

École Secondaire Lindsay Thurber Comprehensive High School

“Committed to excellence in teaching and learning”

School Council Minutes for Monday, October 29, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm 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.

Robert Pack welcomed everyone and introductions were made around the table.

Robert Pack reminded us of our Mission statement. ***“École Lindsay Thurber Comprehensive High School is committed to educating our students in a safe, inclusive learning environment, that embraces the diversity of our students and ensures the supports are in place to reach their full potential.”***

1.0 Minutes of the September 24, 2018 meeting were presented for approval.

Alan Kuprowski moved to accept the minutes from the September 24, 2018 meeting.

Vandy Bowyer seconded the motion.

Carried.

2.0 Circulation file was passed around.

3.0 Dan Lower introduced Sandre Bevan our Grade 12 Vice-Principal. Her portfolio includes all the timetabling and scheduling for our school, as well as graduation for our Grade 12's.

Sandre Bevan shared that our Grad list was posted on Friday. Criteria for graduation is to be registered and passing in everything that students need to graduate. Some students were disappointed that they are not on the list. High School Diploma requirements are on our website. Next Grad list will be posted on Dec 14th. If they are not in a position to graduate by May 16th they do not get to walk across the stage. Our graduation rate will be 81% this year. We feel that this rate is high because of the things we are doing for kids.

4.0 Student Leadership Report - Max Chernoff represented Alex Macleod who is ill.

Leadership would like feedback from these meetings. Please share any feedback to our email (ThurberRaiders@rdpsd.ab.ca). We would like both positive and negative feedback from students, staff, and parents.

1. Past Events

- a. Sold SPC cards (Student Discount Cards), School T-shirts and Scarves are being sold for \$10 in the Cafeteria Tuesdays and Thursdays during Flex
- b. Leadership Remind 101 is open to everyone in the school to stay updated (rmd.at/lindsayth)

- c. We are using Snapchat, Instagram and Twitter (@ThurberRaiders) to inform the student body of upcoming events
- d. We have been doing a weekly showcase of members of leadership on our Instagram page
- e. We have a Calendar outside of the exec office with an overview of the month
- f. Week of Wicked
 - i. Began last Wednesday, will end on Halloween.
 - ii. Selling butterbeer and pie, handing out candy in mornings, hosting lockdown rooms, and our annual costume contest on Halloween day
- g. We continue to have announcements every Monday and Wednesday morning
- h. First Pep Rally was a success, we received lots of positive feedback from staff and students

2. Future Events

- a. Week of Winter is up next with our Thurber life team this begins on December 17th
- b. This Months Food Friday (free/paid food) is TBD
- c. Intramurals for floor hockey are coming to an end on November 6th and we plan to get basketball intramurals starting soon
- d. Each team is working on their rough estimate dates for this year's events
- e. Our community team is doing Coffee for Cops on Halloween
- f. Beginning of November our community team will also be doing a clothing drive
- g. Winter formal is on Wednesday December 12th 7-11pm at the Westerner with a fairytale theme.

5.0 Dan Lower shared and asked for feedback on our School Results Report for 2017/18. Dan shared details on our Improvement Strategies for all these areas. Report attached. Discussion followed: **When do students write the PAT's?** PAT's are written at the end of January and the end of June for semestered schools. PAT's can also be arranged to be taken at a different time. Diploma's cannot.

How do kids learn to learn? How do they learn if they are doing a course on-line? We do talk to students and ask them how do they learn. We offer flex sessions on how to study. This isn't something that is in the current curriculum, but we are trying to address this.

How do we empower them as learners? We try to encourage them to go to flex sessions. We are encouraging teachers to try to hold students accountable to goals that the students set for themselves.

What happens if students don't connect? At the beginning of the year we had students in our Grade 8 feeder schools do a survey to try and find like interests with staff so that we could connect them with the right teacher. We know it isn't perfect, we gain and lose staff members, but we hope to get there. Collective responsibility - we all have a responsibility.

Dan showed off a welding student's work that was presented to him at the pep rally. William Eddy created a metal Bucky and Dan was very proud of his gift. William's Dad was at the pep rally as well.

Our first Grad assembly and Hall of Fame ceremony took place on Oct 18th. Our inductee this year was Erik Nordby. Dan shared that there was a concern brought forward from a Grade 12

student that noticed we have not had a female inductee in 16 years. Dan shared that the nominations haven't reflected that, but that the committee would take a look at that.

Connections update - pumpkin decorating contest was a big hit!

Our award ceremony was last week. When our top Grade 12 Pathways student was announced, the grad class cheered, parents were in tears. We had a great parent turnout this year.

Discussion: Can the letters for awards be addressed to parents as well? We will make a note of this for next year.

Dan Invited everyone to our Remembrance Day ceremony on Nov 6th at 1:00pm

We have talked about the Blanket exercise in the past - Dan has booked this for our Nov 26th meeting. We would need to start the meeting at 6:30pm to accommodate this.

Dan asked for future suggestions for ideas or areas to highlight - PowerSchool training, Fashions, Robotics.

6.0 ASCA Report - Robert Pack shared that you can go on the ASCA website and join the taskforce.

7.0 City-Wide Council Meeting Report - Kristine Plastow shared that the last meeting was at GW Smith. Their focus is on student leadership and growth mindset. Jaelene Tweedle is the Chair and Sarah Rollingson is the Vice chair. We learned about the school board and our trustees. We worked on a FAQ about trustees that the School Board can use. Bruce Buruma had a presentation about the Foundation. We also learned that according to Alberta School Council regulations - we can accept donations but we can not fundraise. Next City Wide meeting is Nov 13th at Oriole Park and it will be about RDPSD values.

8.0 Meeting adjourned at 8:46pm