



Ecole Secondaire Highwood High School  
School Council Minutes  
Feb 24, 2025

Attendees: Teri-Lynn Rootham, Adam Rootham, Jenny Jones, Tanya Franklin, Carolyn Lenstra, Dave Roberts, Nicole Warin

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- 1) Welcome and Introductions-
- 2) Land Acknowledgements- Tanya Franklin
- 3) Approval of Minutes from last meeting-motion to approve minutes-Jenny Jones, second that motion-Tanya Franklin
- 4) Additions to and Approval of Agenda-motion to approve agenda- Jenny Jones, second that motion-Nicole Warin
- 5) Reports:

**Student Matters Report:**

- Student Matters members were not able to attend the School Council meeting tonight so Carolyn Lenstra reported on their behalf.
- All fundraising efforts have been a huge success and the students hand delivered what they raised to the High River Hospital and also provided food hampers for those in need.
- Peer tutoring is up and running. Teachers will direct what students or group of students require tutoring and they will be paired with a tutor that is a good fit for the student(s). They may be able to use class time to review concepts.
- Pep rally coming up and on St. Patrick's Day Student Matters will be serving Lucky Charms.
- Anti bullying day is on Wednesday Feb 26 and students are encouraged to wear pink.
- Awards and scholarships are rolling out and Student Matter members are encouraged to spread the word on these opportunities.

**Administration-Dave Roberts:**

- Highwood High School admin was served notice on Friday Feb 21 that CUPE Local 5040 members are now on strike.
- Highwood High School is a designated picketing sight for the Foothills School Division. Students will see picketers that are unknown to them. Picketers are not allowed on school property and will be picketing across the street on the corner. Picketers are allowed to talk to students. Students have reported that the picketers have been very respectful.



- Highwood admin are currently gathering info as they meet with the division office on direction and next steps and they plan on sharing this info with the students in the next few days. The information will be shared with their teachers and given in the classroom and not over the intercom system.
- At this time no one is manning the phones. They have an AI system that will alert admin on attendance calls and calls that are not regarding attendance will be routed to the division office. The staff ask for patience as they try to navigate the attendance lines.
- They are not sure how long the strike will last. At this time the school division has asked parents to keep students with complex needs at home for now as not having qualified staff to assist these students can be a safety concern.
- Highwood collapsed the front office staff and EA's funding and hired an extra teacher until the strike is over. This teacher will be working in the Student Service area assisting with students that require extra assistance.
- The day to day for most students has not changed due to the strike.
- Keep an eye out for opportunities to advocate for our support staff. We want to support them however we can.
- Rugby started today- Feb 24, 2025.
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- French Immersion Exchange-3 Highwood students are in France

**Trustee Phil Irwin Report January/February 2025 (not in attendance tonight)**



## **WARD 5 TRUSTEE'S REPORT FOR JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2025**

... based on January 15<sup>th</sup> and January 29<sup>th</sup> Board meetings

**Foothills Footnotes** ... found on the FSD website

For January ... *How FSD has and continues to offer choice in education*

### **System-Based Delegations & Presentations**

- Sally Smith – Director of Tech Services
- Charity Tegler – Director of Indigenous Learning and Equity
- Marica Law – Friends of Foothills Schools Foundation
- Ecole Okotoks Junior High French Immersion review/presentation
- Sara Fox – Manager of Communication and Community Engagement

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**

- COSC met on January 20<sup>th</sup> ... attended by Superintendent and Board Chair
- Policy 8 re: Policy Making was reviewed and presented to the Board along with a review of Policy 2: *Role of the Board* appendixes
- AP Update: AP 153 (advertising and distribution of materials), AP 163 (alcohol and drugs), AP 491 (volunteers), AP 110 (school councils), AP 157 (flag protocol), AP 375 (graduation exercises), AP 231 (home education), AP 230 (flexible learning programming), AP 167 (emergency health issues), AP 316 (administration of medication), AP 130 (organization of school year), AP 260 (field trips and student exchanges), AP 540 (school facility capital planning)
- The Board met with High River's MLA Chelsae Petrovic on Jan 23<sup>rd</sup>. Senator Riley is at the top of FSD's modernization requests and a tour of that school by the MLA is being set up by admin.
- The revised calendar for 2025-26 was presented and approved by the Board.
- The impact of pending US tariffs on provincial funding was discussed with a wait and see approach being taken by senior admin and the Board.

### **Board Committee Responsibilities and Reports**

- The Board was involved its own professional development session again in January focusing on tying up loose ends regarding programming and resources that are tied to governance issues.
- Three of our trustees attended an online PD session on strategies when advocating to the provincial government for programming and operational support.

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

- Ecole Senator Riley Middle School is currently at the top of the division's school modernization list.
- 42 art pieces created by Highwood's Holocaust Studies students were on display at the Calgary Central Library in January as part of "Art and the Holocaust" sponsored by the Calgary Jewish Federation.
- Two High River schools – Senator Riley and Highwood – received funding for special projects from the Friends of Foothills Schools Foundation.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Irwin – Trustee for Ward 5 / High River



- 6) Ideas for School Council \$500 Grant Spend

[ASCA Learning Opportunities](#)

[ASCA Workshop - Fundraising Associations Foundation Learning Opportunities](#)

(\$400+GST). Ref

-Motion for the ASCA workshop "Fundraising Association Fundamental Principals" as the workshop of choice, utilizing the \$500 grant money- Jenny Jones, second that motion- Tanya Franklin.

Jenny Jones will look into dates and times available for the workshop.

- 7) Next Meeting- March 17, 2025

- 8) Adjournment- 7:06pm