



## MEADOW RIDGE SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** Thursday, November 23, 2023

**In Attendance:** Kezia Grams, Jaime Bolen, Kristi Lundquist, Sarah Larsen, Lesley MacOdrum, Nicole Best, Nicole Mulholland, Shannon Gosse, Shannon Speidel

**Administration:** Lisa Penzo (Trustee), Sharon Nichols (Trustee), Rebecca Forchuk (Principal)

**Meeting called to order:** 6:33pm

Welcome and Introductions

Agenda

- Agenda distributed. No additions or deletions.

Last Meeting Minutes

- October minutes distributed
- Amendment to spelling of names.
- Motion to adopt minutes: Sarah Larsen
- Seconded: Shannon Gosse

Update from Community of School Councils (COSC) Meeting - Kristi Lundquist

- MLA R.J. Sigurdson was in attendance and listened to concerns brought forward. Committed to sharing concerns.
- Focus on bussing and underfunding.
  - o Parent questions and discussion on owning vs. leasing buses.
  - o Cost benefit analysis - more control when owned.
  - o Trustees shared updates made to the Foothills School Division (FSD) advocacy page with a focus on transportation and new advocacy letter templates.

Trustee Update - Lisa Penzo and Sharon Nichols

- Review of [November 2023 Footnotes Newsletter](#)
  - o Interactive newsletter with links to access more information.
  - o Focus on involvement between family, schools, and community: School council, volunteering, Policy 1, advocacy, ideas that make cents, celebrations for all, safety for all, learner conferences.
  - o Discussion on advocacy letter template updates available on [foothillsschooldivision.ca](http://foothillsschooldivision.ca). Parents are encouraged to use and customize them. Alternatively, you can call or book an in person meeting with R.J. Sigurdson.
  - o Myth vs. Fact: Ongoing education provided on topics of interest. There are no cat litters in schools.

- Oilfields High School in FSD won the School Board [Innovation and Excellence](#) Award for their Vertical Farm initiative.

#### Meadow Ridge Administration Update - Rebecca Forchuk

- Portable Update:
  - The contractors hit a main transformer line, which caused the power to go out. Chris and Drew went to the school and made a decision very quickly to send everyone home. Process was very smooth and quick.
  - The area is now ready for the transfer from Percy Peglar, which will occur this weekend. It won't be up and running until December.
- Safety for All survey has been sent out
  - Media relations team has come to the school to complete a camera assessment
- Bussing update
  - Bus #805 broke down.
  - Communication were not sent to parents directly
  - Kim, Wanda, and Rebecca are seeking a solution to make communications quicker but in the meantime will use a messenger to the whole school when warranted.
- Volleyball season has wrapped
  - Jr. B Boys won silver (OJ took the gold)
  - Jr. A Boys went to zones in Canmore and won silver
  - Jr. A Girls went to zones here in Okotoks at Westmount and won the Gold (will be the first girls banner to be raised in the gym).
- Coming up:
  - Nov. 27 - PD Day
  - Dec. 4 - Term 2 options start
  - Dec. 12 - K, 1, 2, 4 Winter Concert
  - Dec. 14 - 3, 5, 6, Jr. High Band Winter Concert
  - Dec. 15 - PD Day
  - Dec. 18 - Term 1 marks should be available in Edsembli
  - Dec. 22 - Last Friday before the break will be a full day.
  - January - School Council meeting - Family School Liaison Counsellor, Elizabeth David, will be joining us
  - February - School Council meeting - 2 Learning coaches will be joining us.
  - *Note:* Those who participate in the School Council, Fundraising Society, and Hot Lunch program are entitled to 2 VIP front row seats at the concerts.
- Positive Behaviour Matrix
  - Handout provided.
  - Focus on the 3 B's: Better, Best, Belong (big concepts) and the shared spaces at the school (bus will be on a separate matrix).
  - Will be used as a school going forward to create consistency and for discussing potential consequences.
  - K-9 student and teacher voices used to set clear and consistent expectations. Now seeking parent feedback.

- Parents suggested “Hot Lunches” as a space and possible behaviours (manners, waiting turn, returning bins, recycling etc.)
- Promoting good behaviour - Jr. High receives 3B’s certificates, elementary receives “you’ve been noticed” cards - teachers distribute.
- Provincial Government Annual Education Results Report (AERR)
  - Sent to grade 4 and 7 parents in May
  - Focus on goals and strategies for the school
  - Only 20 parents answered last year.
  - [FSD Assurance Framework](#) Survey also sent to parents with essentially the same questions and received 296 responses.
  - Discussion on some survey results and how to get more parents to respond.
  - Rebecca will bring May results to the January School Council meeting.
- Parent involvement is very appreciated!

Other Business, Question and Answer:

- Parent question about ribbons for running club.
  - Certificates were handed out. Advised to connect with the coaches.
- Parent question about what qualifies as evidence of learning.
  - Can be samples shared in blueprint, on google slides, or copies sent home in backpacks. There was an email sent in October with progress updates. The next progress updates should be in Edsembli by Dec. 15.
- What do you want out of the School Council?
  - More on what the school needs from parents.
  - More guest speakers, possibly on a different night
    - Paul Davis - Luna Officer - Digital Citizenship and Consent
    - Possibly offer virtually or offer babysitting to enable more parents to attend.
  - A marketing person
  - Snacks
- Please bring any concerns forward.

**Meeting Adjourned: 7:46pm**