



## Sturgeon Heights School Council Meeting

March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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### **Attendees:**

In-Person: Aaron Chute, Adriana DeLuca, Trish Murray-Elliott, Shayla McRitchie, Sara Townsend, Alice Funk, Stephanie Cordova, Lyndsey Baron, Gail Katzenback, Amy Skolski, Crystal Belanger

On-Line Attendees: Lisa Rosales, Krista Samis, Melissa Knezacek, Caitlin

**Call to Order:** 17:35

**Treaty 6 Land Acknowledgement:** 17:35 – Stephanie Cordova

**Additions to Agenda:** N/A

**Approval of Agenda:** Gail Katzenback, Alice Funk

**Approval of Minutes:** February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Sara Townsend, Alice Funk

**Administrative Report:** Aaron Chute

- Bathrooms in the school: Parents and students raised concerns about the condition of the bathrooms and stall locks. Most locks were discovered broken upon inspection by the custodian. They were fixed within a week, rebroken and fixed again.
- Staffing: Mrs. Bourgeois is away on leave. Mrs. Ohm is a counsellor and Mrs. DeLuca is a learning counsellor. Mrs. McRitchie was seconded into the Learning counsellor and Mental Health and Wellness coach. Mrs. Peters is covering both of those teachers' alternating classroom voids.
- Student Teachers: Two new student teachers for 5-6 weeks in 3W (Lesley) and 4R (Novoa).
- Thank you for the pancake lunch volunteers and efforts.
- Sex Ed: All outcomes per grade were sent home in an email. Teachers do their best to answer questions. All classes will stay mixed-gender and all material will be taught in the classroom.
- Budgets: 55% through the budget and 75% through the year. Money does go into reserves if any is left. Reserve funds are being used to replace shelving in the library, new furniture in the library and a curvy couch. ETA for furniture: April
- Parent/Teacher Interviews: Great sign up so far. Bring \$2 for art raffle.
- Infocus Art – photographs around the school from North American artists, kids can vote and a Student Choice Award will be awarded to the winning artist.

- Playground Audit: most expensive repair bill for the division (old playground). Cost estimated at \$50,930. Division would cover \$9,100, \$41,800 to be covered by the school. Of that \$41,800 the largest portion is for playground sand at \$31,000. Parents asked about other options than sand that may be less maintenance and better costing. Not sure timelines of playground repairs.
- Open House: April 11 from 5-7PM. Just like last year, there will be stations with passports. School Council will have a table and a BBQ and the prizes this year will be substantial.

#### Adriana DeLuca

- April 10<sup>th</sup>, from 5-7 is the ICE presentation. 50 people have signed up with 23 children. We have 4 babysitters available.
- Trying something new for kids going to the office. Slip for kids to take, think sheets. Keep sheets for data to see how kids can get more streamlined resources and supports as they need it.

#### Teacher's Report: Shayla McRitchie

- Grades 3 – fossils and Virtual Tour of the Royal Tyrrell Museum
- Grades 4 – Making Devices and building things
- Grades 5 – Josh Classen in to talk about the weather
- Grades 6 – Evidence and investigation in the sciences
- Junior High went skiing
- Krista mentioned the SNOW PASS ski program
- Junior High Band went to band camp
- Sturgeon Night of Music is coming up April 22 and the band will be performing
- Sound Vibes in the gym – yoga
- Saffron Society coming in to talk to grades 7-9 about sexual harassment strategies and skills for intervention
- Cereal drop: 722 boxes, go almost around to the office again, first time. Winning classroom was Mrs. Wing's with 69 boxes

#### Trustee Report: Trish Murray- Elliott

- Stakeholder engagement meetings finished in early March and the Board looks forward to hearing a summary of the conversations and input received by the Administration during these sessions.
- The school continues to accept registrations for next year. Early registration is encouraged to help our admin teams plan for staffing and programming for a successful upcoming year.

- Sturgeon Public School Division is pleased to have nominated one of our outstanding new teachers for the Edwin Parr Award which is presented by the Alberta School Board Association to celebrate the excellence of first-year teachers across Alberta. Congratulations to Chris Jansen of Sturgeon Composite High School, on this nomination which recognizes his commitment to engaging students and fostering a connection to their learning which has distinguished him as an outstanding educator within our community.
- Thank you to Sturgeon Heights School Council for hosting the March Council of School Councils meeting and to Sara and Alice for attending. There were some interesting discussions and questions.
- If anyone hears a parent express concerns, please encourage them to speak with the teacher involved. This generally resolves any issue and if not, it can be taken up with the School Admin, Ms. DeLuca or Mr. Chute, and if that still doesn't solve the problem, concerns can be taken to the Office of the Superintendent.
- Areas of focus at the Board level are the Division's Three-Year Capital Plan which will be finalized and submitted later this month, and prep work on the budget for the upcoming school year.

**Sturgeon Heights Fundraising Association (SHFA) Report:** Alice Funk

- Bank balance is \$21,583.03 which includes some cheques still to come out
- Hot lunch is the only thing currently on the go

**Parent representative**

- Could we eliminate parent rep role & have a parent advocate?
- Is there an opportunity to host a parent session on conflict management?

**Kindergarten Rep:** Amy – always things going on, feels good to volunteer, parent advocate – suggestion – Negotiation – increase skill in difficult conversations, conflict management and approach to school communication

**Primary Rep (Gr 1-3):** Christine – not available

**Elementary Rep (Gr 4-6):** Stephanie – nothing to report

**Junior High Rep:** Lisa

- Jr. High ski trip was amazing. Mr. Robertson went above and beyond.

- Cell phone use – could we revisit them having access at lunchtime to check in with family and “disengage” and veg (as the staff probably does on their break). Mr. Chute said there are studies that speak to the opposite and he doesn’t have an answer for that yet.
- The Jr. high doors are always so positive and welcoming in the morning, such a positive environment.

**New Business:** Sara - none

**Old Business:** None

**Next Meeting:** Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
5:30pm online and in person with childcare available

**Meeting Adjourned:** 18:45pm  
\*minutes taken by Stephanie Cordova

**Future Meeting Dates:**

April 15<sup>th</sup>

\*May 13<sup>th</sup>

June 17<sup>th</sup>