

Meadow Ridge School Council Meeting Minutes

April 23, 2026

In attendance: Chelsea Baker, Matt Baker, Lucy Critchley, Shannon Gosse, Jonathan Best, Nicole Best, Isobel Berg, Haley Wray, Dmitri Keys (Summer School VP), Stefan Dykema (MRS future Principal), Jess Langard, Jessica Nicholson, Kumi Wright, Nicole Mulholland, Kyle Schepanow, Elizabeth Tong, Jen Pierce-Ager

Administration: Debbie Payne (Principal), Allison Stewart (VP), Danielle Buschman (VP)

Board of Trustees: Not in attendance for this meeting

Meeting called to order at 6:30PM by Jen Pierce-Ager

1. Welcome and Introductions
 - Those in attendance introduced themselves
2. Agenda
 - Addition to agenda: Knife Incident and Risk Management Plan
3. Minutes from previous meeting
 - *Nicole Mulholland motioned to adopt the minutes, Isobel Berg seconded.*
4. Reminder: Dare to Care Bully Prevention and Life skills
 - Booked for April 29th 6:30-8:30, parents are encouraged to share with friends
 - Allison mentioned that via the QR code only 5 people have responded. Hoping for more people to attend. Will be featured with the district as well through Community Connect.
5. Stefan Dykema – New Principal
 - Stefan introduced himself to the school council.
 - He has been a Principal for the last 7 years in Golden Hills School Division, with a background teaching Social Studies 30. His current school in Strathmore is also a K-9 school.
 - He is excited to be joining MRS, his wife is also a teacher with FSD (teaches at the Comp)

6. Dmitri Keys- Summer School

- Special opportunities for Jr high students in summer school
- Students can earn graduation credits, explore new opportunities and understand high school learning and expectations.
- Dmitri highlighted Math 15 as a course for students to prepare for Math 10C
- Summer School provides a flexible schedule to accommodate athletics, arts or travel commitments
- It runs July 2- July 30 out of Foothills Composite High School in Okotoks
- The expectation of students is 1 hour with teacher/ tutor and then 5 hours on their own, but with accessibility to tutors for drop in or virtual support
- Dmitri highlighted the First Responder Program, Math 15, Learning Strategies 15, Math 10-3 and the PE/ CALM bundle
- Dmitri stressed that each day of summer school is like a week of regular school, therefore is a big commitment and students need a high level of engagement
- Registration is open April 15- May 30
- If there are any questions, please contact the Principal, Monica Crane at cranem@fsd38.ab.ca

7. Principal's Update- Debbie Payne

- Meadow Ridge School Plan is on the website and they will be reflecting on it and planning for the future. Stefan will be joining Debbie next Thursday to review this
- Debbie spoke about AERR results from November 2025 and how this will help with checking interventions and tweaking them for future growth
- April 17th Division Learning Day had FSD teachers gather together in the morning for a presentation from Hanna Beach, author of "Reclaiming Our Students" and a children's book "Sometimes I Feel that Way too". Debbie brought up the idea of a potential school council book study for "Reclaiming Our Students" for next year. Debbie spoke about how the presentation focused on how with technology there has been an interruption in play for children. As well how the children's book also deals with anxiety, conflict, troubles and shows children that it is a natural part of life and how we work through it. In the afternoon MRS teachers gathered and learned

about the intentionality of choosing the grizzly as the school's mascot and how the "originals" on staff led them through retracing the story of MRS- including the traits and philosophy and how that came to be.

- Parents are encouraged to check their emails on Edsembli to make sure they are current.
- AP102 has Principals sharing important dates with school council, this includes:
 - April 28 Dare to Care Parent Session 6:30-8:30pm
 - Bus Driver Appreciation May 4th
 - PL Day May 15th
 - Volunteer Appreciation May 22nd
 - Colour Run May 22nd
 - Grade 6 Camp May 25-27th
 - Ready to Learn Day (for students entering Kindergarten (May 27th
 - Grade 9 Farewell June 24th, with a planning meeting scheduled for April 27th at 4:30pm

8. Knife Incident and Risk Management Plan

- Debbie spoke to the recent incident at MRS and how the investigation is on-going and they do not have all the answers yet
- Debbie stressed her understanding that the incident is scary and that families want clear communication. She highlighted her background in school counselling and what her Masters is in and stressed that the school wants to ensure that everyone is ok and that if your child was in danger there would have been a lock down at the school.
- Debbie recapped what happened at the school that day and how she wanted parents to have all the information before sending out communication. An email was sent that evening to that class so they could speak with their children the following morning.
- The following day she led a Sharing Circle/ Child Debrief with the impacted class and they brought in Lindsay Boucher, Division Counsellor to be available to the students if they wanted support or had identified it on a sticky note
- Debbie assured parents that whatever needs to happen to make sure their child is safe will happen, but mentioned that some of those

decisions are not hers to make. It would be mid week next week before decisions were made

- Parents had questions about how the information was transmitted and the timeliness of the message from the school and the division and asked for a stand-alone town hall meeting for grade 5 families. Parents further mentioned their concerns for the safety of their children, their children not feeling safe and concerns about the child.
- Debbie mentioned that the messaging as to what this will look like moving forward will come from the districts Communications Officer but that there are parameters to help determine a return to school, including safety
- Stefan Dykema highlighted an Escalating Model of Intervention, Foothills School Division uses a model of Progressive Discipline
- At the next School Council meeting Debbie will bring in the Progressive Discipline Policy for School Council to look at. Debbie further mentioned that parents can look at the AP policy of student conduct on the districts website- AP350
- Parents also mentioned classroom disruption concerns.
- Debbie encouraged parents to come together as well when things are ok to look at policies etc rather than just when things are not going as well or wrong
- The school will ask for follow-up from the Division Counsellor to support students on next steps if/when the student returns

Meeting adjourned: 8:06 PM

- *Nicole Mulholland motioned to adjourn the meeting, Jen Pierce-Ager seconded.*

Next Meeting: May 21, 2026 at 6:30PM