**Meeting Minutes & AGM**

Davidson Creek Elementary School Council

**June 9, 2020 6:00pm**

**Zoom Video Conference Meeting**

**Board Members**

Melissa Presse, Chair | Ashley MacInnis, Vice Chair | Karli Butler, Secretary

|Stephanie Peterson, Communications

**DCE School Council Meeting MINUTES & AGM**

The Chair welcomed attendees and guests and gave a Treaty 6 Acknowledgment

Quorum Verification for AGM: Quorum was met as per 9.2 of SOP for the School Council

**Attendance:**

Exec Committee: Melissa Presse, Chair, Karli Butler, Secretary, Stephanie Peterson, Communications

Absent: Ashley McInnis, Vice Chair

DCE Staff: Kaye Schindeler, Principal, Murray Howell, Assistant Principal, Marlis Marler, Assistant Principal/Counselor,

Parent Representatives: Erin Wildeboer, Sarah Anderson, Crystal Waldo, Carolyn Black, Courtney, Deanna Bellamy, Christa Gawron, Keri Hardstad, Becky Mitchell, Chole Forgie, Heather Lawton, Sara Gruninger.

Invited Guest: Annette Hubick, EIPS Trustee

**Approval of Agenda:**

The Chair asked for changes in the Agenda – None were requested and agenda passed

* Motion was carried by: Erin W.
* Seconded by: Crystal W.

**Approval of DCE SC Meeting Minutes of May 12, 2020 (Zoom)**

* Motion was carried by: Sarah A.
* Seconded by: Erin W.

Kaye Schindeler, Principle Report

* Teachers continue to teach through the online methods of Google classroom. Classes officially end June 19 2020
* There’s ongoing staff meetings to ensure we keep up communications and resolve issues.
* Most students are engaged; however, there has been some drop off in participation as of the first of June.
* K-5 will have the chance to say good-bye to teachers with the drive by event after June 19
* Grade 6s will have a small farewell event on June 26 that will meet the restrictions of physical distancing
* We hope to hear more about the upcoming school year on or before Aug 1, but we are not sure what to expect in the fall at this time.
* There will be some new staff joining the DCE team next year.
* There will also be some staff on maternity leave next year of which we will be work to fill those vacancies with new staff as well.
* Not all positions have been filled, but everything is expected to be in place by the start of school.
* Staff updates/changes can be found in the DCE School’s weekly blogs.
* A question from a parent: What teachers will be teaching which classes? Kaye responded, there will be a 4/5 split and a 5/6 split class. Kaye briefly reviewed who was teaching which class in 2020/2021 (school updates can be found in the DCE school’s weekly blogs.)

Annette Hubick: Trustee Report

* Annette reviewed the operating budget that was approved by EIPS (see report for more details).
* Discussed revenue shortfalls and how EIPS will achieve a balanced budget in 2020/2021 (see report for more details).
* There was a 6.3% staff reduction across the division (see report for more details)
* Reviewed the Choice of Education Act, EIPS felt there were some concerns regarding the creation of Charter Schools. (see report for more details)
* Annette encourage any parents that are concerned with the current state of the EIPS to contact their MLA in writing with their thoughts.
* Parent Question: Edmonton Public Schools designed and issued a survey directed to students to collected their feedback, will EIPS have a similar survey
  + Annette: Nothing is planned at the moment, but I can bring forward to the EIPS

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**Trustee Report – Annette Hubick**

**SAL School Council**

**June 2, 2020**

**Budget 2020-2021**

Based on decisions and discussions put forward by administration and the Board during the [detailed budget presentation](http://www.eips.ca/download/270374) on May 25, 2020, the Board approved EIPS’ 2020-21 budget on May 28, 2020. The Board approved an operating budget of $196.11 million for the 2020-21 school year. Of that, $191.39 million will come from the Division’s annual revenue and $4.72 million from operating reserves.

Again, the Division’s Unallocated Reserve will be below the two per cent target, which means it can’t access enough reserves to fund all the revenue shortfalls. To deal with the shortfall and ensure a balanced budget, the Division:

* Reduced allocations to schools. Central departments saw even greater reductions. Most significantly impacted is Supports for Students-Schools, which is restructuring from 4 departments to 2. At the same time, schools and departments are facing increased costs.
* New requirements have been put in place throughout the division on administrative staffing, which is based on school population.
* Overall, the FTE (Full-time Equivalent) staff reduction in the division is 87.5 (6.3%). Approximately 17 of those are from central office and the remainder are in schools. This a mix of certificated (teachers) and classified staff.
* There are many impacts of these reductions; most commonly, we will see larger class sizes and fewer opportunities for targeted interventions.

As the province has previously stated, the overall funding to the division remained static, and in fact, increased slightly. At first glance, it could make a person wonder why, if funding is the same, will the division see our FTE reduced by over 6%.

* + The simple answer: although there is an overall increase in funding to the division, envelopes that are targeted, meaning restricted, have been increased and funds that impact adults in front of students have decreased. The size of the pie did not change, but the pieces within it did.
  + The funding is being compared to the fall of 2019 budget, which saw the division face a $7.9 million reduction compared to the 2018/19 year. At that time, in order to keep the impacts away from the classroom, the board chose to address this reduction through the cancelation of projects and accessing reserves. We are no longer in a position to do so.
  + Further compounding the issue, costs over which we have no control such as insurance, salary grid movement and inflation are increasing. Insurance alone is budgeted to increase by as much as $2.7 million.
  + $1 million is being set aside to be able to respond to emergent issues in the fall as there are still so many unknowns. Board approval will be required to access these funds.

**Virtual Board Meetings**

As always, board packages are published online three days prior to our meetings. Board meetings are now being held virtually and are being live streamed onto YouTube. The links are posted on the EIPS website along with the packages under Trustees/Meetings.

**Choice in Education Act**

* The Government of Alberta has introduced Bill 15 – the Choice in Education Act. School boards have a few concerns with the legislation, which include:
  + Currently, charter schools can only be established if the local school board does not or refuses to offer a similar offering as an alternative program. This requirement would be removed.
  + Parents who opt to home school would no longer have to be under the supervision of a board or private school accredited to do so. All children would no longer be guaranteed access to the curriculum.
  + The foundation would be laid for further diluting funding for public schools (public, separate and francophone).

**Resuming In-School Classes**

* The education ministry is consulting with its partners, which includes school boards, to develop plans for what school will look like in the fall under three scenarios.

1. In-school classes resume as normal
2. In-school classes partially resume with restrictions/modifications
3. teacher-directed at-home learning continues

* It’s been stressed that next year will likely be fluid between these three scenarios and we must be prepared to change back and forth (with as little as two-days’ notice) depending on the Chief Medical Officer’s and the Education Minister’s directives.
* As of yet, we have not received any indication of the health protocol requirements, expectations for the delivery of education or funding of increased costs for scenario #2) nor the impacts on non-core subjects.) The Ministry is in consultation with its education partners and has advised that it will make an announcement by August 1st as to what September 1 will look like.
* In the meantime …
  + EIPS is conducting a survey of parents to gather input that will inform re-entry plans. Deadline is June 10, 2020.
  + The division has formed a re-entry committee that is meeting now and through the summer to develop detailed plans so that we can be as prepared as possible when we receive direction from the government.

Chair ANNUAL Report(s)

* In September 2020 DCE School council had the funds in place to support a robust, creative, budget for the 2019/2020 school year.
* The Knick Knack Shack website initiative was launched to support our teachers and their classroom needs, as well as, help to source volunteers. This proved to be a success. School Council received great feedback and our efforts were mentioned in the local media (Sherwood Park News).
* We implemented a new event at Christmas time. Our Christmas wreath decorating contest also received good feedback. We were excited that a local celebrity judge, Josh Klassen of CTV News, participated, as well as, others from the community.

* Our first ever Family Movie Night in January was also a great success with approximately 300 kids, parents, volunteers, and school staff attending.
* With the onset of the pandemic in March, things changed drastically for the DCE School Council. SC Meetings were suspended in April, but were able to resume again in May and June through Zoom (online).
* All school activities after March 16, 2020 were suspended for the remainder of the school year.

Committee Reports

**Sara G. Active Travel Committee (ATC)**

* ATC will continue in 2020/2021, but only when/if we return to school.
* Ever Active Schools website has great ideas for staying active over summer.
  + URL: <https://everactive.org/>
* New bike racks for the school have been ordered. Cement for the bike rack pad is planned for and will be poured in the coming weeks. Everything should be in completed before school starts next fall
* Purple air monitors are now available for teachers to use in 2020/2021

**Wellness Committee**

This committee will continue in the 2020/2021 school year

School initiatives are contingent on how the school year will shape up.

Please feel free to contact our Wellness committee with any questions or ideas. [DCEWellness@gmail.com](mailto:DCEWellness@gmail.com)

**Annual General Meeting:**

**Motion to dissolve the executive of DCE School Council of 2019/2020**

* Motion: Sarah Anderson
* Second: Crystal Waldo

**Elections to reinstate positions for the 2020/2021 year**

Chair Position:

Melissa Press was nominated to continue with her second year of a two year term.

Nominated by Karli Butler

All in favour/Passed unanimously with quorum

Vice Chair Position:

Sarah Anderson was nominated for the position as Ashley McInnis stepped down before her 2 year term was to end.

Nominated: by Melissa Press

All in favour/Passed unanimously with quorum

Secretary Position:

Karli Butler was nominated to continue with her second year of a two year term.

Nominated by Melissa Press

All in favour/Passed unanimously with quorum

Communications Officer

Stephanie Peterson is stepping down after successfully completing her two year term.

There were no meeting participants interested in the position at this time

* Meeting participants were encouraged to spread the word to find a new communications officer for the 2020/2021 school year. If there is a communications person that can be identified through parents please email the chair at

No other changes were called forth or needed to be passed.

Meeting Close

* September 8th will be the next DCE School meeting
* Meeting adjourned 6:43pm