



DCE SCHOOL COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 15, 2024

Parent Council Executive Members:

- Lynn Walker, Chair
- Karli Butler, Vice Chair
- Kari Halter, Communications Liaison
- Leah Whyte, Secretary
- Candice Abraham & Kari Halter, Wellness Committee

Guests and DCE School Representatives:

- Helene Hewitt, Principal
- Jay Robertson Vice Principal
- Jenn & Stacy, Teacher Representatives
- Christa Gawron, Business Manager
- Julia, Mental Health Capacity Builder
- Madison B., School Counselor

Public Trustee: Trina Boymook

Guests: None

Parent Representatives: We had 13 parent representatives in attendance

DCE School Council Meeting Minutes

Call To Order: 6:01pm

Treaty 6 Land Acknowledgement

- Read by Chair

Call for Agenda Changes

- No changes to the agenda

Approval of Agenda

- Motion: Breanne
- Seconded: Christine
- Passed

Call for Changes to Minutes

Enter previous month's meeting date

- Motion: Kari
- Seconded: Breanne
- Passed

Mental Health Capacity Builder – Julia

School Trustee Report – Trina Boymook

At the September 16 Board the Board approved a motion to direct Administration to develop alternate potential calendar options, that aligned to research, for the 2025/2026 and 2026/2027 school years, for



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consideration. A survey has been sent out to parents/caregivers and staff to gather thoughts on 2 options. Survey closes October 21. The Board will make a decision at our December meeting.

Today a survey opened for the naming of the Sherwood Park replacement school. The survey is open to current and future parents, staff, students and members of the community. Survey is open until October 31. The Board will approve the name at our December Board meeting.

Each September we review Trustee compensation and Trustees will not see any increase in its compensation.

The Board repealed Policy 24 Personal Communication Device after reviewing the amendment to Administrative Procedure to ensure that what was in policy has been properly captured in Administrative Procedure.

October 3 special Board meeting the board approved unallocated Capital Reserves in 2024-25 as follows:

- \$1,000,000 to the Salisbury Composite High Chiller project; and
- \$328,000 increase to the Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) project,

both of which are to be started and completed in the 2024-25 year.

Trustee Shotbolt, Trustee for Fort Saskatchewan, served notice of resignation on October 7. Her last day on the board will be October 31. The Board will consider whether to hold a by election and if not how to cover off her duties leading into next years election.

School Assurance Review are coming up in November, Davidson Creek's will be held on November 25 at 9 am at Ardrossan Elementary.

Wellness Committee Update– Candice Abraham / Kari Halter

Settled on pins for pink shirt day

Chair report – Lynn Walker

Grant Funds

We received confirmation from EIPS that we will be receiving \$2,000 in grant funds from the Alberta School Council Engagement Grant. This includes the \$500 for 2024-2025 and the \$1,500 of rolled over funds from 2023-2024. They will contact us once they receive the funds from Alberta Education. These funds were already previously allocated to the September Family Wellness Night for the Fitset Ninja Obstacle Course.

Parent / Teacher Interviews

On October 23, 2024 school council will be providing dinner for the staff from A Capella catering. School council provides this twice a year.

Administration Report – Helene Hewitt

Helene reviewed the three key priorities for the year and provided an explanation for each goal.

1. Math goal: Foundational math fluency
2. Mental health goal: Focus on brain regulation with both staff and students and have brain play lessons;
3. Writing goal (paused)

Review of Budget (not approved yet)

Currently there are 667 students enrolled at DCE and are over capacity. DCE has received \$104,976 additional funding (for extra students) and were able to keep 1% surplus. Our student complexity (high complexity classroom composition). Were able to stay close to 95% staffing and 5% other (96.9%). The



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following were taken into account with the school education plan with budget:

- Consider professional learning needs of school;
- Ensure minimum of ½ time counsellor (we have a full time equivalent, 2 part time counsellors);
- Complex students with significant behavioral & learning needs;
- Students with a diagnosis make up around 8% of our population;
- Prioritizing student supports;
- Learning Assistance full time EA;
- Hired 4 additional EAs (16 in total).

Priorities

1. Collaboration: We need to analyze data. Research shows that teacher efficacy has the most significant impact on student achievement;
2. Complexity: Education Assistants for students with complex needs;
3. Everything Else: Paper, supplies, furniture, boot racks;

\$4,295,293 budget

\$4,162,431 spent

Read to your parent / grandparent (highlight) pictures books with a window theme (other cultures, perspectives)

Upcoming events – interviews October 23 and 24 (10-minute style)

Local author Kevin Todd – wants to read to kids

Halloween parade (parents are welcome to watch in the gym)

Picture retakes Oct 21 and 22

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday November 19, 2024 6:00pm to 7:30pm

Meeting Adjourned at 7:23 pm.