser, have formed a partnership with Lethbridge College, Career Transitions, local business, and industry partners. The Southern Alberta Pathways Partnership is a collaborative effort that has created a career pathways model that leads students through a series of exploratory and dual credit courses, allowing them to explore potential careers, engage them in learning at the college level and experience hands-on learning. The Board is pleased to support this initiative that inspires Alberta's youth to pursue skilled trades and technologies as viable career pathways.

Board Approves 2023-2026 Capital Plan

The 2023-2026 Capital Plan was approved by the Board. Finding a solution for projected overcrowding at Coalhurst Elementary and underutilization at Coalhurst High School is the first

priority of the division. Right-sizing County Central High in Vulcan and modernizing Sunnyside School are the next priorities. The full capital plan is available online at [2023-2026 Capital Plan](#).