



**MINUTES OF THE  
COUNCIL OF SCHOOL COUNCIL (COSC) MEETING**

Meeting held at the Centre for Education, Boardroom, in Stony Plain, Alberta  
On Tuesday, May 2, 2023, at 6:30 PM

**Attendance:**

Parkland School Division	Lorraine Stewart, Board Chair Dr. Meg Miskolzie, Associate Superintendent Keri Zylla, Recording Secretary
Blueberry School	Heather Bader-Kopp, School Council
Brookwood School	Doug Lorenz, School Council
Copperhaven School	Amy Campbell, School Council Pam Clendinning, School Council Sheila Monteith, School Council
Duffield School	Cherie Lovsund, Principal
École Broxton Park School	Anil Padayas, Principal
Entwistle School	Christine Bileau, Principal
Forest Green School	Leah Andrews, Principal
Graminia School	Angie Gehlert, School Council
Greystone Centennial Middle School	Crystal VanderBurg
High Park School	Catrin Thomson, School Council, COSC Chair
Millgrove School	Linda Madge-Arkininstall, Principal
Muir Lake School	Amber Dory, School Council
Parkland Village School	Lindsay Kuelken, School Council Rose Barnes, School Council
Prescott Learning Centre	Sara Iori, School Council Chris Shaw, Principal
Spruce Grove Composite High School	Brenda Cryer, School Council
Wabamun School	Charlene Smylie, School Council
Woodhaven Middle School	Ashley Southworth, School Council Lei Gryshik, School Council Nealle Dickson, Principal

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Thomson called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

**2. Treaty Acknowledgement**

Chair Thomson acknowledged Treaty #6 and Treaty #8 Territory.

**3. Welcome and Introductions**

Chair Thomson welcomed Council of School Council (COSC) members.

**4. Approval of Agenda**

**COSC 005-2023** Moved by Ms. Cryer that the agenda be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

**5. Approval of Minutes**

**COSC 006-2023** Moved by Ms. Cryer that the minutes of the March 7, 2023, Council of School Councils (COSC) meeting be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

**6. Alberta School Councils Association (ASCA) Conference**

Chair Thomson reviewed the 2023 Alberta School Councils Association (ASCA) [Resolutions Results](#) and from the ASCA Conference held in April.

**7. COSC 2023-2024 Possible Meeting Dates:** Associate Superintendent Dr. Miskolzie shared potential meeting dates for the 2023-2024 school year. COSC members were asked to decide on their first meeting date and time and the following meeting dates will be reviewed in the fall.

- October 3, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.
- December 5, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.
- February 6, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.
- March 19, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.
- May 14, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

**COSC 007-2023** Moved by Ms. Iori that COSC meet for their first meeting of the 2023-2024 school year on Tuesday, October 3, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

**CARRIED**

**8. Board Report:** Board Chair Stewart shared a number of highlights from Parkland School Division (PSD), including the following:

- **Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards 2023:** PSD had a number of students nominated to receive the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards 2023, for Zone 2/3. The following PSD students were recipients or received an honourable mention for their category:

CATEGORY	NAME	AWARD
Kindergarten to Grade 3	Stoney Paul	Winner
Grade 7 to Grade 9	Justine Archand-Strawberry	Winner
Grade 7 to Grade 9	Todd Waddell	Honourable Mention

Board Chair Stewart shared ASBA's [video on the presentation](#) of these prestigious awards.

- **Fort Chipewyan State of Emergency:** Mikisew Cree First Nation declared a state of emergency for Fort Chipewyan due to a mental health crisis, and has requested more mental health supports.
- **Education Advocacy Cards:** The Board of Trustees developed some Education Advocacy Cards to provide stakeholders with information on the PSD Board's local priorities in advance of the upcoming provincial election. Every PSD School Council will receive 20 cards to start and may request more as needed.
- **Meeting with Provincial Election Candidates:** Trustees and Superintendent Boyce, met with provincial candidates from the Parkland School Division constituencies Tuesday, May 2, 2023, to discuss education. Candidates from all parties were invited: Advantage Party of Alberta (APA), Alberta New Democratic Party (NDP), Alberta Party (AP), Green Party of Alberta (GPA), and the United Conservative Party of Alberta (UCP). Candidates in attendance were:
  - **Drayton Valley-Devon:** Dale Withers (APA)
  - **Lac St.Anne-Parkland:** Janet Jabush (AP), Marilyn Burns (APA) Party Leader
  - **Spruce Grove-Stony Plain:** Chantal Saramaga-McKenzie (NDP), Searle Turton (UCP) and Daniel Birell (GPA)
- **Transportation Funding Changes:** The Government of Alberta recently announced newly created distance parameters for school transportation that will go into effect September 1, 2024. This information can be found on our Division website under [Transportation Funding Changes for 2024-25](#), and includes the new distance criteria for 2024-2025, impacts on PSD, driver shortages and Registration for 2023-24.

Board Chair Stewart responded to governance related questions.

## 9. Office of the Superintendent Report

Associate Superintendent Dr. Miskolzie shared the Office of the Superintendent Report, highlighting the following items:

- **Wildfires and Grassfires:** Due to wildfires in the area, the Division closed Entwistle School Monday and Tuesday, May 1 – 2, 2023. Tomorrow, May 3, 2023, we will open the school again for students who would like to attend.
  - Entwistle School Principal Christine Bileau, shared gratitude from Entwistle, thanking firefighters, frontline workers, community members and Division staff for their support.
  - Dr. Miskolzie also expressed gratitude for Ms. Bileau's support for Entwistle families and for assuring support without judgement of those impacted by the evacuations.
- **Fort Chipewyan State of Emergency:** In response to the Mikisew Cree First Nation declaring a state of emergency for Fort Chipewyan due to a mental health crisis, PSD is adding additional supports. In addition to the part-time counsellor who already supports Athabasca Delta Community School (ADCS), we have added some extra time for her to spend with our students. We are working with the community to follow their lead in what the needs are and for what supports to put in place and communicating our readiness and availability.

- **Hiring Season:** This is the time of year where the Division is hiring staff for the summer, for the ensuing school year and for vacancies creating by any retiring staff.
- **2023 Visual Arts Celebration:** On May 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, Memorial Composite High School will be hosting the Division's Visual Arts Celebration, showcasing artwork from every school in the Division.
- **Milestones and Merits Celebration:** On May 26<sup>th</sup>, the Division will hold their annual celebration of congratulating staff for their achievements and years of services at PSD.
- **Bus Road-ee & PSD Staff Appreciation:** On May 27<sup>th</sup>, the Transportation Department will host their annual School Bus Road-ee, where bus drivers compete driving buses through an obstacle course, which will be an event that is open to the public. Following the morning events, will be a PSD Staff Appreciation BBQ for PSD staff and their families.
- **Metro Athletics Unified Jamboree:** Memorial Composite High School (MCHS) is proud to be hosting the Metro Athletics Unified Jamboree on May 30<sup>th</sup>. MCHS will welcome athletes and partners from Edmonton and surrounding area, with over 600 participants from over 20 high schools. Unified Sports sees student athletes with disabilities paired up with partners (without disabilities) to train and compete as a team.

Associate Superintendent Miskolzie responded to questions.

#### 10. School Council Reports:

There were no reports.

#### 11. Principal Reports:

There were no reports.

#### 12. Collaboration Opportunities for School Councils:

- **Keeping School Council Momentum:** Chair Thomson shared information with COSC members on how to keep the momentum of a school council going from year-to-year, particularly if there is a new School Council Chair.

COSC Members shared a number of their school's year-end activities they are looking forward to, such as a games night, school dance, musical theatre production, bike rodeo, archery tournament, and more.

COSC Members, who also sit on School Fundraising Committees, shared fundraising activity ideas that have been successful in their schools, such as video game marathons, read-a-thons, spell-a-thons, book fairs, casinos, 50/50 draws, and more.

#### 13. Items for Future Agenda

Associate Superintendent Dr. Miskolzie, on behalf of Associate Superintendent Johnston and herself, took time to express gratitude for the dedication and diligence of the Division's school council members over the course of the 2022-2023 school year.

#### 14. Adjournment

Chair Thomson adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, Oct 3, 2023 at 6:30pm**