

Ecole Secondaire Highwood High School

School Council Minutes

April 15, 2024

Attendees: Martha Klassen, Tanya Franklin, Ian Whitworth, Cathy King, Jenn Murray, Susan Russell, Dave Roberts, Phil Irwin, Nicole Warin

- 1) Welcome and Introductions
- 2) Land Acknowledgements – Tanya Franklin
- 3) Approval of minutes from last meeting – Motion by: Cathy King, Second by: Jenn Murray
- 4) Additions to agenda-None
- 5) Approval of Agenda – Motion by: Ian Whitworth, Second by: Tanya Franklin
- 6) Reports:
 - Trustee – Phil Irwin **WARD 5 TRUSTEE’S REPORT FOR MARCH/APRIL 2024**

FOOTHILLS FOOTNOTES for March/April ... with a focus on AI and Education and how Foothills is embracing is embracing advances in technology. Check it out on the FSD website or the new FSD APP. https://media.foothillsschooldivision.ca/media/Default/medialib/footnotes-202403_final.0c821118461.pdf

System-Based Delegations & Presentations:

- Big Rock School shared their education plan on March 27th.
- Kevin Gushulak – Director of Facility Services – gave an update and reported on the improvements that will have been completed by the end of this year and what is planned for the upcoming year.
- Charity Tegler – Divisional Indigenous Learning Coordinator – gave an update on the work she is leading within schools to advance First Nations, Metis, and Inuit student success. It was exciting to see the improvement Grade 2-9 students have made academically throughout our division this past year.

N.B. The common theme and focus of ***Engagement-Support-Success*** found in the school division’s 5-year Education Plan was evident and celebrated in each of the presentations made to the Board.

Information / Discussion Items:

- The Division’s Capital Plan was presented and approved on March 27th. Included in the plan are the Capital Plan Priorities for 2024 through to 2026.
- The Board approved a recommendation by the Awards Committee to nominate the KIDS Only Shoppe at the Millarville Market for the work they do to support out kids and our greater FSD community.
- Administrative Procedures are designed to operationalize Board policies. APs 140, 213, 350, and 155 were reviewed during the two Board meetings in January.
- An FSD advocacy document was shared with the Board that outlines the division’s concerns regarding proposed changes being made to the *Local Authority Elections Act* that would have ballots list political affiliations alongside each nominee’s name on municipal election ballots.
- Drew Chipman – Assistant Superintendent of Corporate Services – shared a preliminary budget update for 2024-2025 with the Board at the April 10th meeting. The Division meets with AB Education on Friday, April 12th, to ask them to work with us to help address the challenges we face due to our system’s enrolment growth issues and

other funding challenges. Board decisions regarding the new budget will be pending until after the April 12th meeting with the province.

Board Committee Reports:

- On the morning of the April 10th Board meeting, the Board engaged in its annual self-evaluation as a follow-up to the work they have been engaged in relating to their newly formed Governance Quality Standards and the work they have been doing around “systemness”.

Division Highlights:

- Congratulations to FSD’s Council of School Councils (COSC) who were awarded the “2024 ASCA Division School Council Engagement Award” for their advocacy work with local MLAs.
- Congratulations to Spitzee School Council who received the “2024 ASCA Excellence in Learning Partnerships Award” for the work they and the community did to build their new community/school playground. Special thanks goes to members of the Bennington family who prepared and submitted this nomination to ASCA.
- Congratulations to Sierra Havinga – a first year teacher from Ecole Okotoks Junior High School. She is this year’s FSD representative for the Edwin Parr Award in Zone 5.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Irwin – High River’s FSD Ward 5 Trustee

- **Administration Principal - Dave Roberts**
 - France trip for 10 days was a success and students had an amazing time. Lots of walking at 15km a day, 2,000 steps per day, Ms. Finch and Ms. Cayford did a lot of work to make this trip a success
 - PT Interviews Wednesday/Thurs this week all are in person
 - April 22, 23 off for FSD learning conference
 - Band is busy. They are in Edmonton this week and have a guest conductor visit in the coming weeks
 - Rugby and badminton is up and going
 - Did all grade 9, 10, 11 student planning and course selection early so that the Fall 2024 is a smoother transition
 - Admin went to Cayley, Blackie and Senator for Grade 8 fall registrations
 - Trying to figure out option classes for Grade 9-doing a quarter system so they can try all of the options
 - Admin cannot complete the timetables until they know staffing. Highwood currently has the highest numbers of students at 570, but least amount of staff, with attrition and retirement and a lower budget it is a challenge. Highwood currently is at 30 staff and may be at 28 staff next year
 - Okotoks is now considered Urban and not Rural as the new Canada Census has kicked in. So this has resulted in a big hit on the FSD budget
 - Student engagement survey coming out-looking at how we can make things more relevant, and students engaged in their learning
 - Share survey results from FSD at next meeting
- **Teacher and Student Council-** staff/student basketball game, student council ran spirit week, looking at hosting a dance, Carolyn is getting Derek Campbell-hate crimes RCMP to come in to meet Grade 9 phys-ed groups about treating each other with more respect, more presence with RCMP school resource officer-presenting to COM classes and more presence in the building and more pro-active with the students, talked to High River Bylaw about getting them in the school as well

- 7) Bylaw Review and Vote (final) Motion to approve: Nicole Warin, Second by: Tanya Franklin
- 8) Fundraising Society-AGLC Use of Proceeds- 6 page list was given at the meeting.
- 9) Next Meeting –May 27, 2024
- 10) Adjournment- 7:34pm