

Spitzee Elementary School Council Minutes

Attendees: Shannon Culbert (Principal), Bill Holmes (Vice Principal), Marnie Thomas, Tiegan Jamison, Tricia Swallow, Jody Hoogwerf, Kylie Siggelkow, Pam Milligan, Kristin Ellis, Phil Irwin (Trustee) , Danielle Woodruff, Karalee Fox, Shelby

Regrets: Alison Brown

Call to order @ 6:32pm

Welcome & introductions:

Chairperson- Alison Brown

Vice Chairperson Tiegan Jamison

Treasurer- Tricia Swallow

Secretary- Jody Hoogwerf

Fundraising Chair - Kristin Ellis

Teacher Rep- Marnie Thomas

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 - Tricia Swallow

Second- Tiegan Jamison

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

Foothills Footnotes for October

https://media.foothillsschooldivision.ca/media/Default/medialib/footnotes-2023-10_final.51c6ee16540.pdf

- Parent Voice- How parents can contribute to the process of a flourishing community to move the division forward. Advocating for FSD students. Visit the Advocacy section on the FSD website and find the areas of advocacy that interests you. Myth vs Fact about curriculum.

Presentations- Facility services (Kevin G) budget for maintenance. Summer school- keep up, catch up, get ahead. Staff wellness.- presentation from Chase Ellis Director of Staff and wellness

Action items-

- Policy 12 School configurations. Populations change and schools have to be ready and prepared if things do change.
- Trustee guide to governance handbook

Information Items

- New school in Okotoks and transportation issues regarding the new provincial initiative. Meeting with MLA Sigurdson on October 24th with trustees, school council chairs and one school council appointee. 7:00-8:00pm. An announcement from Alberta Education.

Division Highlights

- FSD was granted \$50,000 from Alberta Education to support Oilfields High School Vertical Farm Initiative.
- Tipi transfer ceremony at Highwood High School

Other Notes

- Remembrance Day Services Friday, November 10th.
- Inquiry: Jody H was curious if there could be an inquiry into looking at ways that we equip teachers to help with students that are coming internally and externally. "TCI" Therapeutic Crisis Intervention. Regulation and coping strategies proactively and reactively. An email was sent to Chris Fuzessy. Suggestion and appreciation to keep the conversation alive. The Sturgeon School board has implemented this program and seen results.
- Question: New curriculum timeline for grades above grade 6. No news yet.

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

- The Education Plan is posted on our website. The focus of next Friday's Pd Day includes looking at the New Science Curriculum session. Will look at assessment and ensure consistency within our school. Developing annual assessment plans to meet new FSD reporting, co creating rubrics, developing plans for comparing student work.
- Parent Teacher Conferences will be Nov 2 and 8.

At Spitzee these days

- Teachers are getting to know their class, building relationships and establishing routines. Entering marks into Edsembli for parents to review. Working around what these early marks indicate that learning has happened for all students.
- Regular classroom communication
- Teachers have been in-serviced about Mental Health and ADHD. Mrs. Kellock will be sharing body image positivity as part of the Wellness learning
- Continuing collecting literacy and numeracy data for Alberta Ed. Grade 1 will collect in January.
- Choir has started and students are busy with recorders and drums.
- PE classes have been learning dances for Family Dance. In line skating was excellent once again, thank you to the School council for making this happen.
- Sports have begun. Run Club, Flag Football wraps up next Wednesday. Triple ball takes place at FC Fieldhouse in Aldersyde.
- Construction in the SE corner of the school. Time to update the signs for traffic as we have been having a lot of people parking in the staff parking, many near misses. Working with division office for new signage.
- Staff committee worked with Jared Tailfeathers and Kookum Virginia Aldoff to plan a mural in the gathering place. It will depict our community years ago. We are excited about students' input and increased understanding of our community's past. Each class is coming up with a local bird to be included in the mural. He would like to start work on this during November break.
- Comment Jody H- Acknowledged that it is noticeable that Truth and Reconciliation is not just a day thing but a culture of learning.
- Start of the dance - Blessing of a gift that was given to Spitzee from Rocky Barstad and family.
- Feedback Kylie- Thank you for communication regarding Edsembli and what is happening at the school. Spitzee is hitting it out of the park and doing an amazing job. Thank you. By having a lot of communication and consistent communication helps parents know what is going on and then we dont worry that the learner profile is down to twice a year.

Upcoming Important Dates

Oct 19 Spitzee School Dance

Oct 20 School Professional Learning Day

Oct 31 Halloween Parade

Nov 2 & 8 Parent-Teacher Conferences

Nov 6 Photo Retakes

Nov 10 Remembrance Day Assembly 10:30am

Nov 11-19 School closed

Nov 22 School Council

Council Business:

Presentation of Financial Statement- Tricia Swallow

- Thank you to Tricia and Travis on the financials from our last financial year August 2021 to July 2022.

3 Year Plan- Jody Hoogwerf

- Schedule a meeting with the admin and school council in November to look at finalizing the 3 year plan.

Feedback on previous council: open discussion

- Teachers are appreciative especially financially that the council helps out.
- We have a healthy school council
- A new parent from Calgary has noticed the significant difference and positive environment.
- The structures that we have in place are respectful of people's time. It is mutual between those presenting and those in the audience. People are choosing to spend the time here and we thank you. It is highly appreciative that you are all here.

Elections of the executive positions for the 2023/2024 year:

Secretary:

Nominees: Danielle Woodruff will have her name stand as a nominee for Secretary

The motion is to have Danielle Woodruff to be Secretary for the 2023 2024 year.

All in favour. YES

Welcome Danielle. Thank you.

Treasurer:

Nominees: Tricia Swallow will have her name stand again this year for the Treasurer.

The motion is to have Tricia Swallow to be Treasurer for the 2023 2024 year.

All in favour. YES

Thank you again Tricia.

Vice Chair:

Nominees: Tiegan Jamison will have her name stand again this year for the Vice Chair.

The motion is to have Tiegan Jamison to be Vice Chair for the 2023 2024 year.

All in favour. YES

Thank you again Tiegan.

Chair:

Nominees: Jody Hoogwerf will have her name stand as the Chair

The motion is to have Jody Hoogwerf to be the Chair for the 2023 2024 year.

All in favour. YES

Thank you so much Jody.

Speakers for Meetings-

-Social Media and Kids - complete. Paul Davis, speaker at Senator Riley was well attended by Spitzee Parents and had positive feedback.

-Positive Mental Health- Shannon to connect with Psychologist (November, February or April)

-Body Positivity - Shannon to connect with Psychologist (November, February or April)

Discussion:

Jody H was talking with Mrs. Kellock. Engagement and success.

Fundraising dollars during Christmas concert: many families are struggling to make ends meet. Would the council like to change where funds are allocated and instead create food hampers with the donations and support Spitzee families with the support of Barb Kellock? Would council be willing to match the donations or could PC charity dollars support this?

Discussion:

Q: Is there a program in the community that supports these families in need? AGLC rules and BFL monies are tricky for how you can spend the money.

Do you know how many families would need support?

Thought - A previous school had a "giving tree", you could grab an ornament and it would have a suggestion for the family. Engage families that perhaps are not at the family dance or concert.

Jody will commit to reaching out to Barb Kellock to speak to her with our idea, present the idea.

Fall Dance- Concession items ordered, DJ has been selected Tony, Decorations/Photo Booth.

-Chips, glow sticks, water, juice boxes, candy bags- Jody will send an email asking for parent volunteers for our needs for the dance.

- Photo Booth: update Rozlyn Neighbors/ Tiegan Jamison

-would Gr. 5 students be interested in supporting? -Grade 5s (especially those working with Mrs. Connors in photography may be interested in helping) -Mrs. Connor said that she has students to help and support.

Meeting adjourned @ 7:59pm

Fundraising Meeting opens @ 7:59pm

Treasurer report:

General account: \$13,445.21

Playground: \$6689.63

PC Charity (breakfast): \$9345.69

Casino account: \$36,651.96

Fundraising Update by Kristin Ellis -.

Dance Oct 19th

- chips/candy/water/juice boxes/popcorn/ glow sticks

Money raised will go to PE equipment

Christmas concert

Preschool- December 21st

Kindergarten/Grade One/Grade Two-December 12th

Grade Three/Grade Four/ Grade Five- December 14th

bake sale (sign up)

- 50/50

Money raised will go to music program

Valentines Candy Grams

Money raised will go to the library

April

- Growing Smiles flowers

Delivery for Mother's Day

- Money raised goes to field trips

May

- team fund Bacon

- Money raised goes to field trips

- Spitzee Carnival

Hot Lunch Report (Pam, Melissa, Madisyn)

Hot Lunch is going great and busy! Great feedback so far. Trying some new local companies. Mrs. Culbert will see if we can have some students to take care of the bins.

PC Children's Charity Report (Angela)

Everything is going smoothly and great.

New Business

Bill to update on Sound system- Mr.Holmes has had a meeting with John and things are rolling and it will be in place for Christmas Concerts.

Sound System Quote [Sound System Quote](#)

Request for funds

Grade 5- Jamie Conroy for yoga sessions- \$8.00 per student

Tricia makes a motions for \$575.00 for yoga for Grade 5 from the general account

Danielle seconds that motion

All was in favor

Tents/Tarps and a School Sign - cheapest tent found at Home Depot- approve up to \$500.00.

Jody makes a motion to purchase a tent and sign from the general account

Danielle seconds the motion

All was in favor

Mr.Holmes would like the council to top up costs for staff shirts. Up to \$500

Jody makes the Motion to support teachers into engagement for spitzee eagle shirts from the general account

Tricia seconds the motion

All was in favor

Meeting adjourned @8:20pm

Next meeting- November 22,2023

Addendum: On Oct 18th, 2023, the executive team was asked by Spitzee school Administration if the council would support putting 500.00 towards the mural project. The mural project is being funded primarily through the community vitality fund (2000.00). The executive team comprised of the Chair, the Vice Chair, the Secretary and the Treasurer met and voted virtually due to the time sensitive nature of this request. The vote was as follows:

Jody Hoogwerf motions to pay 500.00 from the general account to support the installment of this mural. Citing that as a council we are committed to supporting the ongoing learnings of Truth and Reconciliation; this project is a beautiful launching point to show our investment to the students' continuous learning about Indigenous ways of knowing, being and doing from times before us and from the present.

Tiegan Jamision seconded this motion

The motion was carried unanimously