

# Pine Street Parent Council Meeting

## April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017

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The regular meeting of Pine Street Parent Council was duly called and held on April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017 in the Library of Pine Street Elementary located at 133 Pine Street in Sherwood Park, Alberta. Quorum was present.

### **In Attendance:**

**Executive:** Shanna Eveleigh (Chair), Krystal Grichen (Vice Chair), Pam Briton (Treasurer), Vanessa Bower (Secretary)

**Administration:** Evelyn Gaudet (Principal), Lorna Magnan (Teacher representative)

**Parents:** Cara Kern, Mary Sorobey, Cristy McMorran, Jacklynn Pivovar, Nasreen Banman, Loreena Ellsworth, Darrell Bradley, Lesley Bowman.

**Absent with Regrets:** Trustee Barb McNeill (Elk Island Public School Board Trustee for Sherwood Park)

Meeting was called to order at 7:40 .m. by Chair, Shanna Eveleigh.

### **1. Attendance and Introductions**

Executive, Administration, and regular attendees agreed to skip introductions.

### **2. Welcome, Treaty 6 Acknowledgment and Guiding Principles**

a. Noted during Society meeting.

### **3. Additions to the Agenda for Next Meeting**

a. none

### **4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** Vice Chair Krystal Grichen moved to accept minutes from the meeting on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017 as circulated. Cara Kern seconded. CARRIED with 12 in favour and 2 non-voting/ineligible vote.

### **5. Trustee Report**

- a. Trustee Barb McNeill was absent with regrets, Chair Shanna Eveleigh presented Barb's report on her behalf.
- b. School Fees Regulation (Bill 1 Consultation)
  - i. The following information forwarded to all Provincial Education Stakeholder Groups from the Minister of Education, David Eggen, as

well, Board Chair Boymook and Superintendent Liquori will be facilitating a presentation and discussion opportunity at the April 5<sup>th</sup> COSC Meeting on the proposed regulation.

- ii. Alberta Education is undertaking a collaborative engagement process with stakeholders on the creation of a School Fees Regulation. Bill 1 targets specific fees that will no longer be permissible to be charged by school boards. These fees include instructional supplies or materials fees, and transportation fees for students residing greater than 2.4 kilometres from their designated school. Government has signalled an intent to examine and further regulate other categories of school fees in future years as well.
  - iii. A phased approach is being planned to support this legislation. The first phase involves the creation of a School Fees Regulation by June 2017. The first version of the School Fees Regulation will support Bill 1 and focus on fees that are not permissible to be charged for the 2017/2018 school year, and the accountability framework for boards to work within. In spite of time constraints, government is planning to co-ordinate engagement with stakeholders during April 2017 as this regulation is developed in advance of the 2017/2018 school year. This engagement will begin with your boards' instructional and finance leaders as represented by the College of Alberta School Superintendents and the Association of School Business Officials of Alberta, along with members from the Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA). Alberta Education has reached out to these stakeholders already to begin this work. I would also like to meet with the ASBA board during the week of April 18 to hear directly from trustees.
  - iv. It is anticipated that an updated version of the School Fees Regulation will be developed in time for the 2018/2019 school year. The development of this second version of the regulation will include a more thorough consultation with impacted stakeholders and will align with the government's direction of further reducing or eliminating certain fee types in advance of the 2018/2019 school year.
  - v. Education values your input as we work together to make life more affordable for Alberta families.
- c. Replacement School for Wye Elementary
- i. EIPS is extremely pleased to receive the confirmation of a replacement school for Wye Elementary.

- ii. It's great news for our Division, our school community and especially our students. Now we will have a larger and fully modernized building in a location that will go a long way in addressing the needs of our elementary students. The grade configuration will be kindergarten to Grade 6. The replacement school will accommodate more students:
  - Opening capacity of 600
  - Expandable to 700
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  - Opening capacity of 600
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- iv. The replacement school is being relocated to the Heritage Hills area of Sherwood Park.
- v. Over the coming months EIPS will work with the provincial government and Strathcona County to begin planning for the new facility.
  - A public engagement process will also take place in the coming months.
  - More information about the project and the consultation process will be available once timelines have been established.
- d. Davidson Creek Boundaries Open House
  - i. EIPS will be hosting two open houses regarding the Davidson Creek Boundaries from 5:00 – 8:00 pm on Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> - trustees and senior administration will be in attendance.
- e. EIPS Division Budget 2017-2018
  - i. The Board of Trustees will participate in several work sessions throughout April and May to review and discuss the respective financial areas that incorporate the division's budget. Final approval will take place at the May Board meeting as the approved budget is to be submitted to Alberta Education by the end of May.

*Questions: No*

## 6. Administration Report

- a. Principal Evelyn Gaudet presented her report.
- b. Parent Engagement Survey Results – Link to Parent Engagement Survey.
- c. Review of Parent Engagement Survey.
  - i. Feedback:
    1. It appears the majority of people want communication via email.
      - a. Has the school sent emails since opt in?
      - b. Evelyn will match names with opt in list.
      - c. The District will send out another email to confirm understanding.
    2. We can send correspondence via email to those who have attended Parent Council and Society meetings and have filled out the sheet indicating they want to receive emails.
- d. Budget
  - i. Administration has not received a budget yet.
  - ii. Evelyn is projecting attendance of 580 for the 2017/2018 year.
  - iii. We are still seeing low Kindergarten registration of only 61 students, so the likely scenario is to drop the PM Kindergarten class.
  - iv. Evelyn will update us in May about staff and class configuration.
- e. Fees
  - i. There will be a fee of \$100 for noon supervision.
    1. This will be tight to maintain the number of supervisors.
  - ii. ECS Supply fee will remain at \$15.
  - iii. The agenda fee will drop to \$8.00 from \$8.50.
  - iv. Teachers will be asked to cut back on the number of fieldtrips to cut costs for families. Evelyn is encouraging them to closely look at the value the trips bring and their connection to curriculum.
  - v. We will keep swimming lessons for Kindergarten to Grade 5 with the Grade 6 classes going skiing, as it has been in the past.
  - vi. Administration awaits final numbers from the bussing companies regarding an increase in costs due to the carbon tax.
- f. School Supply lists are in, so we await the information and letters home.
- g. Two open house meetings regarding Davidson Creel boundaries are on April 19<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> from 5-8 at Lakeland Ridge School, please be sure to attend and provide feedback if possible.
- h. Thanks for a fabulous dinner on PTI night.
- i. Principal Gaudet will retire at the end of the 2017 school year after 35 years; we wish her well.

### Questions:

*Q: Why are we still cutting back on fieldtrips?*

*A: We are asking Teachers to strongly consider the value of the fieldtrip. In order to support our families and recognize the economically diverse makeup of our school,*

*Administration made the decision to continue to try and cut costs as the provincial economy continues to recover.*

*Q: Could parents offer to pay for fieldtrips for their child's class?*

*A: No, it could lead to an imbalance in opportunities for children.*

*Q: When will the new boundaries be set for the Davidson Creek School?*

*A: The boundaries will be set before the end of the school year. The upcoming meetings will be a summary of all the findings up until this point which then go to the board to be voted upon.*

*Q: Will the new Wye School impact the Davidson Creek School boundaries?*

*A: The decision to move from an upgrade of Wye School to building a new school in a new location happened in the time since the Davidson Creek School was approved and boundary reviews began. Administration does not really know.*

*Q: Are the Parent Engagement Survey and the Alberta Education Grade 4 Accountability Survey similar?*

*A: No, they are looking at different things. The Grade 4 Accountability Survey results will be available in October.*

*Q: Why was the Parent Engagement Survey without opportunity to clarify or comment?*

*A: It is challenging to determine the meaning of many of the outcomes based on the Likert scale without clarification. Specifically speaking to the discipline question, it leaves Administration to infer meaning, especially in knowing why parents are dissatisfied. Perhaps parents are not exposed to the method of discipline, they don't agree with the methods, perhaps they don't understand the needs of other students and the Staff and Administration obligation to balance those needs with discipline or to use disciplinary methods specific to student need. It would be beneficial in the future to have a place for comments.*

*Q: What are the extra curricular activities offered at Pine Street?*

*A: In addition to choir, cross country running, and indoor track, there is Battle of the Books, intramurals, drama, and soccer. Many of them are teacher led and based upon student interest: making bird feeders or shoveling snow for our neighbors.*

*Ms. Stevens meets with class representatives once a month to talk with them about ideas and opportunities and the reps bring that information back to their class to engage with and take it up, or not. It is student directed.*

*Q: Is there a way to streamline communication between teachers and parents?*

*A: Evelyn allows individual teachers to make decisions about communication with parents based on their personal preference. Some teachers use E-Teacher page, some paper notes,*

*some Twitter, some email. It would be difficult to mandate one form of communication for all teachers to use. The school newsletter was becoming too expensive to print for over 600 students and attempts to send one per family to cut costs were not effective, so its now online.*

## **7. Teacher Liaison Report**

- a. Lorna Magnan – nothing to report

## **8. Chair Report**

- a. Chair, Shanna Eveleigh – COSC Meeting is April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017 so nothing to report today.

## **9. ASCA Resolutions**

- a. There was debate about the piece around including mental health as part of the curriculum and whether it puts teachers in a position of diagnosing or treating mental illness or acting as mental health professionals.
- b. We are asked to review, change if necessary, and vote upon the following requests:
  - i. P17-01 Support for Mental Health Content and Awareness in the K-12 Programs of Study and Schools.
    - Remove the word ‘mandatory’
    - Vote to approve P17-01
    - 12 vote Yes to approve
  - ii. P17-02 Accountability Pillar surveys delivery and accessibility
    - Vote to approve P17-02
    - 12 vote Yes to approve
  - iii. P17-03 Coding and computational thinking skills in the Alberta curriculum.
    - Concern over including new content and what gets removed? There are only so many instructional days and hours.
    - Vote to approve P1-03
    - 10 vote Yes to approve
    - 2 vote No
  - iv. P17-04 Support for Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action.
    - Vote to approve P17-04
    - 10 vote Yes to approve
    - 2 abstain

- v. P17-05 Addressing all learning needs
  - Continuing to use “Setting the Direction” and “Continuing the Conversation” framework for inclusive education in Alberta.
  - Vote to approve P17-05
  - 12 vote Yes to approve
- vi. P17-06 Funding for inclusive education
  - With clarification of distribution of funds and ensuring sufficient funding to meet current needs and addressing any shortfalls.
  - Vote to approve P17-06
  - 12 vote Yes to approve
- vii. P17-07 District Budget Consultations
  - Already a process in EIPS for priority based budgeting
  - Vote to approve P17-07
  - 2 vote No
  - 10 Abstain
- viii. P17-08 Cost neutral carbon levy
  - To ask Government to exempt schools from the carbon levy or provide funding to fully cover the cost to schools.
  - Vote to approve P17-08
  - 12 vote Yes to approve
- ix. P17-09 Publicizing behavior guidelines for persons working on school property during school hours.
  - Vote to approve P17-09
  - 12 vote Yes to approve

## **10. Next Meeting**

Chair Shanna Eveleigh declared the meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

**The next regular meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017.**

These minutes are respectfully submitted by:

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Lesley Bowman

Adopted by Council in the meeting of: May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017

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Chair, Shanna Eveleigh

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