



Meeting Highlights February 6th, 2024

Engaging Parents - Connecting to Classrooms - Enhancing School Culture

From school council:

1) Communication

- a) From school/teachers is continually improving through introductory/detailed parent email from teachers, weekly messaging including video, social media Facebook and Instagram (**Hugh Sutherland School, @hss.kodiaks, @hss.athletics**). **Follow HSS website for monthly calendar and 'Daily Announcements'**. School to create video series that will educate/inform the school community on topics such as CA's, FLT blocks, Academy (hockey now with robotics, dance/cheer planned for next year), HSS athletics, the role of the Athletic Director etc.
 - b) Athletics are seeing communication improvement with each new sport season and with TeamSnap but many conversations on how parents/community members can continue to support. **Kodiak Booster Club is starting with the goal to enhance and develop the athletics experience at HSS through parent and community participation.** They need community members/parents to step up and become champions of specific sports. Athletic Director is not a paid teaching position within our current budget. Parent support in sport is critical. **New email for athletic director. Please use hssathletics@cesd73.ca** so Mr. Evans can separate extracurricular from classroom communication.
 - c) School council has a new logo to identify our communication for school communication.
- 2) **Assurance Survey** - Came in mail for parents of kids in grade 4,7,10. Data gathered is used to determine provincial and local education plans. **It's important!! Please do it by March 1st.**
 - 3) **Connie Jakab is coming to our school Tuesday April 23rd** for afternoon assemblies and 6-8:30pm for a parent/community member evening. She is a champion of helping create places of belonging.. She works with parents, teachers and school communities to help change culture. Please follow Facebook Connie Jakab or Instagram [@conniejakab](https://www.instagram.com/conniejakab), *The Brave Podcast* or read her book/audiobook *Bring them Closer*.
 - 4) **Current playground decommissioned summer 2025** and ongoing school council organization to begin fundraising followed by dialogue of needed outdoor infrastructure and where it might go.

From school:

- 1) December career fair was a success with students but recognize steps need to be taken to make career conversations more meaningful for parents. **Grade 10 internship April 24-26 with community support needed. List of needs available from the office.**
- 2) Outdoor media sign planning is underway. Location is the east facing parking lot wall of the east gym. Planned instalment is summer '24.
- 3) NEW Kodiak logo decals are going up around the school.
- 4) Discussed the new optional band cost to cover costs of instrument cleaning. Morphed into conversation about mandatory band for grade 5 & 6 is unique to HSS. Larger conversation that anyone can continue with Dean if interested.
- 5) **Question from parents: Please explain what staff/new staff mentorship at HSS looks like to help staff and students succeed.**
 - a) CESD hosts a 1 week orientation for new staff in August as well as collaborative initiatives throughout the year. HSS has admin observing in classrooms to provide feedback. Teachers collaborate in teaching areas. Teachers attend colleague classrooms to observe techniques/methods for growth. This term, new initiatives started by some teachers to enhance student learning in certain subjects. Admin makes mentoring and additional teaching skills a priority for successful student outcomes.