

HSS School Council Meeting
Wednesday, October 25th, 2023
STEM classroom (former learning HUB) 7-8 pm

- 3 min **Call to order and welcome** – Margie Steingart School Council Chair
In attendance: Margie Steingart, Inza Tagert, Tracy Brown Ewert, Tilly Heenan, Teri Sadek, Kristina Rentz, Dean Nielsen
Google meet: Chelsie Meyers, Janet Stone, Darren Owen
- 1 min **Acceptance of minutes as circulated from September 20th, 2023 meeting**
Tracey accepted minutes
- 1 min **Additions to the agenda/acceptance of the agenda**
- 10 min **HSS school council reports:**
- **Financial report** – Pam Barker School Council Co-chair Still not a ton to report as Rae Ann sorting through financial software and Pam sorting through ear tagged use for money. Just over \$3000 in our account. Still needs to be determined for what purpose the money should be used. Also grant money of \$500 (maybe slightly more) is to be decided how to best be used for learning.
 - **Communication:** 1) from the school: Videos are a huge improvement and more parents and students are watching than read Kodiak Review. Effective at creating school community along with FB and Insta posts.. We are finding that some parents are still wanting it in written form. Admin described where to find 'daily announcements' on the school website for weekly snapshot of info for HS and MS. Along with the calendar that can be downloaded to your personal calendar, most of the requests are covered. 2) with the classroom: Teacher communication is going quite well. There are some complaints of a lack of teacher response. Reminder, if you have gone to the teacher and are still not getting a response after 48 hours please call the administration in the office to rule out a 'junk folder email'. If you have never communicated via email with your child's teacher, many emails are going to spam. As we are introducing newer better ways of communicating we appreciate your patience while working or troubleshooting technical errors. Parent council and the school staff encourage all communications following the process of the teacher first, then include admin if satisfactory results have not occurred. 3) from school council- Inza is working on slides for parent council communication. We will disseminate our info in collaboration with the office (email, videos, FB and Insta posts) Topics such as meeting summary (what we talk about and what you missed), who we are, goals, how to communicate with teachers, collaboration and creating community etc.
 - **Parent Matters report** - Tracy Brown Ewert - Google meet with parent representatives from schools throughout CESD. Led by Superintendent Kurt Sacher. This group meets 3 times a year and the purpose is to give a voice to the parents. Provide a vision and allow parents to connect and communicate with each other. Topics that came up were: Kids watching videos at lunch, How does the division fund athletics (it doesn't), change rooms and the protocol for gender sensitivity, transitioning and other orientation concerns. Addressing questions and debunking myths. Communication update working at doing some changes on CESD website. There is a link for council people to do a survey. Our school council will provide link to our group. Any questions for the next meeting in January please get them to Tracy and she will take them to the next meeting. Positive experience.
 - **School council learning** -. The next phase of our learning needs to take us into how we actually collaborate to create a sense of belonging, respect and pride to be a Kodiak - not only for students but for teachers, parents and all support staff within the school. We are all gathered, communicating, desiring the same general path forward, now we need to figure out how to move forward together. Stay tuned for more from Margie coming up. .
 - **Current playground decommissioned summer 2025**

- Parent committee will need to be created to start the planning /fundraising process. With new MS on CESD radar, what do we actually put here at HSS? Margie to sort out the fundraising component as it will not be a direct school council initiative but rather a fundraising/decision parent group much like HSSMA or HSS Kodiak Booster Club. Please reach out if you are interested in leading or being a part of this process.

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)** – hssef@gmail.com
 - Casino dates in Red Deer Wed March 13th and Thur March 14th (open till close both days) two shifts each day. Mark your calendars so we can raise money that benefits our school
- **HSS lunch and breakfast programs** – Yvonne Tempany ytempany@cesd73.ca Great way to welcome kids and say hello.
- **Kodiak Booster Club (support school athletics)** – Lindsey Good this is a way in which parents can come together and help support school athletics succeed. There is fundraising as well.
- Other – field trips, classroom, lunch supervision, coaching, creative programing, parent drivers
Reminder to have your police checks in if you are wanting to supervise or volunteer on field trips or in the school.

5 min **School reports:**

- **Student leadership report from middle school and high school representatives**
- **HS Leadership video:** goals being leaders and being involved in the community. Went to the senior centre and engaged while learning about their lives. Were attempting to host a halloween dance but due to lack of ticket sales this event has been cancelled. Please message Ms Rodburn with any ideas for fun money generating events.
- **Grade 9 leadership video** - Kindness walk around town doing acts of kindness, introducing themselves and bringing smiles to the community's faces.
- **Middle school** - many community building initiatives - Planned a themed week for the entire school (pj day, halloween etc...); Pumpkin carving under the theme of movies; Community options classes running that going to seniors lodge and doing spook baskets to deliver around town to bring happiness. Visited the elementary and waved as they walked through town. Big bake sale for the school on Tuesday October 31st - baked by foods class with funds returning in support of the foods program. Families are welcome to send money to donate to the foods program as well.

5 min **Trustee's Report:** Melissa Copley (sends regrets in attendance for this meeting)

- Reviewed board meeting highlights found on CESD under 'Board of Trustees'. Melissa's role as trustee (one of 9 for CESD) is the elected official that represents the government and as a board, oversee the administration of our school division. They are sort of the bosses that oversee that steps and actions are being taken that meet the rules of the government.

20 min **Principal's Report:** Dean Nielsen, Kristina Rentz, Teri Sadek

- Key updates in policy, programing, communication
- Parent Teacher interviews coming up November 6th and 7th book online. Bookings close on Monday October 30th.
- Would like to collaborate with elementary schools in order to make it feel like one school K-12.
- Supporting High school in career options. Going to have a career day. Shut the school down for the morning and bring in parents/ members of the community in different fields. This will be for grades 9-12 in the am. Then a presentation for grades 7 and 8 students and potentially grades 5-6 in the afternoon. Tentative day Dec 15th.

- Discipline - working towards a consistent smooth process and have implemented the 1,2,3 method. One means a kid needs a break. Really a teacher/student solution that may be supported by an administration. Two means something has gone on such as disrespectful behaviour. Administration will work with the teacher/student and if needed, the parent to work on repairing the relationship. VP's primarily deal with '1 and 2' situations. Number threes are behaviour requiring suspension and this role is taken on by the principal. Student/parent/principal are involved in this situation. There has been a decrease in office referrals from last year and most calls to the office are number ones.
- Our school is currently a nut free school it has been looked into as some parents are expressing a desire to allow nuts. We are going to look into making our school nut aware. This means that students would be able to bring peanut butter or nuts to school but also be aware of allergy needs among us. The teacher would be aware of a student with an allergy and accommodate. Expect further discussion to formulate the actual plan. Parent discussion always welcome throughout this process.

10 min **Roundtable discussion** – where parents have opportunity to highlight their perspectives

- What areas require growth or consideration and how would you suggest we proceed?
- What does meaningful engagement at HSS look like for your family?
- Council asked for any ideas needing to be discussed. Nothing new was brought up.
- No further concerns that were not already addressed in the meeting.

2 min **Summary of roundtable topics presented to the entire room Due to time it was asked to bring up topics to discuss. No new discussions voiced.**

Next meeting Wednesday, November 29th

60 min **Adjournment (meeting over at 8 pm)**

- Meeting adjourned at 8:00