

École Secondaire Lindsay Thurber Comprehensive High School

“Committed to excellence in teaching and learning”

School Council Minutes for Monday, September 30, 2019

Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm by Dan Lower 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.

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.”*

Dan welcomed everyone and introductions were made around the room.

Dan shared the role of School Council:

Council members work together to support and enhance student learning. They provide a way for members of the community to consult with and offer advice to principals and school boards. Parents play an important role in student success. School councils allow parents to participate in decisions that impact student learning. By contributing knowledge, perspective and ideas at school council meetings, parents actively contribute to the success of the school community.

LTCHS Specifics:

Our constitution

No fundraising

Attend as often as you want and are able, last Monday of the month - except Dec & June.

1.0 Student Leadership Report - Ainsley Lirondelle - Ainsley would like to increase communication between parents and students. Feel free to give her feedback at any time from these meetings as well as all of the events mentioned. 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. SPC cards (Student Discount Cards), School T-shirts, Scarves and Beeswax candles are being sold for \$10 in the Exec Office Tuesdays and Thursdays during Flex
- b. We are using Instagram ([@ThurberRaiders](https://www.instagram.com/ThurberRaiders)) to inform the student body of upcoming events
- c. We have a Calendar posted on our broadcast board outside of the exec office with an overview of the events of the month

- d. Week of Welcome
 - i. Began the first day of school, ended on Monday Sept 9th
 - ii. On the first day of school we had leadership students assist the new Grade 9's in finding their classes, in the mornings we handed out Thurber themed bracelets and candy, and had a food truck come at lunch for the students
 - iii. Thurber Life had their Food Friday of the month by handing out free pizza out of the Exec Office
 - iv. We put together care packages for the staff to hand out to their Grade 9's during Connections, which featured tips for being a Raider, snacks, the bell schedule and a map of Thurber
- e. We continue to have announcements every Monday and Wednesday morning, done by our new voice of Thurber, Emily Dawe.
- f. First Pep Rally took place on Sept 18th during Flex.

2. Future Events

- a. Our Community team is hosting a Coffee for Bus Drivers event on October 4th after school, with thank you cards from our Leadership class and donuts
- b. Community is also holding a Winter Clothing drive from October 7th to the 18th for the Mustard Seed. If you have any gently used items send them to the Exec office.
- c. Week of Wicked
 - i. Begins Monday October 27th and ends on Halloween.
 - ii. Decorating the cafeteria the Friday before, selling butterbeer and pie, having our annual costume contest on Halloween day
 - iii. New this year - tape a teacher to a wall
 - iv. Also new this year, we want to hide our clown from the storage room all throughout the school and create a "Where's Waldo?" scavenger hunt, whoever finds him everyday gets a prize
- d. Our Internal team will be starting to plan Winter Formal, which is Thursday, December 12th.

Ainsley explained that there is a leadership class as well as a leadership executive. We hand out applications in June and do interviews for leadership executive. Ainsley shared that this is also an X-games year. Leadership plans a day for students before exams to just enjoy and let out some stress. We have a ball pit, mud slide, food trucks, etc.

Parents asked if Facebook might be a good way to let everyone know about the events. (lots aren't on instagram, twitter)

2.0 Minutes of the May 27, 2019 meeting were presented for approval

Kristine Plastow moved to accept the minutes.

Yvonne Pack seconded

Carried

3.0 Appointments

Teacher Representatives – Alan Wade, Alyson King, Dania Hill
Secretary – Christine Duffin, Office Manager
Student Leadership President – Ainsley Lirondelle
Trustee Liaison – Bill Stuebing
District Sr. Admin Liaison – Ron Eberts

4.0 Election of Executive: Dan Lower reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the positions available.

Dan Lower motioned for Robert Pack to stand for Chairperson.

By acclamation, Robert Pack is Chairperson

Dan Lower motioned for Jennifer Bahler to stand as Vice-Chairperson.

By acclamation, Jennifer Bahler is Vice-Chairperson

Sarah Rollingson, Kristine Plastow, Michelle Irvine let their names stand for the City Wide School Council Representative position.

Robert Pack reminded parents that there is an ASCA conference in April if you think you might be interested in attending.

5.0 Reports: Dan Lower – verbal report.

Dan shared that we have worked hard at the rebranding of our school. Dan shared the slide show that he presented at our opening grade assemblies to students to showcase our new brand. We are in the process of making changes to signage, etc.

Dan shared that we have 1869 students currently enrolled as of Sept 30, 2019.

92 teachers motivated and dedicated

56 support staff without whom we could not function

12 new & 3 returning teachers

3 new educational assistants

A new Grade 9 Vice-Principal Mrs. Sheila Sillery. Sheila is our liaison with the Fine Arts and English departments. She has 451 Grade 9 students. Sheila will be working with exam scheduling, supervision, Monday Memo for staff as well as sitting on the Health and Wellness Committee at the district level. Sheila shared that Pat McPherson is the LAT on the Grade 9 team.

Dan shared that our goal has always been - 100% success for all. Success looks different for all kids but everything we do must be in some way tied to enhancing learning to help kids graduate from high school. Dan shared the past 7 years of graduation rates. We will see some difficulty coming up with 25% of our population ELL or FNMI students.

Dan shared our success rates for each grade over the past years.

Dan would like LTCHS to be known as “Creating a culture of learning”.

In order to support learning for students we have created a “Success Centre” (new name needed) now in our old International Hall. It is a breakout space for students so that they can have extra time or supports. We will also do some credit recovery there. Our students who do not use flex in the way it was intended - will be sent there to work on school work.

We also have a new attendance protocol - 90% verified attendance. Parents must verify student attendance within 7 days. The consequences of not meeting the 90% verified attendance will be not participating in extracurricular events, graduation ceremony, field trips, athletics, etc. Only unverified absences will count against the student.

We will also be doing Learning checks - teachers will check in more frequently with students and parents to make sure they are successful

We have implemented a Grade 9 transitions for Success - this will help students understand how to learn better. In Period 1 - we will hold the class during flex and work on one of 6 different lessons to help the transition from middle school to high school.

Dan shared that we are a Scent Free School - we have more and more staff and students affected by scents.

Parent teacher interviews on Oct 9 & 10 from 4:30 - 7:00pm

LTCHS Hall of Fame ceremony on Oct 17th - this year our inductee is Susan Knopp (class of 1980) Susan is a proud Red Deerian who believes in giving back to her community. She is the CoFounder of 100+ Women Who Care.

Dan also wanted to thank Mrs. Lianna Richmond and the Foods 30 class for preparing our snacks for tonight.

Parent Questions: *what is the situation with vaping in change rooms?* We are trying to have teachers periodically check as well as asking kids to let us know of students that are vaping. At this point, bylaws has to catch students in order to ticket them. This has not been very effective. The news about some deaths has scared some students into quitting. All four high schools are following the same protocol at this point.

6.0 Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.