

HSS School Council Meeting
Wednesday, November 29th, 2023
STEM classroom (former learning HUB) 7-8 pm

3 min **Call to order and welcome** – Margie Steingart School Council Chair

1 min **Acceptance of minutes as circulated from October 25, 2023 meeting**

→ *Inza moved acceptance of minutes*

1 min **Additions to the agenda/acceptance of the agenda**

→ *CA discussion added to round table*

→ *Pam moved acceptance of agenda*

15 min **HSS school council reports:**

- **Financial report** – Pam Barker School Council Co-chair
 - *Attention needs to be given to ensuring card sales funds is goes to the correct account*
 - *Initial contact has been made to have HSS as the recipient of the TIm Hortons spring Smile Cookie Campaign*
- **Communication:** 1) from school 2) with classroom 3) in athletics 4) from school council
 - *Communication on all fonts is being addressed and is improving*
 - *Encouragement to parents to meet with admin if help is needed to create talking points when addressing a concern with teachers*
- **School council learning** - Connie Jakob facilitating 2 events
 - Booked for Tuesday Feb 13th evening and Friday March 8th day. Motion to use ASCG funds for the events.
 - *Amber moved to proceed with booking Connie Jakob*
- **Parent Matters** (CESD initiative to hear from parents) - Tracy Brown Ewert
 - *Asking for parent input to the school division level*
 - *There will be a meeting held in January where parents, students, teachers, support staff are all welcome (did not catch the date of this meeting)*
- **Current playground decommissioned summer 2025**
 - Parent committee will need to be created to start planning/fundraising process
 - *Summer 2025 is a hard decommissioning date, no extensions to be given; seeking clarification on whether or not any of the current playground can stay or if it all needs to go*
 - *Plans for a new school to be built behind Hugh Sutherland, would become a “campus environment”; new school may be high school or middle school and Hugh Sutherland would adjust accordingly*
 - *Carstairs currently 4th in line for a new school*
 - *Bus-loop , student drop-off, playground, outdoor play/learning areas would all move to behind HSS (“between” the two schools)*
 - *Should lean on some strong fundraising experience of parents who were involved in the playground coordination for CES and are now / will be members of the HSS community*
 - *Would like to have actual plans in place to approach Nathan Cooper with, instead of just asking for money / support. If we steer the ship on this it will be easier to ask for the support we need from the division, province, etc.*

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 Nov 23rd, 6:30
 - Dec 13th and 14th concerts requiring donated baked goods and volunteers
 - *Need donations, volunteers and bake sale help*
 - *Baking CAN include nuts, but labelling will be required*

- **HSSEF (enhancement fund/fundraising)** – Jen Massop hssef@gmail.com Dec 4th, 7pm
 - Casino dates in Red Deer Wed March 13th and Thur March 14th (open till close both days)
 - *Next meeting is December 4, 7:00 PM @ HSS*
 - *Meeting will include determining use of funds and future plans*
- **HSS lunch and breakfast programs** – Yvonne Tempany ytempany@cesd73.ca
 - *Both programs need volunteers*
- **Kodiak Booster Club (support school athletics)** – Lindsey Good
 - *This club needs volunteers*
- Other – field trips, classroom, lunch supervision, coaching, creative programming, parent drivers
- *Doing better with getting Police Record Checks but still less than 10% student households*

5 min **School reports:**

- **Student leadership report from middle school and high school representatives**
 - *See videos submitted by students for updates*
 - *Leadership groups are looking for suggestions from the community on areas they can help out and make a difference; suggestions can be submitted to school administration*
 - *Hot Chocolate being served at Co-op on December 5; Hot Chocolate being served at HSS on December 7 & 16*
 - *Operation Christmas Child boxes*
 - *One suggestion was made to have Leadership support the Mennonite Disaster Services with clean up / relief efforts for the victims of the tornado - Dean advised staff are already looking into this opportunity*

5 min **Trustee's Report:** Melissa Copley

- CESD board of trustees priorities and recommendations
 - *Board highlights were circulated with attention raised the meeting held in Edmonton with the Alberta School Board Association*
 - *ASCA conversation about the shift in understanding about role of school council, our trustees noting what HSS is doing and directing to our website for a place to start*
 - *Annual Financial Review is happening*

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

- Key updates in policy, programming, communication
- *Staff lunch was very appreciated; looking for supervision volunteers for December 21 staff lunch*
- Dec 15th career fair: SUGGEST PARENTS TAKE THE DAY/AM OFF WORK TO ATTEND
 - *There are some 'Parents Only' sessions scheduled that parents can sign up for*
 - *Only running in the AM for the high school, some presenters will present to the middle school in the afternoon*
- *Admins are going through last years survey results and looking for areas they can implement improvements; main goal right now is "How can we get parents more involved in the school community"*
- *School is fully nut AWARE now, students are able to bring nut food products to school; each teacher will have their own way of dealing with it in their classroom(s)*
- *There is an ad on the website for 'Casual Classroom Supervisors'*
 - *Parent/community members meeting the criteria can be placed in a list for call when no subs are available. Post secondary and working with kids/public. Talk to Dean to be on that list if interested.*
- *Discussing the possibility of Driver Training being offered through the school as an option class*
- *Working on a new digital sign for the front of the school outside of the East gym; school will be looking for donations from local businesses before going down the fundraising route*
- *New school logo being rolled out. It is finalised*
- *KODIAK Wear store is up and available on the school website*

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

- What areas require growth/consideration and how would you suggest we proceed?
- What does meaningful engagement at HSS look like for your family?
- *Discussion around CA (Connect Advisor); Dean to arrange for more information to be sent out to parents around this*
- *Career Pathways and ensuring that the “kids in the middle” are being well considered (non-trades, no plans for high academic path, but still encouraged to get appropriate credits to keep general admission career path options open); more discussion in future around parents involvement in this process. Dec 15th career day attendance from parents is a great start!*
- *Cell phone policy was discussed*
- *Vending machine availability - leadership looking into as fundraising source*

2 min **Summary of roundtable topics presented to entire room**

Next meeting Tuesday, February 6th, 2024

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

- *Adjournment 8:20 pm*