

**Spitzee Elementary School Council Minutes**  
**May 14, 2025**

Attendees: Teigan Jamison, Pam Milligan, Maureen Misura, Sarah Beagle, Shannon Culbert, Bill Holmes, Kelli Graham, Pam Barlow, Chris Fuzessy, Phil Irwin, Cst. Foley, Karalee Fox, Mary Chadney, Tess Pfeifer

Regrets: Jody Hoogwerf, Tricia Swallow, Danielle Woodruff, Rozlyn Neighbor

Call to order @ 6:32PM

**Welcome & introductions:** current council exec & staff

Chairperson- Jody Hoogwerf

Vice Chairperson- Tiegan Jamison

Treasurer- Tricia Swallow

Secretary- Tess Pfeifer

Fundraising Chair - Dannielle Woodruff

Teacher Rep-

**Land Acknowledgement**

We acknowledge this land on which we reside, work, and learn as the traditional territories of the people in treaty 7 of southern Alberta including the Siksika, Piikani, Kainai, Tsuut'ina, and Stoney Nakoda First Nations, and the Metis Nation of Alberta Region 3.

In the spirit of this acknowledgement, we hold thanks in our hearts for the beautiful gifts and lessons these lands hold.

We also acknowledge the tradition of councils that have been practiced on these lands long before our time here. We commit to the understanding that all members of this community are responsible for teaching our children, to ensure the origins of these lands continue to be honoured and respected.

**Approval of minutes**

(all mtg minutes posted to FB page and to communication boards outside the office and on the boards outside)

Motion to approve - Tess Pfeifer

Second - Teigan Jamison

## **Ecole Senator Riley Admin presentation** - Principal, Kelli Graham

The Admin Team from Ecole Senator Riley joined us to present important information for the Grade 5's moving onto middle school in the fall.

### **Introduction to the Admin Team**

- Principal - Kelli Graham
- Vice Principal - Chantal St. Jean
- Learning Coach - Matt Van Noshand
- Family School Liaison Counsellor - Pam Barlow

### **How children will be supported:**

- EA's
- Learning Coach
- Room 122, Room 123
- Breathing Room
- Office

### **Extracurriculars**

- Badminton
- Flag Football
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Track & Field
- Student Council
- Minds Matter
- Rainbow Alliance
- Gang Green

### **Differences Gr. 5 to Gr. 6**

- Timetables
- Mandatory Grade 6 Band
- Daily Phys Ed or French 2nd Language
- Activity Time & Break Time
- Lockers and Backpacks
- Concession Fridays
- Open Gym
- Open Gathering Area in the morning

### Important Dates

- May 26 - Grade 8 Band Concert
- June 2nd - All Grade 5 student go for a tour at Senator Riley
- June 4th - Open House and Information night at Senator Riley
  - 3:30 PM - BBQ
  - 4:00 PM - Presentation

If anyone has any questions you can reach out to the Office and Admin Team at Senator Riley.

**Trustee report**-Mr. Phil Irwin (10 minutes presentation, 5 minutes discussion and questions).

### Foothills Footnotes ... Found on the FSD Website

“Good Governance: Behind the Scenes of Student Success” with insights into what a trustee and the Board does and is responsible for, what good governance looks like in Foothills School Division, and what the work of the Board is right now as we engage in discussions about impending budget decisions for the next school year

[April 2025 Footnotes](#)

### System-Based Delegation & Presentations

- Director of Student Learning (7-12) and Assurance Data, Doug Stevens ... an informative presentation on how teachers are using AI for transfer within classrooms in the division
- Second Language Report by Andrea Laubman - Coordinator ... With an update on how French Immersion students are experiencing success as a result of the engagement and support of the Division and the teachers that provide instruction and opportunity throughout the year.
- Inclusive Learning, Wellness, and Well-Being Director's Report - Cora-Leah Schmitt
- Tech Services Director's Report - Sally Smith
- Risk and Materials Manager's Report - Dave Barton

### Information/ Discussion/ Action Items

- Education Plan update - Deputy Superintendent, Learning Services, Caroline Roberts
- Budget Presentation - Assistant Superintendent, Drew Chipman, Corporate Services

- The Town of Okotoks has voted in favor of financially supporting the enhancement of the proposed theatre scheduled to be built within the new high school.

#### Board Committee Responsibilities and Reports

- Trustees have all but completed their collaborative evidentiary practice and self-evaluation work for this school year.
- A number of trustees will be attending the ASBA Spring General Meeting in Calgary in early June
- The evaluation of the Superintendent is ongoing but nearing an end for the year.
- Members of the Board and Exec Team will be attending a number of celebrations between now and the end of the year that will include graduations, concerts, Milestones, and numerous awards and ceremonies.

#### Divisional / Ward 5 Highlights and Initiatives

- Foothills School Division will be hosting the Zone 5 Edwin Parr Celebration later this month at D'Arcy Ranch Golf Course honoring first year teachers who have excelled in their practice.
- The Board and Exec. Team met with the Town of High River on May 5th to discuss a number of topics near the bridge, election partnership, community partnership and sports field conditions and maintenance.

**Admin report-** Mrs. Culbert/Mr. Holmes (15 minutes 5 minutes discussion and questions)

Our Ed Plan is posted to our [website](#). Under the “Our School” menu, click on “2024-2029 Education Plan”.

Engagement: Communicating learning to parents

Support: Advancing Wellness and Well-being \*Eagle Culture

Success: Advancing First Nations, Metis, and Inuit student success – enhance the application of foundational knowledge, support cultural learning and accurate depiction of Indigenous worldviews.

- Kindergarten students are TEACHING their classmates how to draw themselves, mallards, bunnies, and mermaids! They have also been doing really well at the pool last week and this week!
- Grade 1 students have been planting and learning about what plants need to live. They have been observing plant growth at George Lane Park. Because they've just finished their measurement unit, I bet they are putting those skills to good use as they

watch plants grow! They are writing poems about themselves and exploring changes in our world, including in themselves. It was fun to see their stuffies in the Learning Commons this week!

- Grade 2 students are reading like crazy! Their teachers have given them a challenge and they are keen to meet their goal! They are just finishing writing their own poems and will be reading poetry soon. They are also looking at transformations in math (rotations, reflections, slides) through an artistic lens.
- Grade 3 students continue to work on the concept of connection! They are making brochures for countries around the world (Ukraine, Tunisia, and Peru). They also continue to work on both understanding and quick recall of multiplication facts up to 10x10.
- Some of our Grade 4 & 5 students enjoyed being at the Young Authors' conference on Saturday, accompanied by Mrs. Livesey-Moore. It's fun to hear them talk so excitedly about the sessions they attended and how much they learned!
- Grade 4 students are reflecting on whether the form and clarity of their writing and speaking improves their ability to convey meaning... Whoa! In Math, they are looking at how the relationship between addition, subtraction and place value can support their understanding of numbers and how they solve problems. Students are enjoying learning about the connection between living things and continue to talk about how they can minimize any negative impact on living creatures.
- Grade 5 students are getting geared up for their first big school to school transition! This week, the Admin from Senator Riley came over to share some information and take their questions. Some things never change.... Biggest fear: Locks on the lockers! Parent tip: Buy 2 locks this summer to let them practice. When they've got one mastered, switch it out for the 2nd one so they can gain confidence. We will get to see their band play in our gym on May 26th and our students will be walking over for a tour on Mon. June 2nd. Open House for parents and students will be that week on Wed. June 4th from 3:30 to 5:00, with a BBQ first & then a presentation at 4:15 in the Learning Commons.

### **Upcoming Important Dates**

May 14 to 21 - Bottle Wars vs. Joe Clark School

May 15 - Western Heritage Day, including a concert with local musicians at 11am

May 16 - PD Day

May 19 - Victoria Day

May 22 - Cst Foley comes to talk about BIKE SAFETY

May ?? - High River Library Summer Reading Program

May 29 - Cantare Children's Choir performance at Spitzee

May 30 - Sports Day – All Afternoon; lunch at 11:50 (awaiting confirmation)

June 2 - Bronco Bolt – Emerson Lake

June 5 - Patrollers' Picnic

June 6 - Welcome to Kindergarten Day\*\* School Council in Learning Commons to meet & greet?

June 11 - School Council @ 6:30

**Council Business:**

Casino Dates have been announced - October 24th and 25th 2025

**Meeting adjourned @ 7:51 PM**

**Fundraising Meeting opens @ 7:52 PM**

-Treasurer report: Teigan Jamison

General account: \$7624.32

Casino: \$2003.40

Playground: \$4262.17

PC Food Support: \$2102.81

**Fundraising Update** by Dannielle Woodruff

**Funding Requests**

Motion: Tess Pfeifer motions that each class will receive \$200 from the General Account for Field Trip Fees to be used at the teacher's discretion.

Seconded by: Pam Milligan

All in favor - Yes

**Meeting adjourned @ 8:02 PM**

**Next meeting-** Wednesday June 11 2025 at 6:30 PM