

École Secondaire Lindsay Thurber Comprehensive High School

“Committed to excellence in teaching and learning”

School Council Minutes for Monday, May 28, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:03pm by Robert Pack with the recognition statement:

We acknowledge that we are on Treaty Six territory to the North of the Red Deer River and Treaty Seven territory to the South of the Red Deer River.

We acknowledge and give thanks to all the many First Nations, Metis and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries.

1.0 Minutes of the April 30, 2018 meeting were presented for approval.

Kristine Plastow moved to accept the minutes.

Jennifer Harman seconded.

Carried.

2.0 No correspondence to circulate.

3.0 Leadership Report - Kayden Wall was unable to attend. Ben Harman brought apologizes from Kayden and thanks for a great year. Ben shared that Thurber Life is working on the Week of Wonder this week. There will be Harry Potter, Kahoots and prizes. Wednesday will be Meme day with prizes and virtual reality displays. Thursday we encourage students to wear Thurber wear and we will have tattoos. Friday will be a fluorescent/freezie Friday. Community will be having a flower sale on Tuesday. 200 roses at \$2.00 each with proceeds to Breast Cancer research. Internal will be working on the Pep rally for June 11th and the Dodge ball finals. The X games are in the final planning steps. They will be giving every student a \$5 food voucher for the food trucks. We are hoping the food trucks will have a Thurber \$5 deal. We will have two new leadership sponsors in the new school year - Mrs Barker and Mrs Purcell.

4.0 School Report - Dan Lower went through the Accountability Pillar Overall Summary from the survey results from Alberta Education.

Above the provincial average, educational quality is up, drop out rate continues to decline, three year high school completion rate dropped significantly. We know what the rate will be moving forward because we monitor every student that leaves our school. If they stay in AB we can track them. Of the percentage that stayed with us - they completed school around 75%. We expect this number to increase each of the following years, especially with connections. Grade 9 PAT results are difficult because of the schools that our students are coming from.

Dan reviewed the 3 year School Ed Plan that we are working on for next year. We look at whether we met our goals from last year and we set our goals for the upcoming years to align with the District's three goals. We want each department to set one goal in each of these areas, and have a way that we can measure success. The areas we set goals in are Literacy and Numeracy, Equity and Student Success and Completion. This report is due to our Central Office on June 20th, so if you have any additional comments, please contact Dan Lower.

Dan asked for feedback from School Council on what we could focus on in the area of character education.

Suggestions: communication and relationships - ex. how to carry on a conversation, how do you show interest in another person, how do you maintain a friendship when someone is going through something like depression, how not to be a mean girl.

Suggestions for ways to accomplish this: games, group counselling, 7 habits of highly effective people.

Dan shared that we are trying a compatibility component in the upcoming school year to help us in how we match our Connections students with their staff connections mentor.

Dan asked for feedback on ideas for Council meetings.

Suggestions: continue bringing in students that are doing cool things, have School Council chairperson speak at the Connections parent evening, more touring of the school, meet the VP's, teachers in specialty areas, ex. Robotics, utilize our alumni to speak to students.

5.0 ASCA report - Robert Pack shared information that he received on the effectiveness on the resolutions that are passed at the AGM. An excerpt from his email with Jolaine Kochisarli from the ASCA is below:

"When the ASCA membership passes resolutions brought forward to the AGM, they form part of the association policy. The ASCA utilizes our policy (positions/statements) while participating in provincial committee work - bringing the "parent perspective" to the table. To that end, we essentially "move them forward" through the education committees - to reflect member determined policy from the resolutions proposed.

Alberta Education and organizations representing teachers, school boards, superintendents, universities and others, regularly collaborate on provincial level issues through joint advisory committees involved in provincial decision-making.

Issue resolutions passed at each AGM are also sent to the appropriate government Ministries (Education, Infrastructure, Health, Transportation, etc.) - so they are aware of new policy of the association. Most Ministries reply to us with a response, and/or comment.

I prefer to think that the success rate for the ASCA - is working collaboratively in provincial involvement and continued invitation(s) to be at the table as valued partners in public education. I do believe member generated issue resolutions derived from the "ground up" have contributed to changes in provincial legislation, if not all, or right away, are eventually realized in the education environment.

I have attached a copy of the ASCA Advocacy Policy Manual - if you scan the Table of Contents page 2-3 (numbers indicate the year the resolution was passed) - dating back forty years - most topics have been provincially acted on, or dealt with in some form, relating to current day practices and/or legislation."

Robert thanked Dan, Christine and the teachers that attend, for their time in coming to School Council. Robert reminded parents to feel free to invite other parents to join meetings as well.

6.0 City Wide Council meeting - Jennifer Harman shared that members of the City Wide Council meeting participated in the blanket exercise. It was very enlightening.

7.0 New business - no new business.

8.0 Meeting adjourned at 8:19pm.