



MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF SCHOOL COUNCIL (COSC) MEETING

Meeting held at the Centre for Education, Board Room, in Stony Plain, Alberta
On Tuesday, May 14, 2024, at 6:30 PM

Attendance:

Parkland School Division	Lorraine Stewart, Board Chair Jill Osborne, Trustee Scott Johnston, Associate Superintendent Nadine Morrison, Recording Secretary
Blueberry School	Erin Craig, School Council
Brookwood School	Megan Sider, School Council
Connections for Learning	Linda Labonte, School Council
Copperhaven School	Sheila Monteith, School Council
Duffield School	Cherie Lovsund, Principal
École Broxton Park School	Kalena Feist, School Council, COSC Vice-Chair
Forest Green School	Elizabeth D'Arcy, School Council
Graminia School	Angie Gehlert, School Council
High Park School	Catrin Thomson, School Council, COSC Chair
Millgrove School	Lesley Cameron, Principal
Muir Lake School	Tracey Gilmour, Assistant Principal
Parkland Village School	Lindsay Kuelken, School Council
Prescott Learning Centre	Chris Shaw, Principal
Tomahawk School	Fran Bell, Principal
Woodhaven Middle School	Nealle Dickson, Principal

1. Call to Order

Chair Thomson called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

2. Treaty Acknowledgement

Chair Thomson acknowledged Parkland School Division's presence in Treaty #6 and #8 Territories.

3. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Thomson welcomed everyone, Council of School Council (COSC) members introduced themselves.

4. Approval of Agenda

COSC 07-24 Moved by Ms. Monteith & Ms. Craig that the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

5. Approval of Minutes

COSC 08-24 Moved by Ms. Feist that the minutes of the April 9, 2024, COSC meeting be approved as presented.

CARRIED

6. Alberta School Councils Association (ASCA) Conference and [Resolution Results](#)

Chair Thomson reviewed the results for the 2024 ASCA Resolutions that were voted on during the ASCA Annual General Meeting (AGM) on April 28, 2024.

The proposed Advocacy Resolutions from the 2024 ASCA AGM and their results are listed below:

- P24-01: Integrate Climate & Biodiversity Education Throughout the Curriculum from K-12
Passed with 52.70%
- P24-02: Funding for More Assessments for Learning Disabilities
Main motion as amended: Passed with 88.36%
- P24-03: Improving Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) in Alberta Classrooms and Shared Environments
Main motion as amended: Defeated with 48.89%
- P24-04: Equity in Playground Funding
Amendment passed with 87.02% - Adopted with unanimous consent
- P24-05: Preserving Safe and Inclusive Spaces for 2SLGBTQI+ Students
Passed all 7 motions
- P24-06: Resources Support for French Immersion Teachers (Available Before Implementation of Curriculum Changes)
Adopted with unanimous consent
- P24-07: Enhanced Reporting of and Support for Class Size and Complexity
Adopted with unanimous consent

7. COSC 2024-2025 Potential First Meeting Date

Associate Superintendent Johnston spoke about the decision to delay reserving the potential meeting dates for the 2024-2025 school year until the first COSC meeting in the fall to provide time for school elections. COSC members were asked to decide on their first meeting date and time and the following meeting dates will be secured in the fall.

COSC 09-24 Moved by Ms. D'Arcy & Ms. Gehlert that COSC will gather for their first meeting of the 2024-2025 school year on Tuesday, October 8, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. and a second meeting/AGM on Tuesday, November 5, 2024.

CARRIED

8. Board Report

Board Chair Stewart and Trustee Osborne stated that no Board Meeting has taken place since the last COSC meeting so there is no Board Report; instead they started a discussion on a possible new format for the Board Report.

Since the COSC Board Report is very similar to the Regular Board Meeting Report and the Board Highlights, Board Chair Stewart and Trustee Osborne asked the committee what they would like shared with them during this report. They spoke about sharing ideas on topics such as Trustee duties, time commitments, election process, roles of the trustees, enumeration, etc. Discussion ensued with the committee sharing possibilities for the new format:

- The Board Report be presented ahead of time to the committee so the committee can come into the COSC meeting with questions.
- The committee could pose questions to the Trustees in advance to be answered at the upcoming meeting.
- The Board representative could have a topic or discussion to bring to the meeting to provide advice or promote discussion with the school councils. Then input or feedback could be provided to the board after the discussions.

9. Office of the Superintendent Report

Associate Superintendent Johnston shared the Office of the Superintendent Report, highlighting the following items:

- **Trade and Technology:** Deputy Superintendent Mark Francis, Principal Travis McNaughton and Mike Lees from Coventry homes will be presenting at NAIT about the Building Futures Program.
- **Planning for Staffing Next Year:** 4 principal vacancies create a backlog of filling positions. Administrative moves have been shared, with approximately 20 moves happening amongst administration.
- **Education Planning Day:** The Education Planning Day on Thursday, April 11 helped to create a draft for the Education Plan to be reviewed by the Board at the May 28, 2024 Board Meeting.

Associate Superintendent Johnston responded to questions.

10. School Council Reports

There were no reports. The committee discussed removing this item from the agenda as School Council Reports can be discussed under Collaboration Opportunities for School Councils.

11. Principal Reports

Principal Dickson provided reports on behalf of Principals highlighting the following:

- Ecole Broxton Park School students travel to Quebec and had huge success with their first musical, Willy Wonka.
- Many fundraising events were held across the division including: Caps for the Cure (in honor of a student battling cancer at Graminia), RunWild (a fundraiser for the Zebra Society) and Growing Smiles (fundraising for the school).
- Collaboration of school activities included SGCHS construction students building little libraries for Millgrove School and Woodhaven hosting the first track meet of the year.

SHARES FROM SCHOOLS

- Ms. Gehlert invited everyone to attend their family session, Optimizing Conversations presented by Kelly Maxwell on May 28. The session is aimed to help adults learn some practical skills to improve communication and interactions with children.
- Associate Superintendent Johnston spoke about the huge success of the parent engagement night in April at Graminia School. Conversations, hopes and concerns about education today were talked about and effective ways to support student wellness and engagement were discussed.

12. Collaboration Opportunities for School Councils

The committee held a round table discussion about matters they would like to propose be looked into for next year's COSC meetings such as:

- Requesting to have Facilities attend a meeting to share information, especially in relation to parks/playgrounds,
- A collaborative meeting with school fundraising committees so they have an opportunity to connect with each other,
- Requesting to have Jason Krefting, Director of Financial Services, attend a meeting to help explain budgets and funding. Also, possibly provide information on insurance,
- The committee would like to hear about the emergency response plan,
- Having a proposed plan for guest speakers and a list of topics of discussion for next year's COSC meetings,
- 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 events and activities that are happening at their schools such as; hot lunch moving to online every second week, a math-a-thon raising \$38K for a playground, a celebration of the official opening of an outdoor classroom, MyPath continuing next year at Graminia, and receiving licensing to show movies (Criterion).

It was suggested that connecting with neighboring schools to post on each other's social platforms is a great way to promote events and activities; and to work on the branding of your school council so everything looks the same across all media.

COSC member share that some school councils saw an increase in council membership while others saw a change in members as students left/joined the school.

13. Items for Future Agenda

- Clarification on illness and the guidelines around sending kids to schools.
- Social Media guidance, for proper use of Facebook by School Councils and copyright laws (especially for images)
- Would ASCA be able to come in and give a presentation at a future COSC meeting, before April 2025? RE: ASCA workshops overview.

- Associate Superintendent Johnston brought forward idea of holding a celebrating at the final meeting in May.
- AI in Action
- Bring your school council's agendas to an upcoming meeting to discuss formats across the different councils. Discuss ways other school councils are communicating to their audience/parents, those who are not coming to the meetings about council information.

14. Adjournment

Associate Superintendent Johnston addressed the COSC members, thanking them for their participation this year and all of the work they do.

Chair Thomson adjourned the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, October 8, 2024