



MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF SCHOOL COUNCIL (COSC) MEETING

Meeting held at the Centre for Education, Board Room, in Stony Plain, Alberta
On Tuesday, March 4, 2025, at 6:30 PM

Attendance:

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| Parkland School Division | Scott Johnston, Associate Superintendent Scott McFadyen, Associate Superintendent Nadine Morrison, Recording Secretary |
| Brookwood School | Megan Sider, School Council |
| Connections for Learning | Erin Craig, Assistant Principal |
| Copperhaven School | Sheila Monteith, School Council |
| École Broxton Park School | Amber Ruben-Mercredi, School Council |
| High Park School | Catrin Thomson, School Council, COSC Chair Rebecca Vishloff, Parent Advisory League |
| Millgrove School | Anna-Marie Jackson, School Council Lesley Cameron, Principal |
| Parkland Village School | Lindsay Kuelken, School Council |
| Prescott Learning Centre | Chris Shaw, Principal |
| Spruce Grove Composite High School | Kalena Feist, School Council |
| Woodhaven Middle school | Lei Gryshik, School Council |

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

Associate Superintendent Johnston requested to switch the order of agenda item 7 - Alberta School Councils Association (ASCA) Conference and Resolutions and agenda item 8 - Office of the Superintendent Topic.

COSC 03-25 Moved by Ms. Monteith that the agenda be approval as amended.

CARRIED

5. Approval of Minutes

COSC 04-25 Moved by Ms. Vishloff that the minutes of the February 4, 2025, COSC meeting be approved as presented.

CARRIED

6. Topic of Discussion: Insurance and Budgets

Associate Superintendent McFadyen provided an overview of the Division's budget, explaining that the Government annually announces funding allocation, while the Funding Manual for School Authorities dictates where school boards are required to spend the money. Base funding, per-student funding, accounts for roughly 55% of the budget. The budget can also be impacted by grants or other specific funding sources. The division then distributes the funds based on identified needs, with staffing, operation of buildings, and transportation being the three largest expenses.

Associate Superintendent McFadyen addressed why field trip opportunities can be limited due to insurance. He explained our insurance consortium (Alberta Risk Managed Insurance Consortium or ARMIC), the standards put in place to mitigate claims, and that risk management is obtained through guidelines outlined in SPHEReS.

The different types of insurance available to fundraising committees and school councils as well as their importance was stated. Associate Superintendent McFadyen concluded by responded to questions.

7. Office of the Superintendent Topic

Associate Superintendent Johnston reviewed information from Board Chair Stewart, that provided details on the bargaining and labour relations committee. The information outlined the members that sit at the bargaining table and clarified the role of Trustees within the bargaining committee.

A discussion ensued, during which Associate Superintendent Johnston and Associate Superintendent McFadyen addressed questions relating to budget allocations/disbursements, bargaining mandates from the Government, and funding.

8. Alberta School Councils Association (ASCA) Conference and Resolutions

COSC members were provided a high-level review of the 2025 ASCA Resolutions which include the issue, the background, the resources related to the issue and the recommendation that will go forward at the ASCA Annual General Meeting (AGM). The proposed resolutions for the 2025 ASCA AGM are:

- Pilot Program for Electric School Buses in Alberta
- Mandatory Funding for Specialist Teachers in Elementary Schools
- Sunlight is the Best Disinfectant – Mandatory Public Reporting on the State of Public Schools
- Discontinue Mandatory Timed Testing of Kindergarteners to Grade 3
- Online Safety

9. Principal Reports

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

- Duffield received a grant that allowed four students to attend the WISEST (Women in Scholarship, Engineering, Science, and Technology) Conference at the U of A, promoting Women in Science.

- Fish in Schools, a partnership with the Alberta Government – Copperhaven, High Park and SGCHS were granted a researcher's license and sent rainbow trout eggs to be raised and eventually released into local lakes.
- Both Blueberry and Woodhaven saw success with their basketball teams and there will be some new banners hanging in those gyms!
- École Broxton Park's *Vive le Français* event had to be cancelled due to the warm weather.
- Muir Lake held their Winter Walk and students had the opportunity to experience wheelchair basketball.
- SGCHS Leadership students paired up with a grade 3 students at Millgrove School, as part of a mentorship program facilitated through the Boys and Girls Club Big Brothers Big Sisters.

10. Collaboration Opportunities for School Councils

Chair Thomson mentioned that if anyone had any topics or areas of interest they would like her to research, please reach out to her.

11. Items for Future Agenda

- Have Superintendent Boyce attend an upcoming meeting to discuss the role of the Superintendent.
- Associate Superintendent Johnston brought forward an idea of holding a celebration at the final meeting in May.
- AI in Action

12. Adjournment

Chair Thomson adjourned the meeting at 8:43 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, April 8, 2025