

**Prescott Learning Centre School Council Meeting Minutes  
November 1st, 2023 - 6:30pm Collaboration Centre**

1. Welcome - We honour all the many First Nations, Metis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries. We acknowledge that the ancestral and traditional lands on which we gather are Treaty 6 territory, a traditional meeting ground for many indigenous peoples, and in particular our neighbors, Paul First Nation, Enoch Cree Nation, Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation, and Alexander Cree Nation; on whose territory we work, live, and play, and on whose territory we stand.

2. Introductions & Attendance

3. Approval of Agenda

4. Approval on the Minutes

5. Trustee Report - Trustee Eric Cameron

**October 2023 Trustee School Council Report  
Submitted by E. Cameron**

- On September 21 some Trustees attended a Pipe Ceremony at our central office with elders and knowledge keepers to celebrate the fall equinox.
- On October 3 Trustees attended a luncheon at Memorial Composite High School to greet our delegation of administrators/facilitators from Shikaoi, Japan as part of the student exchange program with the Town of Stony Plain and their sister city, Shikaoi, Japan. The Foods Program at MCHS hosted the luncheon with a wonderful lunch (presentation and meal were really five star).

**Board Meeting Highlights:**

**Board Chair Report:**

- A letter was received with a gift from the Shikaoi High School principal in thanks for hosting the October luncheon; he expressed hopes that children from both countries gain a greater global understanding from the experience.
- The City of Spruce Grove is seeking provincial support to include the Horizon Stage as part of the replacement of Spruce Grove Composite High School project.
- The provincial Social Studies engagement survey closes Oct. 16; it gives Albertans a voice in the re-development of the social studies curriculum.
- We are still looking for a date for the grand opening of Westview School; hopefully in

**November.**

**Superintendent Report :**

- Our Facilities Department is busy wrapping up its many summer projects (was a very busy summer).
- Budget year 2022-2023 is wrapping up and budget 2023-2024 is being established (November is budget month).
- We still have some bussing challenges, but all eligible riders have been accommodated.
- The design team for the new SGCHS had its first meeting with the architect, which is very encouraging; we are still hoping for construction funding to be approved in the next provincial capital program announcement.

- The Superintendent travelled to our school (Athabasca Delta Community School) in Fort Chipewyan to discuss where we are at in the process to develop their own educational authority.
- Food security is a major priority focus again this year in PSD.
- Schools celebrated Orange Shirt Day Sept. 29 with many bringing in elders and knowledge keepers to speak to the students.
- Our Building Futures program is building 2 homes this year in conjunction with Coventry Homes (one for grade 10 students, one for grade 11/12 students).

#### **Delegation:**

- The Board received a delegation from the Spruce Grove Rotary Club explaining their “brown bag” lunch program which prepares 350 bag lunches twice per week to 18 schools sites. The program is funded through the division (grants), Spruce Grove and Stony Plain Rotary Clubs, President’s Choice Charity and St. Andrews Church, local grocers and many volunteers.

#### **Reports:**

- Report on our submission to the province with our list of Modular Classroom priorities was given: Ecole Meridian Heights 4 new modulares, Copperhaven 2 new modulares, Blueberry 9 new replacement modulares, Muir Lake 6 new replacement modulares, Ecole Broxton Park 6 new replacement modulares.
- September enrolment numbers are in with our west end schools down 52 students, Stony Plain and area up 68 students, Spruce Grove up 8 students, Outreach up 83 students and Athabasca Delta Community School down 5 students.
- Class sizes are holding up to what we had last year, but are seeing some large grade 9 classes in a few schools.
- Curriculum implementation still has a high focus on Numeracy and Literacy with classroom support and extensive professional development for teachers. We have new curriculums this year: K-3 French Literature and Language Arts, K-3 Science, 4-6 Literature and Language arts, 4-6 Math.
- Athabasca Delta Community School in Fort Chipewyan staffing includes: 16.5 teacher/admin, 3 Educational Assistants, 1 Speech Language assistant, 2 cooks, 1 bus driver, and 1 division maintenance worker. Challenges include isolation, housing, cost of living, work environment and access to professional development.
- Student Conduct and Intervention report unfortunately shows an increase in cyber bullying, vaping, non-compliance/disrespect/inappropriate behavior, fighting/physical aggression. There is evidence to indicate some of this is still the result of social isolation during the Covid pandemic where positive interaction was restricted.

#### **6. Principal’s Report - Chris Shaw**

- PATs for gr. 6 & 9
  - Considerable improvement from the previous year, especially in the area of math. We have been focusing on small group, thinking classrooms
- Our numeracy and literacy improvement is great - the staff have done a wonderful job. The staff have been ready for it, however they are making great progress with kids!
  - We are one of two schools (K-9) that have made improvements this year
- Budget
  - Money is very tight - 2000 less EAs in the province this year from last year.
  - We have tried our best to keep class sizes below 30
  - We have a smaller budget this year from last year. 86-87% typically goes to staffing... we are at 95% staffing... we are trying to keep class sizes small

- Staffing wise, we don't have a full time IEL, we don't have this in place as to keep class sizes smaller
- Catchment area - changes
  - We projected 830, we started 850, we are 866 and more students coming today
- Great year start!
  - Kids are more regulated
  - We are doing collaborative preps with grade level cohorts. We are doing the collaborative response model through JigSaw learning. Grade cohorts have one prep a week together. This happens as admin are teaching and covering classes to teachers can meet together as well as have a block with Admin
- Remembrance Day - next Friday November 10, we welcome all. 2 assemblies - sad we can't have the whole school in the gym
- Christmas Concerts - we have 4 concerts - 2 in the afternoon and 2 in the evening
- The more support from school council the best
  - Write and advocate to your MLAs (we have three for PSD), Minister of Education, **Minister of Finance**

#### 7. Staff Report - Nicole Blanchet

- Staff are tired, for they are working so hard with their kids, they are seeing progress with their kids!
- Collaborative preps - the entire grade level team get together to plan, to look at assessment results, this time is a gift. They talk about strategies for students... many minds together to share strategies and supports. These blocks, are also times in which literacy and numeracy leads can meet with classrooms teachers and work on strategies, as well as build small group programming (individual small group work with the teacher every day)
- Community continues to built within the building, increased collaboration, motivation behind the growth that has been seen
- Prescott Plays - gr. 5 and 6 kids facilitate play
- Reading buddies, one of the way we have been able to build in the collaborative preps, but also building relationships between the old and the young!

#### 8. Fundraising Update - PLCFF President Lacey Clark

- Hot Lunch - going well
- Halloween Dance - went really well - 550 attendees!
- Christmas Fundraiser - Hypnotic Blooms
- Scoreboard being installed over Fall Break

#### 9. New Business

- Advocating to MLAs, Minister of Education and Minister of Finance
- What would be the key points that would be added to the letter?
  - Additional monies to ensure supports for students with diverse learning needs, educational assistant, teachers, speech and language, Occupational therapy, behavioural support, educational assessments etc
  - Funding models change in the sense of monies per child (numbers are counted as of September 30, students arriving after, no funding is provided)
  - Weighted moving average funding model - suggestion to talk to Associate Superintendent of Finance (Scott McFadyen) in PSD before adding this. This model, if very hard on high growth areas

- Do they ask for continuation for Bridge funding?
- Motion (Sue) to set up a meeting with Scott McFadyen, second (Sarah/Brigitte)
  - Chris will reach out to Scott McFadyen to see if he can join us

10. Old Business

- Open positions on council
  - Chris has not received anything back for a secretary and communications manager

11. Round Table - 10 - 15 min

- Procedures are finished from Sarah, they need to be signed.

11. Next Meeting – Monday December 4th - Special meeting - Jeremy moved, Sarah motioned

- Focus to discuss the letter for the MLA, Minister of Education, Minister of Finance
- Next School Council meeting January 10th at 6:30pm

12. Adjournment at 7:39pm