

**Prescott Learning Centre  
Special School Council Meeting Minutes  
Monday, December 4, 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:

3. Attendance: Jeremy, Sue Chaffy, Adam McArthur, Eric Cameron, Shannon Legge, Sarah Saysana, Nicole Blanchet, Heather Huisman, Chris Shaw, Esther van Beek, Christian Lekenhoff, Sarah Lori

4. Approval of Agenda:

- Sue motioned to accept the agenda

**5. Trustee Report: Eric Cameron**

1. Trustees and Senior Administration attended the grand opening of Westview School (replacement for Stony Plain Central) on November 27 with the Minister of Education, Demetrios Nicolaidis, and Minister of Children and Family Services, Searle Turton, in attendance, as well as municipal partners and our sister board, Evergreen Catholic represented. So pleasing to see such a beautiful and functional school come to fruition to serve the town of Stony Plain.

2. Our Stakeholder Engagement session, November 22, was well attended and supplied some valued input to help us move forward with our educational planning and Implementation.

**3. November Board Meeting:**

- Board Chair report: Two letters were sent to the Minister of Education with regard to including the equivalent of Horizon Stage to be added as a new build in conjunction with the new Spruce Grove Composite High School (one with initial ask and one with more detailed information on the ask). We have stressed, though, that our main focus is on the timely build of SGCHS in the next capital school builds announcement. We are continuing to establish dates to meet with our three municipal partners and our educational partners: new Francophone School Board in Stony Plain, and Evergreen Separate School Board.
- Superintendent Report: Our Transportation Department is looking at establishing a Safety Council where drivers, contractors and division staff can discuss issues and areas of concern. Two senior staff have recently visited our newest school in Fort Chipewyan, Athabasca Delta Community School. The modulars to serve our Outreach programs are now in place at Ecole Broxton Park with January 2024 to be ready to open. Facilities department is setting up a Management System at Ecole Broxton Park and Memorial Composite High School to study what systems are energy efficient and provide the best comfort levels expected.

Calendar survey is now live and closes at Christmas Break. Staff and student wellness is still a focus for this school year with hopes of addressing areas of concern. We are also focusing on Student Attendance and trying to raise the importance of regular attendance (many studies show that this area is a major indicator of student success/failure). Our learning Disruption Grant is significantly less this year, but may also indicate success in our work on Numeracy and Literacy as the grants are based on student need (our needs are less than last year). We have a number of PD sessions taking place with a focus on French Immersion program delivery.

- Student Delegation: We hosted a student delegation from Graminia School to share their journey of the Graminia Band program. They presented a slide show and played three pieces-very impressive and were well received by Trustees and Senior staff. Financial Statements: Price Waterhouse Coopers, our auditors, presented their unqualified (clean) audit report which reported a deficit of \$1 247 268 for the 2022- 2023 fiscal year. The Board voted to approve the Audited Financial Statements.
- Annual Education Results: (2022-2023) The AERR addresses the previous year's achievements on each of the Board's locally developed assurance elements. The report shows areas of decrease, areas of no change and areas of improvement on Parent, Student and Teacher survey results, as well as on the Provincial Achievement tests (PATs) and Diploma exam results (DIPs).
- Fall Forecast: Each year the Division prepares a fall financial forecast based on the September enrollment numbers. There was a decrease in revenues based on a decrease in enrollment from forecast, which was partially offset by new grants.
- Community Partnerships Report: This report describes the Division's work of building healthy and sustainable relationships with community partnerships across the region. This goes hand in hand with our main goal of Student Success and Wellbeing.

6. Staff Report: Nicole Blanchet, School Rep.

- Sarah/Shannon - Bring the idea of travel into PLC with kids, within Canada. They would like to gauge parent interest
  - Education Tours is something that Sarah and Shannon have looked into. 5-7 days - looking at 2024-2025 school year Ideally 18-24 kids
  - Quebec City and Montreal - 6 days, 6 hours a day of activities - \$3,037 approx includes everything except tips and spending money. 5 days, \$2,847 approx
  - 1 adult to 6 kids - need to have 12 or more kids.
  - Looking at gr. 7-9
  - Next steps - survey to parents, and then a parent info night

7. Principal Report: Chris Shaw Weighted Moving Average

- Christmas concerts this week
- Weighted Moving Average presentation
  - How does the revenue change with students coming/leaving
  - How do the costs change with new students coming into the school division

8. Motion to Draft a Letter (Discussion)

- Sarah made the motion to draft a letter, Sue seconded the motion
- Content
- Time Frame - Beginning of the school year - come back with a draft in January
- Addressed to whom? Parkland MLAs, Minister of Education, Minister of Health, Minister of Finance, Minister of Child and Family services (do you deliver the letter to Searle Turton),
  - Mail letters vs. emails
- In PSD we are seeing a higher level of Mental health difficulties than our neighbors
- Questions/Thoughts
  - Do we get other councils in the division to join in
    - Share the letter as a starting point for other school division
  - Encouraged to take to COSC - share the information, invite them to write a letter
    - Does Council ask Rick to make it part of the provincial council
  - Many letters from one, or one from many
  - Do you encourage parents to share their stories for greater impact
  - What are the objectives of the letter
    - Is it changing the model?
    - Who are you advocating on behalf of
    - Local context and the impact

9. Round Table - 10 - 15 min

10. Next Meeting – Wednesday, January, 10th @ 6:30

Sara motioned to adjourn, Sue Seconded