

# Sherwood Heights School Council Meeting

## September 22, 2020

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The regular meeting of Sherwood Heights School Council was duly called and held on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 virtually via Google Meets.

### **In Attendance:**

**Executive:** Ashley Frayn (Chair)

**Administration:** Paul Pallister (Principal), Kris Reid (Assistant Principal)

**Parents & Staff:** 29

**Community:** Trina Boymook (Board Chair, EIPS)

1. Welcome
  - a. Ashley Frayn, calls to order at 6:35 pm.
  - b. Election for Chair, presently encumbered
    - i. Ashley Frayn will let her name stand. No other nominations. Ashley will remain Chair.

2. Approval of Minutes from May 26, 2020  
MOTION: Ashley Frayn motions to accept May minutes, Jackie Caldwell seconds.  
OPPOSED: None  
CARRIED

Approval of Minutes from April 2020

MOTION: Ashley Frayn motions to accept April minutes, Melanie Ryzuk seconds.  
OPPOSED: None  
CARRIED

3. Trustee Report – Trina Boymook
  - a. I want to welcome everyone back for another school year. With this year being like no other, I encourage you to make it a priority to attend school council meetings. It will provide opportunities to learn to a greater degree the efforts being taken by the school and the Board to provide a safe and positive learning environment and to prevent any further disruption to learning as we experienced in the spring.
  - b. The guide for re-entry is a living document on EIPS website. We have created a log of the dates of revisions and what the revisions are for ease. Please always refer to the guide on EIPS to access the most current version. We do expect practices will be modify throughout the school year to respond to new requirements by the Minister or any that has been determined by senior administration in our efforts to provide a safe, caring and positive learning environment. Also, on that dedicated section of the website there is a FAQ. If you have questions, please consult this document to see if the answer to your question has be already captured. We encourage you to work with your school throughout the year.

- c. Over the summer, the Board met to approve the use of \$395,000 from unallocated reserves to cover several COVID related costs to set us up for the first four months of the school year. This included purchase of a new learning platform to support out of school learning, access to Edmonton Public out of school resources, PPE, extra custodian costs and the cost of the re-entry working group that functioned during the summer.
- d. EIPS will be receiving \$6.1M from the funds that have been provided by the Federal government. We are currently examining where our pressure points are. The province has provided us four broad categories that the funds can be spent. This funding will allow school authority to address:
  - i. Staffing
  - ii. Adapting learning spaces and personal protective equipment, cleaning and safety considerations for schools and buses
  - iii. Supports for special needs students
  - iv. Online learning and teacher training
- e. The Board held a special meeting on September 16 to approve a Fall budget adjustment that also included allocating the \$6.1MM from the federal government. The Board approved allocating \$8.1MM to COVID related costs. In addition, the Board has allocated \$3MM to schools to be used in three areas:
  - i. Addressing achievement gap as a results of closing schools in March
  - ii. Mental health
  - iii. Overextended classrooms
- f. At the August 27 Board meeting, the Board approved the introduction of Policy 26 School Dispute Resolution. This replaces the previous Administrative Procedure. The Board also approved the suspension of rules that limit the number of meetings that can be attended electronically for the entire school year. Trustees will choose either to attend in person or virtually via Zoom. As result of reducing the number of visitors to our facilities the boardroom is closed to the public and all public meetings will be livestreamed through EIPS YouTube account. We have also set protocols to hear delegations from the public.
- g. The Board will be conducting a survey in October to inform the establishment of a Division Junior High Honours Alternative Program.
- h. The Board Retreat was held on September 15 and 16 and has identified re-entry, budget, value or public education and a resolution to Sherwood heights.
- i. The Board is in the middle of a 2-day value scoping session to evaluate alternative solutions for the replacement of Sherwood Heights Junior High. The discussions started on Monday, September 21 and will continue on Wednesday, September 23 and will involve the following schools:
  - i. Sherwood Heights Junior High
  - ii. Pine Street Elementary
  - iii. Ecole Campbelltown
  - iv. Salisbury Composite High
  - v. Cloverbar Junior HighSchool Council Chair has received an invitation to attend from each school.
- j. Questions/comments
  - i. Has the French Immersion Program started online?
    - 1. Yes, the Board has been working with Edmonton Public Schools and we are partnering with them to source and develop resources. We

have made adjustments to secure French Immersion supports for families and provide timeslots for French instruction.

- ii. Is there a timeline for resources for students working online?
  - 1. Not yet, timing hinges on receipt of Education Grant that Edmonton Public Schools is working for.
- iii. Regarding review on schools, is there a target date as to when information will be committed to?
  - 1. Brainstorming is currently underway for solutions, we have received feedback from Alberta Infrastructure regarding challenges that need to be addressed. Will evaluate each option closely and will do mock designs, costs, etc to narrow down to one or a couple solutions which will encompass report. Anticipate receipt of report by end of October, early November. Will then send out for public consultation to work towards Board's capital request to government, to hopefully be used in Province's Stimulus Package.

#### 4. Administration Report – Paul Pallister

- a. New Staff
- b. Covid Protocols
  - i. No positive tests in the school, all students doing well with sanitizing, social distancing protocols
  - ii. Thank you and continued encouragement to parents on following AHS screening tools, including keeping students at home when they are sick. No need to send direct updates to Paul on illnesses, just send kids back when they are healthy.
  - iii. Cohorts are encouraged and supervised. Students are staying in homeroom for core classes and teachers are moving.
  - iv. Federal funding has come forward, SWH is looking to hire additional lunch supervisors to keep students safe and give teachers a much-needed break. Send emails to Paul with applications for lunch supervision.
- c. Social / Emotional Learning & Mental Health
  - i. Leadership group in grades 8 and 9 looking for opportunities to keep students engaged and happy, the focus is on students and staff.
  - ii. We recognize everyone's emotional health is important, especially at this time. Thanks to all parents for their patience.
- d. School population
  - i. 650 students, up significantly from last year
    - 1. 70 students working through online learning
      - a. Online education is Brightspace (new learning platform that EIPS has purchased, replaces Google Classroom), there will be dedicated time in October for staff to get up to speed regarding communication, assignment posting (will be accessible for families with children at home sick)
  - ii. A few classes up to mid-30s, majority mid-20s
- e. Options
  - i. Heights Influencer
  - ii. Challenge Options in Grade 8
  - iii. Activity Plus (formerly RecFit)

1. Separated out field trips and made optional
- iv. Large class sizes in:
  1. Art
  2. Foods
  3. Digital Media
  4. Outdoor Education
- f. Impact
  - i. 12 students per class
- g. Meet the Teacher
  - i. September 29, 4:30-6:00pm
  - ii. Food Trucks
  - iii. Information is posted online and an email will be going out shortly
- h. Hot Lunch
  - i. Currently working on a sustainable program that follows safety protocols
  - ii. September 29 Hot Lunch will likely not go ahead, first Hot Lunch will hopefully be in October
    1. Anything ordered for the September 29 Hot Lunch will be refunded and removed from PowerSchool
  - iii. Funds from Hot Lunch are prioritized year to year
    1. One past example is every week last year, the Phys Ed staff provided a pizza day to fundraise for athletic equipment
    2. Working to confirm feasibility of a successful program before funds are allocated this year
- i. Budget
  - i. 10% less than last year, federal Funding has rolled out and can be allocated per Trina's report
  - ii. School Fees
    1. Managed differently this year, will be assessed on a quarterly basis through Parent Portal
    2. Will be posted shortly, due within 14 days of posting
    3. Previous credits from last year will be applied to this year
    4. If in school and choose to move to online, fees will be prorated per quarter
- j. School Build
  - i. Value Scoping Meetings
- k. Questions/comments
  - i. I'm very concerned that there isn't French 8 offered this year. What are the options to maintain French education if there is a break in the learning?
    1. With all the options that exist, it is important to have enough students to be able to afford to put a teacher in front of the students. Not enough interest in French 8 (only 5 students), so the unfortunate decision was made to not offer the program, for financial reasons.
    2. It is unknown if there is a French 8 at other schools that could be investigated. There could be an option to do FSL through distance learning, but will need to research.
    3. There is an option for 3-year program in high school. Even if a student does not have junior high French experience, there is still an option to take it in high school.

- ii. Update on Band Program?
  - 1. Band is ongoing for all grades. Originally presented by AHS that there would be no wind instruments. Percussion started (drums, xylophone). New updates say wind instruments can be accessed in band, with “appropriate distancing”. Waiting on confirmation regarding what is appropriate, working with other school districts.
- iii. Is a Fundraising Committee necessary this year that can be supported by parents through School Council as Council cannot raise money?
  - 1. Government has indicated that schools should be able to raise funds that are not coming from provincial support.
  - 2. If this is required, this will need to be led by parents. Hot Lunch is run by the school to break up the day and to have something for the students to look forward to. The primary goal is not fundraising. Targeted items would need to be identified by parents and the school.
  - 3. Tasha Baker, Jackie Caldwell, Charly Bennet, Tara Lamabe volunteered to help. Will table for next meeting.
  - 4. Save On Fundraising Project – Wye Road Save On only, currently underway. Last year \$800 was raised, funds went to Phys Ed and Activity Plus equipment
  - 5. Cobs Bread on Wye, Swiss Chalet on Baseline have similar programs
  - 6. Facebook Parents Page: “Sherwood Heights Junior High Parents Connect”

## 5. Elections

MOTION: Ashley Frayn motions to accept volunteers for the following positions.

OPPOSED: None

CARRIED

- a. Vice Chair/COSC Representative – Rammi Pandher
- b. Secretary – Lorena Ellsworth
- c. Program Reps:
  - i. Logos (currently encumbered) – Melanie Ryzuk
  - ii. French Immersion – Tasha Baker & Pam Lancaster
  - iii. Impact – Jackie Caldwell
  - iv. Band Parents – Dallas Will

- 1. Ashley Frayn adjourns meeting at 8:03pm.

**The next regular meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 6:30pm, virtually via Google Meets.**

These minutes are submitted by:

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Lorena Ellsworth, Secretary

Adopted by Council in the meeting of October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020

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Ashley Frayn  
Chair