

HSS School Council Meeting
Thursday, June 8th, 2023
HSS learning Hub 7-8:30 pm

3 min Call to order and welcome – Margie Steingart School Council Chair - 7:03pm

1 min Acceptance of minutes as circulated from April 5th, 2023 meeting

- Pam Barker motions to accept minutes

1 min Additions to the agenda/acceptance of the agenda

- No additions

15 min HSS school council reports:

• Financial report – Pam Barker School Council Co-chair

- \$2786.50
- Over the summer, we will meet up to discuss funds and potential spending next year

• ASCA (Alberta School Council Association) conference and AGM April 21-23 – Pam Barker

- Margie, Pam, and Melissa all attended. In Edmonton. Three full days.
- Hundreds from across the province. Many breakout sessions and discussions.
- 18 different breakout topics. So much great info and to connect with other parents, schools
- Board meeting took place afterwards, voting as well
- In the fall, they'll bring forward what can be taken from the conference and used at our school
- Melissa - listening to other school's speak about their challenges was very eye opening and to see that we don't face many of these same challenges. ESL, refugees.
- Dr. Pushor - great speaker. Concepts really hit home. She did a great job. Her motto, gentle revolution. Change is slow but we need to be moving. Get all stakeholders involved, moving along.
- Margie - didn't see any highschool reps from other schools (parents) - wondering why, interesting to note.
- Any school council was invited. Grant money was given for Margie and Pam to go from CESD. Very valuable.

• HSS School Council Plan – Margie Steingart

1. What we have accomplished in learning and action since September – details will be provided

- A year ago - the ship needed to change.

- Where have we come? What have we learned?
- 20 parents, none of us knew that school councils were legislated
- Didn't know we could have influence in this way
- This is the place that was set out by the minister of education for parents to be involved
- Consult and provide advice - place where we are invited to be part of the conversation
- Support meaningful parent involvement - our job is to gather thoughts and ideas from the greater school community
- Provides a venue for parents to reflect about different ideas and opinions different from their households

2. Collaboration with HSS admin, CESD admin and HSS staff/organizations – details will be provided

- Lots of collaboration with George, Laura Lee, Tyler, Kurt, Jason, Melissa, teachers
- A lot of really great dialogue
- A lot of investment by admin, school board trustee, the CESD admin, and many parents
- Lots of personal time by all stakeholders
- In February we spent grant money from CESD to do actual learning
- Creating School Council Plans to Engage in School Community
- Thank you to George, Tyler and Laura Lee
- Three Modules guided by a facilitator
- We did this process together
- School website outlines exactly what we did learn
- Solidified our mission statement
- Created our goals: engage parents, connect to classrooms, enhance school culture
- Expanded our board to include parent representatives to help our teachers, to have someone with ears on the ground, a contact for teachers to reach out to
- Created our School Plan
- Maximizing parent involvement, surveys participation, creating a banner to have a school events, neighborhood party, Grade 4 orientation, welcome back BBQ
- Reading the Kodiak Review, PowerSchool (encouraging parents), police checks (46 in)
- Advising component
- There is an actual plan in place

3. Advising HSS admin, CESD admin and CESD Board of Trustees – details will be provided

- The collaborating, having open dialogue, cohesive conversions, building bridges
- Within HSS, CESD, HSS organizations and clubs, teachers/support staff, board trustee
- Weaving all the extra curriculums together, helping each other
- Inclusion on the education plans - admin was very receptive
- Parent Matters with CESD, opened it up to more parents to advise on their education plan - Chelsie, Darren attended virtually

Propose AGM moved to last meeting in June.

Propose current board to carry forward for 2023/24.

Position of secretary is open and will need to be filled.

- No takers. All board will stay on till the fall. Communications will stay open.

Candace makes the motion to accept all. Tim and Amber second the motion.

5 min Parent engagement opportunities:

- Please get current police checks to the office to be able to volunteer for any activity
- HSSMA (music association) – Andrea Morton hssma.pts@gmail.com
- HSSEF (enhancement fund/fundraising) – Terralee Penner hssef@gmail.com
- HSS lunch and breakfast programs – Yvonne Tempany ytempany@cesd73.ca
- Kodiak Booster Club (support school athletics) – Lindsey Good
 - Evening and weekend volunteer opportunities
- Other – field trips, classroom, lunch supervision, coaching, creative programing, parent drivers

Moving into the fall, getting more involved in all of these. How they can work together and support each other.

George mentioned, 101 parent surveys were completed this spring. Higher than last year. Much higher than last year.

School reports:

10 min Student leadership report from middle school and high school representatives

Middle School (Lane and Easton) - June 15th, Sports Day throughout the school (Track Meet)
End of the year, Carnival Friday June 23rd (to generate revenue for candy and games)

Highschool (Lorelei) - pop tabs collection contest, live action Hungry Hungry Hippos, Lunch for the EAs, Senior Centre, gardening. Movie night was canceled due to lack of attendance. Sold popcorn at lunch. Celebrating Pride with posters, painting tiles, etc.

5 min Flag raising ceremony May 26th – Ms. Tilly Heenan

- Teaches Grade 5. Also the indigenous lead. It has been a division wide guided focus.
- Lots of leadership and guidance
- Connecting with other schools. Doing similar things.
- She wants to show us what they've shown our kids
- All teachers have shared it with their kids in some way

- Wednesday mornings - Blackfoot O Canada by Tsuaki Marule (our territory)
- Our Why: Connect to what they know
- Talked about why we have a national anthem, the treaty,
- Lots of cross curricular learning
- Language, lost culture,
- Want: to be inviting to everybody
- Raised two indigenous flag (Treaty 7, Metis), set in the front foyer
- Talked about our AB Flag and Canada Flag, why we have them
- Talked about what is represented on the flags
- Carolyn Wagner came in (make rattles with Grade 5 students)
- Many great teaching moments
- May 23 to 26 - indigenous teaching, every student got a chance to do something
- Set up trapping tents, made bannock, fry bread, shared stories, medicine wheel
- Teaching from Indigenous knowledge keepers
- Flag raising, there was singing, dancing, drummers (student led with leadership) - very powerful, land acknowledging, tobacco protocol,
- Amazing energy, inspiring, collaboration
- Thank you Tilly for all your hard work, making it very meaningful for kids
- Want to do it again for sure, maybe October or May
- Want to keep land acknowledgements

5 min Trustee's Report – Ms. Melissa Copley

- Land Acknowledgements, to have different versions of it, meaningful
- 2023/2024 budget approval - very much a status quo budget, not much changing
- Education plan (2021-2024): approved year 3 of plan and new plan to prepare for
 - Now they're starting the planning for the next 3 year plan.
 - Beginning in August
 - Surveys, feedback, sessions with planners,
 -
- Some priorities within plan: student absenteeism, parent involvement
 - Flourishing Stories, over the summer: board will meet to additional funds
 - Seed money that the board money has

15 min Principal's Report – Mr. George Thomson and Mr. Dean Nielsen

- Big thanks to all parents, volunteers
- Laura Lee is back till the end of the year

Art evening this week, Jazz band, Drama production (Snow White), Boots on the Ground - kids went to Edmonton. RAP program is expanding. Track and Field, successful season. Football is

on the go. Soccer. Luna Centre-RCMP presentation for Grade 7 and 8, Mock accident, Flag raising ceremony. Lots of Field Trips on the go. Helicopter coming on this week, to learn flight. June 13th, at 8:45 am potentially, more info will come out with exact date/time. Budget report, sent to Nathan Steingart & Kerry Meyers

- Staffing and schedule changes for next year
 - Laura Lee is retiring, Teri Sadek VP.
 - New admin team next year
 - Admin support finance, position open for next year
 - New foods person hired
 - New art teacher
 - Mr Nielsen, met with each teacher to discuss hopes, dreams, etc
 - A lot of shuffling within the school
 - STEM program starting, new teacher Mr Hart
 - Need to hire Grade 8 teacher, P/T highschool Math/Science teacher
 - Mike Brodeur - run a Hockey Academy (eventually expand to basketball, arts etc over the years)

- Programming updates for next year
 - Learning gap programs - feedback wasn't great, not going to do that next year
 - Ma,Lit,SEW, finance component (hope is for Grade 10s, shut down for a week, and do an internship)
 - Reach community, connect to find career matches
 - Set them up for success for Grade 11/12
 - New curricular, grade %
 - Middle school visioning, Teri Sadek
 - Moving the Hub to Grade 6
 - Shuffling around the school a bit, classrooms etc
 - Careers, every Grade 9 child will take a new career course
 - Options for Grade 5 and 6, foods etc

Orientation - June 14th Grade 4s (kids will come, meet Grade 5 teachers. School Tours, Kahoot activities, snack, playground) - patrollers will do walking safety

June 21st - parent meeting (one hour)
3:30 to 4:30 pm
Chelsie & Taryn will be there, Melissa will be there
Guided tours
Students can help show parents

Lack of subs - big problem
Classroom Supervisor (can become one, apply, interview) - Community reachout

- Transitions into next year

Final Exams coming up
Grad

Celebrating Diversity - HS Leadership, inclusivity (next Thursday)

Grade 7 and 8 Honors - June 21st, Block 5 (messaging for parents will come out)

School Photos - haven't gone well the last couple years - Life Touch give them a go one more year, aligned with CES

Next year, committees to improve school culture, wellness, etc - could have potential for parent to join committee

Athletic Banquet, June 26th
Carnival, June 23rd

10 min Roundtable discussion – Challenge to parents. Bring your perspective and expertise.

- From your parent perspective, what areas of school culture growth are a priority and how would you suggest we move forward to achieve it?

Catch some of the kids in Grade 10/11 that have been missed through covid and didn't have the work experience opportunities

Mass messaging to businesses, ask town or county

- What unique skills and experiences does your family have that could be incorporated at HSS to enhance overall school culture? What does meaningful engagement at HSS look like for your family?

Tracey - Data Moment as a tribute to George

Meeting is adjourned at 8:44 pm

1 min Next meeting

- Wednesday September 20, 2023

75 min Adjournment of meeting for dessert social (meeting over by 8:15)

Members in attendance:

Amber Nielsen
Margie Steingart
Chelsie Meyers

Pam Marker
George Thomson
Dean Nielsen
Teri Sadek
Melissa Copley
Tracey Brown Ewert
Nathan Steingart
Candace Carter
Tim Baker
Tilly Heenan