

Fish Creek School Council AGM Notes

Tuesday, November 19, 2024

Meeting held at FCS & online via Microsoft Teams

Present: Karly Cussigh, Jeremy Olson, Susan Simmons-Slater, Kelly Landon-Pettigrew, Danny Yip, Tim Birchfield, Leena M, Suzanne Calbrese, Kodi Taite, Ashley Fairbanks, Roseline Carter, Miranda Hegedus, and Koti Tate, Katrin Lusignan.

1. **Call to order @ 7:01pm by Suzanne & seconded by Kelly (1 min)**
 1. Land Acknowledgement: We would like to acknowledge the traditional territories and oral practices of the Blackfoot Nations, which includes the Siksika, the Piikani, and the Kainai. We also acknowledge the Tsuut'ina and Stoney Nakoda First Nations, the Métis Nation (Region 3), and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta.
 2. Welcome & Introductions
 3. Sign in on chat/physical sign in sheet
2. **Approval of Minutes and Agenda approved Danny & by seconded Suzanne (1 min)**

*Members may request any item to be added by emailing council fishcreekschoolcouncil@gmail.com by the first Tuesday of each month. Otherwise, items that are brought forward after that date will be added to the next month's agenda.
3. **Reports 7:03pm (50 mins)**
 1. Principal's Report-Katrin Lusignan (Reported by Tim as Katrin)- Please see attachment provided for Principal's report.
SIIR Results- A copy of the report can be requested through Tim or Katrin.

Questions: With the additional funding, what will the purpose of the new teacher hire? Tim- same as last year. We will have the new teacher take over P.E. class. This will free up the teachers to work with those students who may need additional help.

Question: How often will those students needing extra help be pulled from PE? Tim- They might miss a class or two depending on the situation. The goal is to get several kids together that need additional assistance on a similar topic.

Question: What are people thinking about school photos and the company that takes them? Tim-There are some issues that parents are having including price, quality ect. Please let us know how you feel good or bad so that we can take this information to the photography company.

Question: What are you thinking could be done with the unclaimed lost and found? Tim- People seem to enjoy thrifting. Maybe there is something we could do around setting up a thrift shop a couple time a year with the lost and found to support those families that may need some assistance or could use a sweater or jacket at a reduced price.

Question: With the results showing that the grade 4, 5 and 6 had lower levels of comprehension versus the students in K-3 (2023), can we assume that COVID interruption could account for some of those challenges? Tim- It is hard to tease out the exact reason why the higher grades score lower. However, with those students in k-2 during that period, you could see a potential correlation. K-2 is where they learn the bases for writing and reading.

Question: Has the class size increase have anything to do with why the students are reporting a decrease in (Alberta Education Accountability Measures Reports) student

engagement. Tim- There was a reduction in staff (PE teacher being released) to help keep the class sizes down. The school has done it's best to keep classes at a reasonable size.

Question: Do we get additional money for those students who have IPP? Tim- There are many factors that are considered. The number of students has very little impact.

Question: What does the “at risk” mean? Tim- It means that the students are at risk of not hitting grade level.

Question: Are you planning another coffee with the Principal in December so that Parents who have concerns or questions about the SIIR? Tim- Yes, I don't have an exact date.

Question: How are you handling the fees that remain owed? Tim- we forgive. There are programs that we can look at for subsidies/funding for school fees that could help those who need it. There is also some funding through council that can be considered on a case by case.

Question: Nothing is really discussed about Staff well being. Is there something that you feel we could support in that way? Tim- teachers have started wearing Red shirts on Fridays in support of public education.

Question: In respect to the fees, they sometimes take a while to posted and you forget. Is there a way to get notifications when the fees are there? Tim- We can manually send emails when fees are posted.

1. **Teacher's Report-** None at this time

Question:

1. **Vice Principal's report- Tim Birchfield :** Nothing new at this time

Questions:

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1. **Treasurer's Report-** Jeremy Olson: nothing new at this time

Questions:

A copy of the budget can be requested by emailing fishcreekschoolcouncil@gmail.com.

4. **New Business 7:53 pm** (1 mins)

Power point showing 5,000 new kids in CBE. A lot of schools are facing population issues, and a large portion are ESL. There seemed to be an underlying excuse using immigrants as a major reason for the over population and depletion of funds.

There was a discussion about portables and not enough room to put the new students in. Over the next 3 years they have funding for 30 new schools across Alberta.

Key take away is to make sure that we have Charlen May attend a council meeting and bring forth a structured agenda as to our concerns. It was interesting to learn that schools that are at capacity have more dollars going to the students versus those that have a dropping population. Schools like ours, more money goes to maintenance and facility fees to heat and run a school that is not as largely populated.

******Please note that FCS is not at capacity.
We need to figure out how to promote this
within the community.******

5. Meeting Adjourned at 8:08pm by Ashley seconded by Kodi (1 min)

Next Meeting: Tuesday Jan 21, 2025 @ 7PM

- Find us on Facebook: FCS Parent Association
- Follow us on Instagram: @FCSparentassociation
- Contact Us at: fishcreekschoolcouncil@gmail.com