

School Council Meeting Minutes – January 21, 2025

Started at 3:00pm

In Attendance: Faye Holt, John Evans, Natalie Britton, Amy Marcotte, Keilidh Derowin, Sarah Van Schothorst, Carmen Sewell

School Leadership Report – Faye

- January local PD day on January 31
 - o Staff will be analyzing student data – math, reading, writing samples
 - o Will design and build a continuum of supports
- Literacy and Numeracy Assessment data results breakdown – numbers of kids requiring additional supports vs kids not requiring additional supports
- Calendar of Events
 - o See emails from school or website
 - o Learner profiles February 14
 - o Breakfast at Blackie Hall on March 1, the money raising is benefiting Blackie School through the funding association
- In-school activities
 - o Coding club for younger kids
 - o Art club for grades 3 and 4
 - o Gymnastics/dance club
 - o Basketball intermurals for grades 4-7

Trustee Report – John

- Footnotes
 - o History in FSD re: choice in education
 - Eg: nature-based learning, montesori, dual-credit pathways, etc
 - Showcase the choices available in FSD
- Charter Schools
 - o Increased cap/open cap on charter schools now
 - o FSD is making sure that there is adequate programming to retain students in FSD, protecting rural schools in the province
 - o Charter schools are publicly funded as well, plus private funding
 - o Charter schools do not have to accept students with complex needs
- Rural schools need to be funded properly
 - o Eg: building heating and electricity costs per student are higher in rural schools
 - o Increased complexity in classrooms compared to 10 years ago and additional supports are needed – the funding amounts for complex kids is insufficient
- Parents are encouraged to fill out letter about funding to local government reps
- Foothills Schools Foundation concert
 - o February 7 with George Canyon
 - o Live painting to be auctions
- Friends of Foothills
 - o 3 schools were selected for additional funds
- Staff members in FSD embracing AI – AI as a teaching tool

COSC Report – Keilidh

- Red Deer Lake School has invited councils to an event on March 11
 - o Paul Davis online safety, we need to RSVP
- Options for ASCE grant money
 - o Program for parents and kids in the evening on safety
 - o Parent engagement activity examples
- COSC discussion on ways to get community members involved in schools
 - o Eg/suggestion: reading with retirees – busing seniors here to read with kids during school library time
- Program “Just Like You”
 - o Free program for students, 2 week duration
 - o Understand inclusion
- Movie “Backpacks Full of Cash”
 - o There will be a viewing at Foothills Composite High School on February 10 at 6:30pm for council members only
 - o We may have an event at Blackie School to view as well if there is interest

CTF Project Ideas – Grades 5-8s

- Kids are starting “passion projects”
- Kids can pick topic or project, the school may ask for volunteers to help that have specific expertise depending on those choices

Friends of Foothills Foundation

- Gala in February
- Someone will come to talk to us at our February meeting for an update

Calendar of Events

- Rugby March 17-20, with age-appropriate lessons

Fundraising Report

- Question about fundraising from parent
- Some smaller fundraisers are run during the year with help from grade 7/8s, the funds go toward their trip, eg: concessions and bottle drive
- The majority of funds (AGLC fundraisers, etc) is split between all grades, field trips, teacher requests, etc.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:16pm

Next meeting on Tuesday, February 25 at 3pm.