



Ecole Secondaire Highwood High School
School Council Meeting
March 2, 2026/6:30pm

Attendees: Dave Roberts, Ian Whitworth, Nicole Warin, Tanya Franklin, Cathy King, Jackie Roe, Kelly Hartmann

Welcome and Introductions

- 1) Land Acknowledgements- Ian Whitworth
- 2) Approval of Minutes from January 19, 2026- Approval Cathy King/Second-Tanya Franklin
- 3) Additions to Agenda- None
- 4) Trustee Report: Jackie Roe

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**Jackie Roe – FSD Trustee Ward 5
Trustee Report to School Councils – February 2026**

ENGAGEMENT - SUPPORT – SUCCESS

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

(More information can be found in Foothills School Division’s “[Footnotes](#)”)

- School tours have begun! Trustees have enjoyed visits to the Okotoks, Diamond Valley and McMillan Colony schools and look forward to the next visits.
- “Fast Forward to Flourishing” is a Foothills initiative to create municipal partners across communities to build and encourage strong and cooperative relationships. The first phase is to gather information internally from staff and administration.

- The board has begun their Municipal Partner Meetings. We have met with town council members from Diamond Valley, Longview and High River. Meetings are scheduled with Okotoks and Foothills County representatives later in February.
- The [2026/2027 school calendar](#) was approved at the January 28 board meeting.
- The board [addressed](#) MLAs for Highwood, Livingstone-Macleod and Banff-Kananaskis on the matter of the expansion of “public” charter schools and public funding.
- The [Annual Assurance Survey](#) is open from January 26 to March 6 for families with students in grades 4, 7 and/or 10. Data is collected by Alberta Education and Childcare and is shared later with the division. Eligible families will have received an email from your child’s school

Note that the board members also participate in the following committees:

Standing Committees:

- **ATA Employee Liaison (Joint):** Sharon Nichols (Shanon Hines)
- **Audit Committee:** All
- **Labour Relations:** Lisa Penzo, Jackie Roe (Shanon Hines)
- **TEBA:** Lisa Penzo

Ad Hoc Committees:

- **ASBA Zone 5:** Theresa Letendre, Jackie Roe
- **ATA Professional Development:** Sharon Nichols (Shanon Hines)
- **Awards Committee:** Sherry Butler, Lisa Penzo, Theresa Letendre
- **Friends of Foothills Schools Foundation:** Lisa Penzo (Sharon Nichols)
- **Milestones:** Sherry Butler
- **Policy Review Committee:** Shanon Hines, Sharon Nichols, Theresa Letendre
- **Professional Learning Committee:** Theresa Letendre, Lisa Penzo
- **Regional School Planning Committee:** Sharon Nichols, Lisa Penzo
- **Rural Caucus:** Shanon Hines, (Jackie Roe)
- **Staff Advisory Council:** Sharon Nichols (All)
- **Students' Matters Committee:** Sherry Butler (All)

PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD

January 28, 2026

- Judy Leyden of Turner Valley School shared data from their assurance surveys to illustrate the school successes and areas for focus.
- Director of Inclusive Learning, Cora-Leah Schmidt addressed Inclusive Learning, Wellness and Well-being.
- Charity Tegler, Indigenous Learning and Equity provided a report on the successes, support and engagement achieved through education for reconciliation. FSD Indigenous students consistently report higher achievement than provincial norms, and excellent completion rates.
- Human resources manager, Angie Zimmer shared the hiring of 2 new payroll staff as well as particulars of the finalizing of collective agreements with the 4 employee groups.

ACTIVITY UPDATES AND UPCOMING EVENTS

- Attending Zone 5 ASBA meeting on February 9th at the Calgary Catholic School Division offices
- Continued school tours
- The Zone 5 Edwin Parr awards will be held in High River on May 14th to honour first year teachers within our zone. (Yours truly is on the planning committee.)
- FSD also provides their own Assurance Survey to all families. It will be sent in April.

Reminder of 2026 ASBA awards and deadlines

- Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Award | Deadline: February 9, 2026
- Edwin Parr Teacher Award | Deadline: March 18, 2026
- Friends of Education Award | Deadline: March 18, 2026
- Lieutenant Governor of Alberta Student Award | Deadline: April 13, 2026
- Community Engagement Award | Deadline: September 16, 2026
- School Board Innovation and Excellence Award | Deadline: September 16, 2026
- Distinguished Service Award | Deadline: September 16, 2026
- Young Author's Conference - Saturday, May 9 at Holy Trinity Academy

5) Reports: Administration, School Council, Fundraising Society

a) **Administration** Principal Dave Roberts and Vice Principal Carolyn Lenstra

Admin Report – Dave and Carolyn February 2026



Semester 2 is up and running. Things have settled in and are running smoothly. Timetable changes are all done and classes are finalized. Mr. Hall has returned to be with us semester 2, and we have added Mr. Cutler to our Humanities Department, Mr. Chisholm has moved into the role of Learning Coach, and Jana Caroll has joined our inclusive education team.

Teachers were off the third week of February for Family Day/ PD/ and Teacher Convention. We are a full five weeks until Easter/Spring Break which is a bit earlier than usual due to the Diploma Exams schedule in April.

Our Alberta Education survey for Grade 10's, their parents and all teachers came out. The results for that usually come in closer to the end of the school year or early in the next with all the diploma and PAT data. We have been working on our AERR and Education Plan. We meet with the Assistant Superintendent in March for updates.

We have started next year's timetable. Student course requests will begin possibly before the Easter Break for grade 11's going into grade 12. The grade 9 and 10 course requests will be shortly after the 11's are done. Courses are currently based on this year's staffing level, so we will see where that all ends up closer to June. We will schedule feeder school visits in May and have grade 8's select their CTF/Fine Arts/Second Language options courses at that time.

Basketball is coming to a close, playoffs start this week. Rugby is firing up, as will badminton. Our Advanced Acting class is currently producing their one-act plays and will take them on the road after the break.

Upcoming:

March 3 – SABC Mentors
March 5 – Student Matters
March 12 – Pep Rally/SABC Mentors
March 16 – School PD Day
March 25-April 4 – France Trip
March 28-April 6 – Spring Break
April 9 – Part A ELA 30-2
April 13 – DELF Exams
April 14 – Part B ELA 30-2
April 15-16 - Parent/Teacher Interviews
April 17 – Divisional PD Day
April 20 – School Council

b) **Student Council Report-** Cole Russell

Pep rally

Parent council + staff + rcmp basketball game

Teacher pie fundraiser

Board tour

Had new members so we gave them a tour it went well

Division student council meeting on thursday

Virtual

School community council meeting

Four people attendance

Purpose is to give feedback about our school wellness directly to superintendent

c) **Highwood Fundraising Society Report-**

Board Members voted on school money requests. The outcome and remaining budget are listed below:

General Funds- \$132.91

Casino/Gaming- \$31,896.35

-\$1,574.94 (Drill Press)

-\$134.30 (Frisbees)

=\$30,187.11 – \$325 reserved for Football which totals **\$29,862.11**

6) Next Meeting- April 20, 2026

7) Adjournment- 7:25pm