

École Secondaire Lindsay Thurber Comprehensive High School

“Committed to excellence in teaching and learning”

School Council Minutes for Monday, September 26, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7:01 pm by Dan Lower. Introductions were made around the table.

1.0 Jade Weber - Student Leadership Report - Jade shared that the Pep rally is this Friday. Leadership has just returned from the Leadership retreat. Plans are in the works for Halloween, and the first intramurals.

2.0 Election of Executive: Dan Lower reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the positions available. Brad Vonkeman let his name stand for Chairperson. By acclamation, Brad Vonkeman is Chairperson.

Corinne McLean let her name stand as Vice-Chairperson. By acclamation, Corinne is Vice-Chairperson.

Jen Harman & Theresa Chilibeck will share the City Wide School Council Representative position.

3.0 Minutes of the May 30, 2016 meeting were presented for approval – amend attendance: Robert Pack listed twice.
Kristine Plastow moved to adopt the minutes of the May 30, 2016 meeting
Yvonne Pack seconded
Carried

4.0 Brad Vonkeman chaired the remainder of the meeting. Brad welcomed everyone and reviewed the agenda. **Agenda addition to 8.0:** Insurance

5.0 Appointments for 2016/17

Secretary – Christine Duffin (Office Manager)
Teacher Representatives – Alissa Kleinloog, Gaylene Mackay
Community Representative – Shelley-Anne Goulet
Student Leadership President – Jade Weber, Leadership President
Trustee Liaison – Mrs. Dianne MacAulay
District Liaison – Mr. Ron Eberts, Associate Superintendent, Technology Services

6.0 No correspondence to circulate.

7.0 Reports: Dan Lower – verbal report

Dan shared that we now have a grade administrator for each grade. Dan is happy with this really strong team. The new Admin team is:

Jamie Rawlusk - Grade 9
Sandre Bevan - Grade 10
Geannette Lehman - Grade 11
Brian Plastow - Grade 12
Rachel Lavoy - Business Manager
Christine Duffin - Office Manager

Dan shared that our goal is 100% High School completion. When Dan took over as Principal in 2013 the High School completion rate was 68%. The following year we went up to 68.5%, the next year we went up to 76.3%. Then we plummeted to 66.2%. We have since begun to diligently track our students. We are fairly confident that our rate this year should be around 75-76%. We are looking at our collective responsibility in this endeavour. We are striving for 100% High School completion. We are monitoring which students are not being successful, and we are hoping for early intervention. We as an Admin team are going to meet with each teacher 5 times throughout the year to help teachers help students be effective. We are also instituting inflexible flex. This will help students who are making poor decisions with their flex time. They will have that time taken away and be assigned to a flex room until they have brought their mark above 55%. We are also asking our CTS teachers to make sure that students are on track to earn all 5 of their modules. We are expecting big payoffs with this plan.

Hunting Hills completion rate is higher than ours, although our non-attendance rates are similar.

We have 1717 students registered. This is 97 students more than predicted. The good news is that financially we will be able to add teachers to help with this.

We split our largest class into two classes of 22. Most of our large classes are in the 36-37 student range. We are hoping in the second semester to change some classes around and help out a number of classes into more manageable sizes.

Mason Lantz asked if student timetables will change in second semester. Dan shared that there will be some changes. But we will only be targeting core areas.

On Friday we had our Staff Professional Development day and we worked on our Mission, Vision and Values. We broke into 20 groups working on our Mission statement. We worked it down to two groups and two statements. Dan shared the two statements. We will craft this into one statement. Dan would like to end up with something that is enduring. This mission statement will be promoted and used in many places so that everyone knows our Mission. Dan would like School Council to have input into our values as we get closer.

Dan would like to highlight areas of our school at each School Council meeting and have a tour at the end of the meeting.

Suggestions were: Science Park, Sensory room, Learning Commons, Automotives, Robotics, Food Services, CTS areas.

Dan shared the School calendar for the 2018-19 school year. The District office has asked School Council to give feedback on the calendar. The key changes in the calendar are: rather than a spring break there is a winter break in February because of the Canada Winter games. As well, Teacher's Convention has moved

into March instead of February. Dan filled out the feedback form and also added that Council liked the start in September, and would like that in every calendar year.

Dan shared that our District focus is on Equity this year. On Thursday Dan will sit on a committee that is looking at allocations to schools. Each school has to have an Equity committee. We will send out an email if any parent is interested in sitting on this committee.

Tomorrow is our second annual DYEversity relay. We have 660 of our students participating, 100 staff and students from our feeder schools and Central office are also participating. Funds are used to support our breakfast program. Our Breakfast program offers bagels, toast, fruit, juice, milk in the mornings on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays. Tuesday and Thursdays we offer granola bars and juice during flex.

Question about cafeteria: Our cafeteria is rented out to Yolanda Infante. Yolanda used to run the concessions in the arenas. We have had Alberta Health Services work with her and create a menu so that she follows our nutritional policy. She employs students with work experience and will often feed students for free that need it.

8.0 Insurance - Shelley-Anne Goulet shared that Red Deer Public has in place a basic insurance for all students. Shelley-Anne shared that after their son had a devastating injury, they realized that they could have purchased additional insurance that would have helped cover some of their costs. Shelley-Anne shared that if you have students in any athletic program you can purchase additional insurance. Dan will share this with our athletic and CTS departments. We will add this to our website as well.

9.0 Upcoming School Council dates are: Oct. 24/16, Nov 28/16, Jan 30/17, Feb 27/17, March 20/17, Apr 24/17, Last meeting May 29/17.

10.0 Upcoming City Wide School Council dates are:

October 4, 2016 - Annie L. Gaetz Elementary

November 22, 2016 - Fairview Elementary

January 24, 2017 - Mattie McCullough Elementary

March 7, 2017 - Gateway Christian School

May 9, 2017 - West Park Elementary

11.0 Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm