

École Agnes Davidson School Council Meeting
Tuesday, December 13th 2022
7pm @ STAFF ROOM

1. Welcome/Gratitude – ATTENDEES: Donna, Danielle, Kristine, Pam, Carrie, Tyler, Courtney, Ali, Kristina, Joanne, Kelly, Jen, Megan, Alex, Terra
2. Additions and Approval of Agenda. APPROVED by: Danielle. SECONDED by Kelly.
3. Approval of November 8th, 2022 minutes
APPROVED BY: Tyler. SECONDED BY: Joanne
4. Reports
 - a. Principal's Report (Terra)(15 min)
 - i. Optional Immunization survey from AB Health sent out via email.
 - ii. Busy 2 weeks coming up!!! Refer to Terra's emails for details or to the school website calendar <https://ad.lethsd.ab.ca/agnes-davidson-school-calendar#/4225/1671433200/1671519600/true>
 1. Christmas around the World (Dec 19) and Theme Days: Dec 19-23!
 2. Dec 21. Sr Choir field trip – Singing for Seniors: If symptomatic, please do not send your child to senior's homes. Children are still welcome at school if feeling well enough.
 3. Dec 22. Festival Handbell and Choir at 9am (Thursday)
 4. Dec 23. Christmas Carols outside as a school at 12:35 (10 minutes before the end of the day). All are welcome to join!
 - iii. STAFF RETIREMENT– Mme Helene Bougeois (EA)
 - b. Vice-Principal's Report (Megan)(15 min)
 - i. Constance Colley (BOOST TEACHER) Intervention for students in grades 2-4 for numeracy (8 weeks) followed by literacy intervention (8weeks) Parents notified if their child will be part of this pull out program, as based on MIPI results/Government Assessments from earlier in the year.
 - ii. LOST AND FOUND – please claim your items!!! Unclaimed items will be donated to MYCITYCARE on Dec 23.
 - iii. Angel Tree – 3rd sled is already full! Families in our school community are using this program, many are in need throughout our city. Thank you for your support and generosity!
 - iv. School website has lists of, and links to community programs and supports. Even if you don't celebrate Christmas, you can access these services over the holidays if in need (Needing food? Wanting to find a present for a child's upcoming birthday?). You can also call the office/email Megan or Terra to reach out for supports for yourself or a neighbor.
 - LSCO Free Christmas Dinner. Register by December 20 at 4pm to receive a free dinner that will be delivered on Christmas (Dec 25). Meals arrive cold and need reheating. Call LSCO to register: (403) 320-2222

c. Staff Rep Report (*Alex Westwood*) (15 min)

- i. Grade 3 team celebrated Diwali and India Unit with a host of morning of activities. (Art using colored rice, Bali wood dancing, played cricket, cultural tasting of naan bread and butter chicken). Kids excitement was evident!
- ii. Winter extravaganza for families to come celebrate the Christmas Season is this Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:00pm – dancing, snacks, art, photo booth, STEM activities, BINGO, scavenger hunt.
- iii. School division LEGO challenge – Deadline on Feb 28. Details can be found on Lethbridge School Division website at <https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/departments/technology/lego-challenge>
- iv. Funding request – in the past, school council has paid for 2 sessions of Scientist in the school for each class. As this program has not returned to be in-person, would school council provide \$500/classroom to fund an educational activity/field trip in lieu of this? (Will be discussed by parents at the Society meeting that follows)
- v. Aggies Brew – winners are posted on the school website! If you buy coffee directly from Cuppers, you can choose the label you'd like. Contact: <https://www.cuppers.ca/contact-coffee-gift-shop/> or call (403)380-4555

d. District Council Report from Dec 5, 2022 Meeting (*Carrie*) (10 min)
(Next Meetings – January 16, 2023. Town Hall – February 7, 2023)

All Division Council Minutes can be found on the District website:

PARENTS > DIVISION SCHOOL COUNCIL > MEETINGS or follow the link
<https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/parents/district-school-council/meetings>

Pre-Meeting: Parent Engagement Seminar on Technology used in the Division

- APP: SCHOOLGUIDE gives you a calendar of events for each of your child's school, and links you directly to Powerschool, MyBusStop, Schoolcashonline, School Messenger etc
- Each child in the division has access to a free copy of Microsoft Office on up to 5 devices (access to a particular device resets every 30 days unless they re-login)
- Links available on the division website on digital citizenship
- Feel free to call/email Garrett Simmons or Jesse Sadlowski at the Division Office if you have any questions regarding technology

- i. Learning Sessions for Parents are available through the Edmonton Learning Consortium (ex Numeracy and Literacy workshops). Dr Cheryl Gilmore will have an additional package of links to share from SAPDC in January.
- ii. Trustee Report given by Genny Steed
 - Board Meeting November 29- Reviewed Audited Financial Statements and 22/23 Budget Projections as well as information on grants the division has received
 - GRANTS:
 - \$360,000 received for mental health to hire one Educator for digital citizenship education and one Social Worker for 2 years.

- \$219,000 awarded to the BOOST program for additional numeracy and literacy supports for students identified in Grades 2-4.
20 additional teachers were hired in the division with this grant.
- Huge Bouquets to Karen Rancier, Director of Curriculum and Instruction and all of our Elementary Teachers and Administrators for facilitating all the additional testing and on such short notice!
- Community Conversations - Thursday, Dec 8th at the YMCA from 4-5:30 and January 26 from 6:30-8:00pm at the Boys and Girls Youth Centre
- iii. Alberta Schools Council Association - Reminder to discuss opportunity to send a delegate to the ASCA AGM in April
- iv. Committee Reports
 - Policy Advisory Committee (November 9 meeting)
Next meeting January 18 – Policy feedback due January 11.
Policies discussed and updated include:
 - Policy 502.3 Suspensions and Exclusion
 - Policy 605.1 Inclusive Learning Supports
 - Policy 500.1 Student Rights and Responsibilities
 If you'd like a copy of these policies and the changes made, please contact the School Council Chair, Donna at CHAIR@ADCOUNCIL.CA

Feedback on these policy changes can be sent directly to Jamie Walburger (jamie_walburger@hotmail.com) or Kristin Solowoniuk, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, (Kristin.Solowoniuk@lethsd.ab.ca),

- Poverty Intervention Committee – Next meeting is December 13
- Division Wellness Committee – Next meeting is in January
- Community Engagement Committee – Next meeting is December 13
 - The ICE Scholarship (Grade 9-12) banquet has been changed to a Student Showcase Event. This will be held in the Chinook High School Theatre on March 9th. Application/Entry criteria available on the Division Website
 - Prepping for Town Hall on February 7th – Please send representatives!
- School Calendar Parent Feedback – Meeting December 12
- v. Superintendent's Report
 - Student Wellness Forum for High school students scheduled for February (Morag Asquith and Counselling Team inviting a broad array of students to discuss predetermined guiding questions about how students are feeling and their overall physical and mental wellbeing - especially in relation to diversity and inclusion).
 - Division Assurance Results Report
Available on the Lethbridge School Division website: OUR DIVISION > PLANS + REPORTS > ANNUAL EDUCATION PLAN AND RESULTS
<https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/our-district/news/post/board-approves-2021-2022-annual-assurance-results-report>
 - Possible BLANKET CEREMONY to be planned by the school division - Information will be sent out soon to define "What is a Blanket Ceremony"

and then parents can respond if they are interested in attending. Initial response is for information only and is not a sign up.

- vi. Round Table discussions - What does your School Council do to make sure all parents feel invited, welcome, and included?
 - Nicholas Sheran School used their grant on a literacy night and had 250 attendees with a hot chocolate bar and Timbits. Grant money was used to create packets for grade appropriate games and exercises to go home with parents. Fundraisers and community donations covered the costs of food and other needs.
 - Nicholas Sheran school - provides a bucket of toys to entertain kids that attend the School Council so parents are able to engage.
 - Several school councils are still providing an online option for meetings as well as meeting in person – while it has its limitations, this has opened the door to greater engagement as it allows parents with barriers another way to engage with Parent Council and attend meetings virtually.

e. Alberta School Council Association (ASCA) (Aaron – sent report to be read)(10 min)

Aaron attended a virtual engagement event put on by the ASCA board to discuss:

- i. Challenges, especially in rural schools, due to the decentralization of insurance – smaller schools cannot afford the insurance necessary for some field trips compared to larger schools/districts
- ii. Numerous viruses circulating causing an increase in absenteeism (cold and flu season has hit!)
- iii. There was a very useful brainstorming exercise where it was discovered all reps share the view that school districts at large are currently underfunded by the Province.

f. Trustee Report (10 min) Krystina Larkin

- i. Poverty Intervention – “Weekend and More” bags are provided to families in need to provide food for the weekend or over the breaks. Money is available to purchase winter clothes. Please contact the school if you are in need of any of these supports.
- ii. Budget explanation – In May the Board approves an estimated budget based on projected enrollment. Sept 30 is the funding deadline based actual enrollment so in November the Board adopts the operational budget. Leth51 is actually underfunded for 350 students as it is based on a rolling average over 3 years. Funding allocation particularly short in the per student funding category. If you are interested in budgets and funding, Avice, Director of Finance/FOIP Coordinator, is extremely knowledgeable and willing to answer any questions.
- iii. Division Assurance Plan - DASHBOARDS offer a quick glance at the information – performance, finance, social/emotional wellbeing, etc
- iv. Mental Health Grant – Focus on Digital citizenship and digital literacies and equipping students with tools to navigate the digital world.
BOOST grant – A huge shout out to elementary schools teams on doing the evaluations and assessments in order to receive the grants.

- v. Community Conversations – informal opportunity to chat with Board Members each month – NEXT CC: January 26 from 6:30-8:00 pm at The Boys and Girls Club
- vi. Town Hall (February 7, 2023) – if you need supports in order to attend (child care, transportation, interpretation, etc) please reach out to the your administrator. If you can't attend in person, as there are limited spots per school, please still share your thoughts by filling in the survey after the Town Hall is finished. This will be available on the Community Engagement website.

5. Old Business

- a. Letter to City of Lethbridge – Traffic control at the 20th Street/22nd Avenue intersection (Carrie)

- Carrie created a draft of a letter on behalf of the parent council as requested at last month's meeting. She is asking for feedback if anyone is interested in giving some. Copies were available at the meeting for those interested.

- Discussion as to best way to present this request? Is a letter sufficient? Should this be a petition signed by parents in our school? No decision made at this point.

- Suggested that once the letter is finalized, a motion should be made and a vote be held by school council to formally document support for this prior to submitting it to the City of Lethbridge.

- Terra and Carrie will meet to discuss contents of the letter and next steps. Terra will also write a letter on behalf of École Agnes Davidson (as per November meeting).

6. New Business (Terra)

- a. Budget - (Pie graph shown to depict the allocation of school funds)

- i. 82% for staff and teachers!
- ii. Rest on "bits and pieces"

- b. Annual Education Results Report (2 mins)

- i. Reserve Funds and OLEP – maintain at 3.15% of our operating costs.
 - 1. Outdoor learning space – courtyard redevelopment
 - 2. Modernization of Teacher classrooms (improves spaces to increase learning opportunities – examples: add a lip onto the bottom of whiteboards for marker storage, purchase carpets that were once in classrooms but had to be removed (will choose anti-fungal for health and safety but more expensive)
 - 3. Technology upgrade – removed a lot of older technology last year and replaced by the Division but requesting extras for classrooms
- ii. OLEP – Federal Funding (GRANT) for French Immersion schools – funds to spend for resources and professional learning specific to French Immersion needs. No guarantee for it to continue in years to come...
 - New curriculum resources: needing specific FI resources that are more expensive than English resources
 - Projecting needed curriculum resources for FLA 4 and FLA 5 once implemented by AB Ed.

- iii. 2021-2022 Annual Education Results Report – seeing lots of declines which, at first glance, is discouraging. Upon further reflection, this also does not show the complete picture as this report is a comparison to the past 3 years’ results and the demographics have changed at Agnes Davidson (we became a single track school AND we are on the other side of 2 very uncertain years due to the past COVID crisis).
 - The Full document is on the school website in the ABOUT section
- c. Assurance Plan (2 mins)
 - i. PRIORITIES FOR SCHOOL: Student Growth, Learning Supports, Teaching and Leading, School Goal - Building a Milieu Français.
 - <https://ad.lethsd.ab.ca/about/assurance-plan>
- d. Town Hall, Tuesday, February 7 at 6:30-8:30 pm. Location TBA (5 mins)
 - The purpose is to seek feedback to assist the Board of Trustees and Division in planning for the future
 - i. We will need 1 staff member, 4 parents, 1 community member - Please contact Terra by email if you would be interested in representing EAD. Terra and Megan will seek to choose volunteers that represent a wide demographic from our school population. Deadline: end of January
 - ii. Two questions to be asked/discussed at the Town Hall.
 - 1. ***In what ways are we successfully supporting students to help them grow as learners?***
 - 2. ***Where do you see room for improvement in supporting students as learners?***
 - iii. Following the Town Hall, the questions will be posted on the Division Community Engagement website to provide opportunity for individuals who were not able to attend the Town Hall.
- e. School Newsletter (2 mins)
 - i. The Newsletter has been STOPPED! Instead, the same information is posted on the website and Terra will send an email each Monday with highlights and a link to the website. Also working hard to keep the SCHOOLGUIDE calendar updated.
- f. Pancake Breakfast (10 mins) Feeding APPROX - 2000 people
 - i. Moved to January 26 (too much going on in February already!)
 - ii. Chair for the event: Danielle (will use guiding document from previous events)
 - 1. Council purchases mixes, syrup, etc
 - 2. Teachers – early morning cooks
 - 3. Parents – clean up

Next Meeting January 10

Adjournment @8:20pm