

**Springbank Community High School
School Council Zoom Meeting
Wednesday, December 15, 2021**

Zoom Attendance: Darrell L, Amal J, Ann P, Arlene A, Kara B, Monica W, Raquel, Someya I, Tammy Y (9)

Monica calls Meeting to order at 1pm.

Approval of October Minutes:

Motion to approve minutes: Amal J.

Second: Monica W.

All in Favor: Carried

Chair Report:

Melanie S.

\$500 Parental Engagement Grant: asked council for ideas on how to spend the money.

1. Grief Presentation (\$500.00) very interactive.
2. Adjusting to society with different learning styles/abilities. 4 adults speak on how they have adjusted into society. (video \$599.00)
3. Brooks Gibbs- teaching kids how to be resilient when it comes to bullying – also for teachers and parents. (video \$500.00)
4. Paul Davis – (\$500.00)
5. Mental Health Presentation – reached out – waiting to hear back with information.

Arlene will send Darrell a brief description and he will forward to staff.

Bank Balance: \$5, 219.53

We are still looking for a treasurer and grant writer.

Principal's Report:

Darrell Lonsberry

Q- Question asked about diploma exams next year counting for 30% of the grade. Ann sent a letter to administration, Judi, Minister of Ed. Ann asked Administration to lobby on students behalf so the exam could be at a lower percentage. It is really important to take the students mental health into consideration. The last exam they wrote was in Grade 6.

Darrell – appreciates Ann is advocating for the students and went about the correct route going through administration. He is happy with the 10% this year. They have not had all of the absences they did last year but there is still a profound effect on the mental health of students. There are other ways we can prepare our students for the exams. Teachers can use similar format/font and similar writing conditions to the diploma. They will give the students an opportunity to go to the learning commons and experience the space before the exams. Students will walk through the exam prep with the students. Staff can take steps to help students prepare for the exams.

Ann sees the benefit of the exam to prepare for university but does not want to see the students suffer.

Parents Insights: (on the entire school)

Darrell presents 3 questions to council. Council provided feedback - the questions will be sent out in the flyer for parents to respond.

1. What do parents think are some things that are going well?

Kids enjoy going to school – it is a good place to be.

Good range of options offered.

Focus blocks are amazing – good range of activities, good creative ideas. Offering fun things for them to do is very important.

Thankful for the teachers who reach out to parents.

Extra curricular activities are good – gives students opportunities to explore other interests.

Robotics program has exploded – lots of students want to be there.

Things are done in a safe way.

Drama program is great – it was nice to see how the teachers got all the students involved.

Teachers are more consistently using power school.

Communication from Administration is very good.

2. What do parents think could be worked on or improved?

Scheduling is a problem in a few areas – option subjects when they are only offered once a year.

More consistency across staff in terms of reaching out to parents.

More consistent communication between school/teachers/families.

Teachers need to be more consistent in updating marks so that marks are known before the next summative assessment.

A timeline that could be created for grade 12 deadlines for university applications for the parents.

3. In response to what parents think, what actions could our school take to do better?

Supporting parents in knowing when and how to reach out to staff if their child is reluctant to self advocate.

Q- Why can't the students have the exams after they write them?

A – The exams would get out and shared and teachers would have to make new ones. You could ask your teacher where your child is struggling and where to find practice questions to help.

Q- Are we allowed parents in the gym for presentations?

A – Yes, everyone will need proof of vaccination. 1/3 occupancy and everyone will need to be spread out.

School Trustee Report:

Judi Hunter



DECEMBER NEWSLETTER TRUSTEE HUNTER WARD 5

Hard to believe we are into December, it seems like the school year had barely begun.

All Rocky View School trustees attended the Alberta School Boards Association annual fall general meeting. Trustee Baziuk was elected Vice President of the Association for the 2021-2023 school years.

The Board had the privilege of listening to Landry Fortrand from Chestermere Lake Middle School who gave a wonderful presentation on how he has changed his teaching practice in mathematics. The change is a result of the information given in the book “Thinking Classroom in Mathematics: 14 Teaching Practices for Enhanced Learning”, by Peter Liljedahl, a mathematics professor at Simon Fraser university.

I have included links to some videos that show how this classroom works:

Video 1:

<https://youtu.be/fW5EvyK2rbs>

Video 2:

<https://youtu.be/g8C0u2XMm88>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DmV5EHDNbf0>

Robotics programs start early. Elbow Valley Grade 3 students shared the work they were doing with robotics. The students were excited about their work and shared their learnings.



Good news, organizations that are renting Rocky View Schools facilities will have insurance included in the reservation charge. This saves organizations having to show proof of insurance. The reservation charge includes an insurance fee of \$10.00

Below is a link to the information for the EverActive Schools Conference January 27-29. While the conference is primarily for educators, parents are always welcome. There are a variety of sessions that parents would enjoy.

[Shaping the Future 2022 Conference | Ever Active Schools](#)

The Alberta Learning Disabilities Association is offering video offerings for parents. This is something that school councils may consider offering for parents.

<https://www.normalisntreal.com/>

Rocky View Schools in the news

Classroom exchanged for wide-open space

<https://www.producer.com/farmliving/classroom-exchanged-for-wide-open-spaces/>

Congratulations to Ms. Knight and her Drama 9 and Drama 20/30 students for a fantastic production of Shakespeare's “A Midsummer Night's Dream”. We look forward to more amazing work from our high school drama students.

Committee Reports

a) Grad Representative

Kim B.

No report.

b) Volunteer Coordinators

Arlene A./Amal J.

Taking items Friday to Drop in Center. Casino was successful.

c) CPF Representative

Vacant

We are currently looking for a representative from the High School. Amal asks Darrell to send an email to the French Immersion parents to see if anyone wants to join.

Darrell will find out the enrollment in the French Immersion program.

Darrell says right now CPF can reach out to Kara B with any questions they have. Darrell asks for requirements for the CPF staff contact and he will send to staff. Amal will send him an email of what is required.

New Business:

No new business.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:42 pm