

**Meadow Ridge School  
Council Meeting Minutes  
27 February 2020**

**Attendees**

**Roll Call: Bryce Godenir, Sarah Lynch, Anthony Rider, Kristi Lundquist, Kristi Nutter, Sheroma Green, JoAnna Anderson-O'Neill, Nancy Nuessler**

**Admin: Principal Rebecca Forchuk, Vice Principal Brad Skeet, Music Teacher Jaime Bolen, Board Rep Sharon Nichols**

1. Meeting called to order at 6:04 pm
2. Welcome and introductions
3. Review of the agenda – additions/deletions
4. Sarah Lynch to motion and Anthony Rider to approve January 16<sup>th</sup> minutes. Bryce Godenir to motion and Kristi Lundquist to approve October 16 minutes.
5. Rebecca - Accountability Pillar Online Survey is open for about another week. Alberta Education sends this out every year to parents of Grade 4 and Grade 7 students. As many parents as possible should answer and respond to that survey. It came in the mail and there is a code. If you have lost your code, you can email...to get a replacement code. When the school gets the results they will share them with School Council. Kristi L – the questions are not very specific. What about feedback from parents with kids in other grades? Rebecca – we will use this as a starting point for students and parents from the other grades to provide their feedback. It's a baseline. If you don't have kids in G4 or G7, you will have a chance to have your say. Relevancy of school, program of studies, safe and caring schools, transportation etc.
6.
  - a. Trustee report – Sharon
    - i. Thank you to Meadow Ridge School for hosting 40 University of Calgary teaching students and showing them how this building was designed. I wanted them to see how practice is being influenced by the structure of the school. They came away wanting to get started teaching and that day was a lot of fun.
    - ii. We've been really busy and the new budget came out today. We will now be looking at how the budget affects us. The framework of FSD is going to be different in the future. It is changing to a 3 year process now and our growth projections have to be as accurate as possible. Our grants have been cut but we will be looking at that over the next few weeks. The feedback from the surveys shows we need to keep classroom sizes as small as possible, improve transportation and work on the new budget. There will be another gathering on May 1 to review these thoughts and results. That meeting will hold teacher reps, student reps, school admins, MLAs, town reps and a parent group as well. With that group of stakeholders we will review the new budget and plan the next 3 years. The main thing is quality education for our students. Are we carrying through options if kids want to stay with those programs as they move to higher grades?

- iii. We met as a board on Tuesday morning to revisit our goals. We are moving up to the 360 degree evaluation of our superintendent. We will be goal setting for Chris in completing this evaluation in April or May.
  - iv. We had a meeting this week with the student matters group and we talked about wellness and resources.
- b. Principal/Vice-Principal Report – Rebecca
- i. 19k responses to survey (link in last minutes). We also have a suggestion box for kids and parents to provide any time. We hope our doors are open enough for parents to reach us any time.
  - ii. Recycling – we need an adult in our building, groups of kids, recycling bins etc. Ms. Ford-Johnston has started the process of setting up this program. Jamie has looked at participating in this for money for the music program. Anthony – supposedly the school division has the bins? Rebecca – we are working with our maintenance staff to set up the recycling program as well. We are looking at different groups collecting the recycling each month and they will get the money. Bryce – is there the possibility of moving the recycling outside? Nancy – is compost on the radar. Rebecca – not right now as there has to be someone in the school every day to manage this. Anthony – we should register the school at the bottle depot for the fundraising society.
  - iii. We have a leadership option and they are planning the first dance for the school. It is going to be separated into Div 1, Div 2 and JH. Students may come to a School Council meeting to present what it's all about. They have talked with a DJ and we have him booked for the event. Zumba for Div 1 and Div 2, DJ for JH. Nancy – Panago would like to support this event as well. This event will only be open to students who attend our school. Looking at March 12 for this event.
  - iv. We are looking at ways that students or parents can anonymously report concerning behavior. We have registered for a site that is linked to our school for reporting of bullying, suicidal behavior, etc to make sure kids are safe in our school. This allows students and parents to inform the administration. Most of the tips come from the students directly.
  - v. We have been brainstorming what to do to make kids feel welcome. We have started to share our expected behaviors and unexpected behaviors as gathered by school admin and faculty. This Student Essential Agreements document shows how we are shaping behaviors among our students. Please provide feedback. Once we get some feedback from parents and students, we will look at consistency and next steps. Anthony – the only thing that jumps out at me is it is more about boundaries and negative behaviours. I don't see much about positive reinforcement. If you see something positive happening at the school there should be a reward. Rebecca – we are looking at celebrations as well and will be rewarding students for reading, sportsmanship etc. Joanna – I appreciate that this is clear on expectations and parents know how bullying is being addressed. Rebecca – we get a lot of positive comments regarding the behavior of our kids. Sarah – the administration has been great so far with any issues we've had. Rebecca – if you don't tell us we don't know about it but otherwise we do everything we can.

7. Anthony – fundraising society update. There was a delay on getting started, but we did the welcome BBQ which raised about \$2100 and we did a 50/50 at the Christmas concert about \$500 and readathon was about \$3500. Kristi G – was there a prize for the readathon? (moved question to fundraising meeting). Anthony - Where is this money going? School trips, music program, reduce cost of field trips etc. The classrooms have received \$100 each which is ¼ of what we had pledged and are hoping to raise for them.
8. Jaime Bolen – Outdoor Music Concert May 2020 – quick run-through of the event from sub-committee meeting. It will be May 28. Dress rehearsal in afternoon and event in early evening. If it rains we go inside. To ask Grade 5 parents specifically to volunteer as they enter the band program in Grade 6 and this fundraising will reduce their costs. We looked at a BBQ/concert for K-8 for a whole school event. We tried to get the food trucks but we're hitting some barriers with Town of Okotoks so for now we are approaching Big Sky and Big Dipper to bring their food in and we will BBQ hot dogs as well. Approach Sobey's for donations. Ask Tarpon for bbq again. Silent auction - ask all parents/community for donations. Proceeds will be shared between school and music program. Rebecca – bring in a celebration of learning, arts, poetry, drama highlighted. Kristi N – the mission thrift store in Okotoks is trying to keep the money they raise in town. If you let them know you are hosting a BBQ or need supplies for another event, let them know and they will keep it aside for us. Anthony to reach out to them for donations.
9. New Business
  - a. Nancy – we have some feedback that some events (80's day, pink shirt day) weren't on the school calendar. Rebecca to look into it.
  - b. JoAnna – I'm not receiving hot lunch emails but did receive music event email. Nancy to follow up regarding email address in hotlunches.ca.
  - c. Bryce recommended we move away from printing agendas/minutes and use smart board at meetings when reviewing both. All attending were in favor. JoAnna – perhaps use Instagram to let parents know what's on the agenda. Bryce – to look at this.
  - d. JoAnna asked to add a community garden or some kind of garden (growing towers?) to the school grounds. To be added to March agenda.
  - e.
10. Next meeting March 19. June 18 meeting and AGM is June 20. Look at moving June 18 meeting to after AGM.
11. Bryce motioned to end meeting, Kristi N to second at 7:18