

Sherwood Heights School Council Meeting

Thursday, October 25, 2018

MINUTES

In attendance:

Parents: Jacquie Surgenor, Dean Johnston, Wendy Oake, Craig Bailey

School Administration and Staff: Paul Pallister, Kris Reid, Sherri Johnston

1. **Welcome and Introductions** – Principal Paul Pallister
2. **Approval of Agenda**- approved
3. **Approval of Minutes** - approved
 - a. Follow up: The Learning Team publication came out just after the last meeting, and has information about class sizes which parents may want to refer to
4. **New Business**
 - a. **Parent Teacher Interview Sign Ups** – good response rate so far, interviews scheduled for next Tuesday and Thursday
 - b. **School Education Plan Goals**
 - i. Goals redrafted with input from parents from last School Council Meeting, Sought input from staff on goals,
 1. Students are engaged, active and positive citizens who exemplify Cougar PRIDE.
 2. Students develop proactive social, emotional and personal health skills.
 3. Literacy and numeracy skills are emphasized in all aspects of school life to support overall academic achievement.
 - a. One strategy is to build out reading collections in individual classrooms rather than just in the library, so that teachers can integrate the books into discussions in their classrooms and students have easy access to books
 - ii. PAT scores
 1. SHJH scores near or exceed provincial percentages for ‘acceptable’, but were lower than provincial percentages for ‘standard of excellence’
 2. Staff are reviewing results and talking to other teachers/schools to see if there are other strategies they should try to boost the number of students achieving ‘standard of excellence’
 - c. **Assessment**
 - i. formative vs. summative – formative assessment is ‘practice’ focused whereas summative is a ‘summary of learning’ – i.e. difference between assessing individual skills involved in using a parachute and seeing what happens when someone jumps out of a plane

- ii. rewrites – permitted when a student demonstrates that they have done something to enhance their understanding since they wrote the original test, and relate to the summative evaluations only (rewrites make less sense in subjects that are more cumulative in learning, such as English)

d. Awards Ceremony

- i. Ceremony was well received – happy to see that most attendees stayed for the whole ceremony – all award winners will be listed in the next school newsletter – reviewing feedback to decide on format for 2018-19 to see if it can be even better - questions:
 - 1. Should the event be held during the school day? - daytime problematic for a lot of working parents, but evenings are challenging for teachers
 - 2. Should the event be in June instead of October? – parent feedback that it was problematic to determine academic standing before finals are written
 - 3. Should the event be organized to be school-wide rather than just for award winners and their families? (would require larger venue) – larger venue would allow students to bring more guests
 - 4. Should the event include other aspects of student achievement such as band or other cultural performance?
 - 5. Two awards are given out that are not academic based (Cougar and LOGOS) – should more awards be given that emphasize other aspects of Cougar PRIDE? – there are awards given out for athletics, band, etc. at other events – perhaps another event could be held to celebrate aspects of Cougar PRIDE
- e. **Transitions** – from elementary to junior high, and junior high to high school – discussion tabled to next meeting

5. Information Reports

a. COSC Report (Jacquie Surgenor) –

We had a very successful Mix & Mingle on October 3 with lots of returning, and new, school council chairs and principals.

Following the Mix & Mingle, we had our first meeting and chose an executive:

Chair – Jacquie Surgenor (Westboro, Sherwood Heights, Sal Comp)

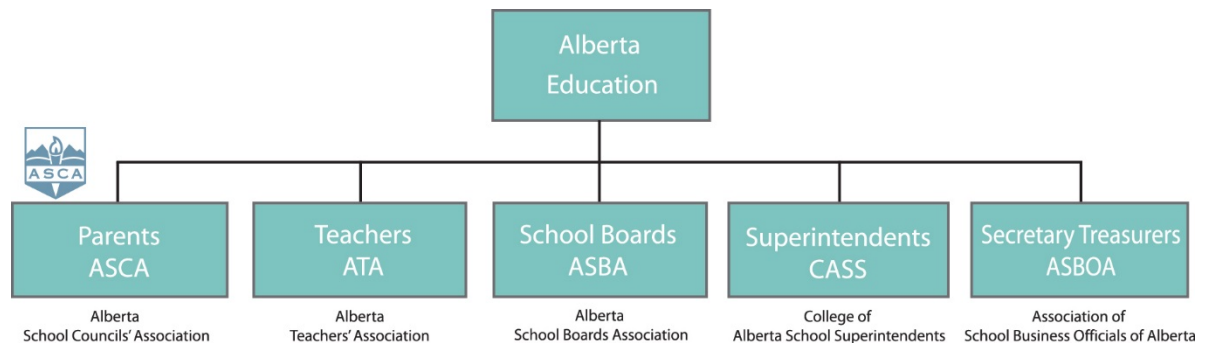
Vice Chair – Krista Scott (Fultonvale, SCA, Bev Facey)

Secretary – Lesley Bowman (Pine Street)

We had a great discussion about how to recognize staff. Most ideas revolved around food and feeding them, but also had coupons for 1 hour of volunteer time, Q&A with

students about their teachers, gratitude baskets, gathering positive statements about staff and sharing them and various Pinterest type things.

Alberta School Councils Association presented an overview of ASCA. ASCA is the parent voice through school councils and is one of 5 provincial education partners providing input on education to the Minister, Alberta Education and each other. The other 4 are the Alberta Teachers Association, the Alberta School Boards Association, the College of Alberta School Superintendents and the Association of Alberta School Business Officials.



COSC has also partnered with Saffron Centre to create a series of parent information sheets which can be shared through school councils, principals or newsletters. They will be called Saffron Cyber Second.

b. Principal's Report

- i. Safety is an ongoing focus of attention – completed some drills this year
- ii. Principal's Council – Principal meeting with a group of students (from current Leadership Class) to hear what they like about the school and their suggestions for changes
- iii. Weekly newsletter – interested in receiving contributions from parents and students – intention to keep the newsletter to a single page with links for more information

c. Trustee Report – none tonight

Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 27th at 7pm in the Sherwood Heights library