

## **Spitzee Elementary School Council Agenda**

### **October 2024**

**Attendees:** Shannon Culbert, Bill Holmes, Jody Hoogwerf, Tiegan Jamison, Tricia Swallow, Dannielle Woodruff, Karalee Fox, Pam Milligan, Chelsea Bulmer, Amanda LaBerge, Rozlyn Neighbor, Kayla Baxter, Kylie Sigglekow, Sarah Beagle

**Regrets:** Phil Irwin

**Call to order @:** 6:32pm

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

Chairperson- Jody Hoogwerf

Vice Chairperson- Tiegan Jamison

Treasurer- Karalee Fox

Secretary- *Vacant Position*

Fundraising Team - Dannielle Woodruff, Melissa Duthie & Callista Ryan

Hot Lunch Coordinator - Pam Milligan

Volunteer Coordinator - Melissa Duthie

PC Food Coordinator - Rozlyn Neighbor

Teacher Reps- Chelsea Bulmer & Amanda LaBerge

### **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 - Karalee Fox

Second- Dannielle Woodruff

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

Foothills Footnotes

- For October

[Footnotes October 2024 \(foothillsschooldivision.ca\)](https://www.foothillsschooldivision.ca)

... How we continue to advance wellness and well-being and effective communication in FSD

***System-Based Delegations & Presentations*** – (based on Sept 18th & October 2nd Board Meetings)

- Summer School Report ... Rob Gallacher - Summer School Principal
  - 525 students ... up 90 students from last year
  - over 700 courses generated over 3000 credits
  - First Responder course was a huge success
- Cayley School Education Plan presented by Ryan Hayden – Principal
- Professional Learning & Education Partner Relations update ... presented by Chase Ellis - Director
  - update on FAA's focus on shared leadership, professional learning, Learning and Leading, and Education Partner Relations supports and engages all members of the educational community

N.B. The common theme and focus of Engagement-Support-Success found in the school division's 5-year Education Plan continues to be evident and celebrated in each presentation made to the Board.

***Information / Discussion / Action Items***

- The Board approved the continued use of "Holocaust Studies" as a locally developed course through to August 31st, 2028.
- FSD is hosting the CASA Classroom in conjunction with CASA Mental Health this school year.
- The Board reviewed the Reconfiguration Report for Okotoks with any major decisions being deferred until more information is received from the municipal and provincial governments.
- Changes to AP 211 (English as an Additional Language) and AP 110 (School Councils) were reviewed and discussed.
- The Board was apprised of the various undertakings by schools throughout the Division to honor Truth and Reconciliation Day and Orange Shirt Day.

***Board Committee Responsibilities and Reports***

- The Board's Policy Review Committee will review Policy 8 – Policy Making later this month.
- Friends of Foothills Schools Foundation (FFSF) raised \$3000 in its first fundraising effort through its first annual golf tournament held at Highwood G&CC in support of education in FSD.

***Divisional / Ward 5 Highlights and Initiatives***

1. Explore this Advocacy page and find the priorities that best interest you.
2. See our guide on writing your letter and be sure to add your thoughts.
3. Email your signed letter to your elected officials and FSD.
4. Enjoy the warm feeling of influencing change for students in FSD.

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

Spitzee Ed Plan:

Our Ed Plan is posted to our website. Under the “Our School” menu, click on “2024-2029 Education Plan”. While we take steps toward each of our goals, our BIG focus to start the year is:

- Engagement: Communicating learning to parents (min. twice a month)
- Support: Advancing Wellness and Well-being - Executive Functioning skills
- Success: Advancing First Nations, Metis, and Inuit student success – enhance the application of foundational knowledge, support cultural learning and accurate depiction of Indigenous worldviews.

What to DO, sing, pLaY, read, SAY

- Brain-Building Through Play: Activities for Infants, Toddlers, and Children (Includes downloadable PDFs)  
<https://developingchild.harvard.edu/resources/brainbuildingthroughplay/>
- 25 Self-Control Activities from Pathway 2 Success  
From a great website – LOTS to explore  
7 Easy Games from The OT Guide  
Video if you need to listen NOT read  
Read-Alouds from Whole Child Counseling  
Who doesn't love a good book?!  
<https://www.thepathway2success.com/25-self-control-activities-for-children/>
- 10 Fun Impulse Control Activities for Kids  
<https://goodhealthpsych.com/blog/10-fun-impulse-control-activities-for-kids-building-self-regulation-skills/>
- Expert impulse control techniques for kids! Build self-discipline with clear boundaries, rewards, and problem-solving skills.  
<https://www.blueridgetreatment.com/post/impulse-control-techniques>

A Few more links to explore.....

- 8 Easy Impulse Control Activities for Kids  
<https://www.kindergartencafe.org/8-impulse-control-activities-for-kids/>  
  
<https://www.yourtherapysource.com/blog1/2017/05/16/games-practice-self-regulation-skills/>  
  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=H\\_O1brYwdSY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=H_O1brYwdSY)  
  
<https://thehomeschoolresourceroom.com/2021/07/22/impulse-control-activities-for-kids/>

In addition to learning about Impulse Control and Response Inhibition, these days at Spitzee...

- We are still humming our Mary Lambert Fire Safety songs...
- K students are talking about what they are grateful for, and learning about letters, sounds, and printing, among other things like lining up & taking turns!
- Grade 1s are mastering short vowel sounds, representing numbers to 10
- Grades 2s are getting close to independently reading for 10 minutes; learning about the concept of “value”; creating an egg landing craft in Science.

- Grade 3s are balancing equations, and asking “In what ways does storytelling help us to understand our traditions?”
- Grade 4s and 5s are taking nature walks, reflecting upon their experiences of seasons for science, and looking at how to reduce waste. They are designing the artwork for the mini library outside the school, and talking about leadership in roles such as patrollers, Students Matters reps, and big buddies. Additionally, 5s are working on paragraph writing, looking at the value of digits, and talking about Indigenous Peoples of Canada as they explore our country.
- Grade 5 Leaders are practicing their “Point! Double-check! Proceed” for the SE crosswalk
- Our amazing staff are starting a Book Club with “The Anxious Generation” being the focus.

Our awesome students and staff are also starting up a recycling program with Staples. We will be collecting any whiteboard markers, highlighters, pens etc, that are no longer working, from our classrooms and taking these into Staples Okotoks to be recycled.

#### Admin Procedures

(<https://www.foothillsschooldivision.ca/page/3083/administrative-procedures-documents> )

- AP 110 – School Councils click [HERE](#)  
([110-school-councils-updated-october-2023.b91b1616973.pdf](https://www.foothillsschooldivision.ca/page/3083/administrative-procedures-documents) ([foothillsschooldivision.ca](https://www.foothillsschooldivision.ca)))
- AP 205 - Controversial Issues
- AP 240 - Guidance & Counseling Services
- AP 309 - Learning Environments that Respect Diverse Sexual Orientations, Gender Identities
- AP 310 - Safety & Security of Students
- AP 315 - Students Healthy and Safety
- AP 330 - Student Attendance (via Spitzee School Facebook or Instagram)
- AP 414 - Safeguarding Learning Work Life Excellence

#### **Upcoming Important Dates**

- Oct 17 - Picture Day
- Oct 17 - Book Fair & Family Dance – 6 pm to 8 pm
- Oct 18 - Book Fair
- Oct 22 - Swim Program 2 starts for 4K / & 4/5C a.m. + all grade 3's p.m.
- Oct 22 - Gr 5 Tripleball Practice – 3:30 – 5:00
- Oct 23 - Picture Day for Jr. K & Patrollers
- Oct 25 - First Family Grouping!
- Oct 31 - Halloween Parade 2:40pm- parents welcome!
- Nov 1 - PD Day No school for students
- Nov 7 - Remembrance Day Assembly 10:30am
- Nov 8 - Indigenous Veterans Day
- Nov 11 - Remembrance Day
- Nov 11-15 - Fall Break - No School for Students
- Nov 20 - Parent Council Meeting 6:30pm
- Nov 21 - Parent/Teacher Interviews 3:30-8pm
- Nov 27 - Parent/Teacher Interviews 3:30-6pm

## **Council Business:**

Announce the parent winners of the 25.00 Colossi's gift cards for the "Spot a council member":

- Kayla Baxter won a gift card for our #Spotthecouncilmember initiative. Congratulations Kayla. Thank you for participating and joining our meeting.

Council would also like to send out a huge thank you to Miss. Patty from Colossi's for donating the gift cards and supporting our attempts to increase our social media reach!

### Friends of Foothills Grant

- Shannon and Jody to work on a proposal (regarding the gift cards to help families in need at Christmas projects in conjunction with local businesses) that fits the Friends of Foothills 3 pillars to support student learning. This needs to be submitted by October 25, 2024

October events: Fall Family Dance - We are all set to go on Oct 17th.

Will include:

- Pizza Dinners - preordered on the hot lunch system and handed out from our school kitchen
- Concession - items put together and sold by our amazing Parent council members. Will also be located at the school kitchen window
- Photo Booth - organized by wonderful parent volunteers. Will be located in the gathering. Everyone welcome to come take selfies
- Paper Bag Raffle - 7 items to raffle. Baskets, tickets, decor. All will be located beside the kitchen. Tickets sold for \$1/entry. Items donated by wonderful local businesses like Wales Theater, Stiks&Bones Pool Hall, and Lotte & Lu Design Co. Some were also donated by amazing school parents and of course some from our Parent council.

Nov events:

-Council is setting up for a Cookie Dough Sale with Chippy's Cookie House. Tentatively set to Sell from Nov 4th- 22nd. Hoping to have 4 types of dough including one gluten free. Working on selling thru Chippy's website and pick ups at both the store and the school.

Dec events:

-Will be working on getting things 'ironed out' for a Giving Tree located in the front office. Hoping to work with Mrs. Kellock again to help out some of the school's families in need during the holiday season. Hoping to also be able to advertise this idea

in multiple languages so that all families can understand our intentions and not miss the opportunity to be included if needed. Will discuss this more over the next month.

-50/50 draws are still to be included during the Christmas concert. As well as Food Bank donations and possible silent auctions with Food Bank donations tied in.

- The Fundraising Team is working on setting up a Christmas Market/Pictures with Santa on Dec 14th. Doug "Santa" Elliott is booked (Thanks Jody). Will begin planning in the coming weeks for advertising as well as 'selling' tables. Checking into the possibility of getting Highwood Grads in to wrap gifts. Dannielle and Melissa are also researching if we will be able to book any food trucks for this date.

### **24/25 Executive Elections**

Secretary: Vacant Position - No current nominations

Treasurer: Karalee Fox

Nominated by Kayla Baxter

All in Favor? Yes

Vice Chair: Tiegan Jamison

Nominated by Jody Hoogwerf

All in Favor? Yes

Chairperson: Jody Hoogwerf

Nominated by Karalee Fox

All in Favor? Yes

The 23/24 Executive Team of Jody Hoogwerf, Tiegan Jamison, Tricia Swallow and Dannielle Woodruff would like to thank the kids, parents, staff and administration for a successful year. It's been an honor to serve as your Executive Team.

**Meeting adjourned @ 7:44pm**

## **Fundraising Meeting opens @ 7:44pm**

### **Treasurer report:**

By Tricia Swallow & Karalee Fox

General account: \$13,030.02

Casino: \$3,443.62

Playground: \$6,687.45

PC Food Support: \$11,040.67

### **Fundraising Update:**

By Dannielle Woodruff & Melissa Duthie

\*See Oct/Nov/Dec updates about in Council business

Also brought forward the idea of Volunteer "Punch Cards". Parents who fill a punch card by June get can get school fees paid or gift card?, maybe hot lunches covered for a few weeks?

Possibly set up tables at Parent/Teacher meetings for Council to meet parents and introduce the Punch cards in person? Fundraising team will try to meet with Karalee and iron out the details in late Oct-early Nov.

Motion to set aside \$1000 of council funds to cover completed Punch Cards

Motioned by Jody Hoogwerf

Seconded by Karalee Fox

Approved by all.

### **Hot lunch update:**

By Pam Mulligan & Melissa Duthie

Hot lunch is still struggling to get enough volunteers. Council and school Admin will do up posts for The Spitzee Biz and social media requesting more volunteers. Will include that without more volunteers the Hot Lunch program may need to be closed down.

School admin, staff and students extend a huge thank you to Hot Lunch co-ordinators, Parent Council, and parent volunteers who made the Pancake Breakfast, on September 20, happen. It was much appreciated and enjoyed!

### **PC Healthy Breakfast Program:**

By Rozlyn Neighbors

Rozlyn Neighbors has graciously volunteered to take over care of our wonderful PC Breakfast Program. (Previously run by Angela Morris) During the week after the meeting all grant information and emails were moved over to council emails and taken on by Rozlyn. Rozlyn has also taken the time to speak to teachers and admin about what kinds of things we should be including in this program. She then went ahead and filled the fridge with plenty of yummy, healthy products for our kiddos.

### **Requests for Funds:**

School Admin request to cover cost for the Alien Inline Skating program for the 2024/25 school year.

Motion to cover \$4800.

Motioned by: Jody Hoogwerf

Seconded by: Karalee Fox

Approved by all

Council also discussed covering costs for next year. It was decided that Inline skating will be a program the school uses every second year. There will be no Inline Skating for the 2025/26 year.

Costs for the 2026/27 year to be discussed at a later date.

Motion to cover up to \$1500 for Online Resources.

Motioned by: Dannielle Woodruff

Seconded by: Kayla Baxter

Approved by all

**Meeting adjourned @ 8:22pm**

**Next meeting-** November 20, 2024 @ 6:30pm