

Parent Council Meeting Minutes – November 14, 2023

In attendance: Jamie Sobkow, Cerys Martin, Lynsay Atchison, Ashley Carter, Colleen Holowaychuk (Trustee), Andy Styles, Amber-Lynn O'Brien, Dave Armbruster, Dustin Tiptun, Amy Schramm, Miranda Braun and Jennifer Moore

Meeting called to order at 5:32 PM

Review and approval of Agenda-Cerys made the motion to approve the agenda and Miranda 2nd that motion.

Approval of last meeting minutes-Jamie made the motion to approve the minutes as read and Lynsay 2nd that motion.

Old Business

-T-Shirts made for students and staff, paid for by Parent Council. Enhance It Embroidery has been contacted and given the logo to have printed onto t-shirts for the students and long sleeve shirts for the staff. Samples will be sent and teachers will size all students over a span of a few days and the order for the shirts will go in. Any other items wanted may be purchased on the Enhance It website by parents and staff.

-ATB-Our paperwork will be redone and resent in to the branch in Lamont to the signing authority changed to the new executive ASAP. An email will be sent out and electronic signatures will be gathered and sent back to the bank. Once this is done, we will be able to repay Mrs. Taylor for snacks she had purchased and the childcare helpers at the meetings.

New Business

-Assurance Review School Council Question:

In what ways has your school engaged parents to be engaged and involved in decisions that impact their child?

Answers

-Invited to parent council meetings

-S'more newsletter

-items written in agendas

-fieldtrips- applying for grants and fundraising.

-surveys distributed

-carnivals and field and track day-volunteers needed to help run

-social media-highlighting and sharing

- parent/teacher interviews, meet the teacher night
- Open communication with teachers and staff.
- Survey about before and after school care.

We have a potential fundraiser-Holiday Gift Shop

This is where the students will have the opportunity to purchase Christmas gifts for loved ones and friends from a shop that can be set up in the Library prior to the last day before Christmas break. Items can be from the Holiday Gift Shop and gently used or new items donated from the community. We will be needing at least 4 volunteers to help the children shop and for set up and take down. Jamie will call Tatiana and get more information and relay back to council to make a decision.

Other ideas for fundraising:

- A travel voucher raffle
- Perhaps a Christmas concert raffle? 3 gift baskets done up and tickets sold the week before and evening of concert, winners can be announced during the concert.
- Front Row raffle again.
- Maybe a table of school gear at the concert? But we can't take away from the Grade 6 ornament fundraiser.
- Jamie will get more information on a veggie packet fundraiser. The school would receive 50% of profit from this fundraiser.
- Calahoo Meats again?
- Maybe have a bake sale at the next parent/teacher interviews? Advertise in the coming weeks of the date, ask parents for donations of baked goods?

There was word that Bruderheim School is on a Do Not Repair list. To clear things up, there is no such list and Bruderheim School is not on any such list.

Trustee Report

Colleen is very happy to see a great turn out for our parent council team. A good number of parents attending the meeting. School tours are back on and our school tour for the board is in May of 2024. On October 12, there was a meeting with the Minister of Education, he had spent half of a day discussing funding and infrastructure, among many other things. There will be more information coming to us on the topic of the French-immersion schools in the district. The budget that the board is in charge of is held at \$6.2 million dollars and the budget sits at \$4.8 million, any extra funds in the budget are distributed among the schools. In our reserve budget, the cap for Elk Island is set at \$6 million. It is at \$4.9 million and there are 42 schools to share this money with. Lamont County is up in

enrolment by 60 students with a total of 17,760 students enrolled. 99 students were expected in Bruderheim and we sit at 117 students enrolled! Lamont Elementary expected 298 students and they have 334 enrolled. Lamont Jr. and Sr. High expected 341 students and they have 344 enrolled. Mundare School was expected to have 108 students and they have 116 students enrolled. A survey will be going out in December, parents please fill it out. Committee of Schools Councils meeting is on January 10 at 6:30PM at central office. An online option is available as well.

Bruderheim School Council Trustee Report – November 2023

School Tours

Trustees and senior administration toured schools in Fort Saskatchewan on Tuesday, October 17, 2023.

Board Chairs Meeting with Education Minister

On October 12, 2023, Board Chairs and Superintendents from across the province met with the education minister and his staff to discuss concerns and offer solution focused comments on topics including funding, transportation, infrastructure, career pathways and mental health.

October 2023 Board Meeting

French Immersion Decision – the Superintendent brought forward that she had received some new information regarding the French Immersion recommendation and requested the report be pulled from the agenda. The Board agreed and approved the agenda as amended.

Unaudited Financial Report September 1, 2022 – August 31, 2023, was received for information. \$4.8 million was spent on Board and System Administration. We were allowed up to approx. \$6.2 million. These dollars were directed out to schools.

Unaudited Accumulated Surplus on August 31, 2023, Report was received for information.

As of August 31, 2023, schools boards need to be under an allowable cap in operating reserves. For EIPS this amount is 3.15% or approx. \$6 million.

For August 31, 2024, the cap will be 3.2%.

School generated funds are not part of the cap.

For operating reserves, we are allowed a maximum of \$6,090,273 (3.15% of our budget) and a minimum of \$1,933,420 (1% of our budget) so we are under the allowable amount.

As of August 31, 2023:

Capital Reserves \$2.2 million (not included in the cap)

Operating Reserves \$4,953,775

Throughout the year, if there are surplus dollars in the budget, those are brought back to the board to approve reallocations.

2023-2024 Enrolment Report was received for information.

17,760 in EIPS

We have seen an increase of 60 students in Lamont County.

For information:

School Budgeted Spring 2023 Enrolment Actual September 29, 2023 Enrolment

Bruderheim School 99 115

Lamont Elementary School 298 331

Lamont Jr/Sr High School 341 344

Mundare School 108 116

Community Events/Meetings

Awards Night, Lamont High School - October 23, 2023

Remembrance Day Ceremony, Lamont High School – November 3, 2023

Central and School Assurance Reviews

October 30 & 31, 2023 Central Departments

November 22-27, 2023 Schools

School Council Rep will be asked and welcome to attend.

Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA)

Trustees will attend the Fall General Meeting in Edmonton on November 19-21, 2023.

Budget Survey

In December the division will be sending out a survey to stakeholders on what they feel the most important things should be prioritized in the budget.

School Council Engagement Grant: Application Process

Email will come out from Emma Small to school council chairs and/or principals. This year you can use it for the ASCA conference fees which is a change from previous years. Please feel free to contact Emma Small for additional information. Emma.small@eips.ca

Reminder: Committee of School Councils (COSC) Meeting

The last COSC meeting was held Wednesday, November 1, 2023. The next one will be held on January 10, 2024, at Central office at 6:30pm. A virtual option will continue to be offered and I highly recommend having someone from your school council attend.

Principal Report

Current Enrollment - We now currently have 117 students attending Bruderheim School this year!

TIGER Traits - Teamwork, Integrity, Grit, Empathy, Respect are a continued focus for us this year. A common language amongst students and staff, something we all strive to demonstrate, and also connects with our School Motto of Be Your Best! Our TIGER Trait Assemblies will be held during period 7 on the first Wednesday of each month and will be followed by student mentorship. Integrity is our focus for November and December!

Halloween Carnival - We had a wonderful Halloween Carnival on October 31! Thank you to all of our students for their enthusiastic participation and awesome costumes! Thanks as well to all of our staff for setting up and organizing the carnival!

Remembrance Day Ceremony - As a school body and community we had a meaningful Remembrance Day Ceremony on Friday morning, November 3, taking time to reflect and

remember. Thank you to Mayor Karl Hauch and Chief Warrant Officer David Ferdette, Retired for joining us and for sharing with our school community. Thank you as well to Mr. Christie for organizing and our Division II students for participating in our ceremony. We are truly blessed to experience the freedom we have here in Canada, and we are ever grateful to all those in our Canadian Armed Forces for the sacrifices they have made and continue to make. We Remember!

Assurance Review Preparation - Our Assurance Review session with our EIPS Trustees and Senior EIPS Admin. is on the morning of November 27, at AL Horton School in Vegreville. Amber-Lynn - School Council Chair, and Lareina Dibben - School Counselor will be joining me.

Take time today to gather information for Amber to speak about.

Enhance It - We are in the process of ordering a t-shirt for every BRU school student and a long sleeve shirt for every BRU staff member. Thanks very much to our School Council for paying for these shirts and helping promote our school spirit!

Metis Week - During the week of November 13-17 we are celebrating Metis Culture and Tradition. Thank you to Mrs. Taylor for organizing the activities for us, which have included online sessions about Jigging, the Metis Anthem and Flag, and the history of the Red River Cart. In addition, we are celebrating International “Rock Your Mocs Day” on Wednesday, November 15. The day is one of cultural pride and celebration for First

Nations, Metis, and Inuit people across Turtle Island. Students and teachers are encouraged to wear their moccasins - for Indigenous people, to show pride in their culture and honour their ancestors, and for non-Indigenous people, as a way to show allyship and respect for the beautiful wearable art created by Indigenous artisans.

Bullying Prevention Week - During the week of November 13-17, students and staff are focusing on preventing bullying. Thanks to Mrs. Dibben for sharing resources with our staff, putting up posters that focus on Kindness and Helping others, the Pink Cards of Kindness Campaign, and for the positive messages that the principal read in the morning during announcements.

Christmas Concert - Wednesday, December 20 at 6:30 p.m. here in our gym!

Next School Council Meeting - Tuesday, December 5, at 5:30 p.m.

Town of Bruderheim Report

FOOD SOVEREIGNTY EVENT Save the date! November 28th, 8:30—4:30 at the Community Centre, join us for a panel of Indigenous and non-Indigenous contributors in the food sovereignty space for a day of knowledge sharing. Register on Eventbrite by November 21st. Tix are \$10. Lunch will be served.

BRUDERHEIM MARKETS Join us every Saturday from November 18th to December 16th for a Market at the Bruderheim Memorial Community Centre, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Tables are \$15 each — to book, call 780-919-5155 or email bruderheimagsoc@shaw.ca. Enjoy breakfast with Santa 8:00—10:00 am before the Market on December 2nd.

THANK YOU! The Town of Bruderheim sends out a big THANK YOU to the sponsors, volunteers, participants and staff that supported the Halloween Haunted House and Halloween Party. These events were an exciting addition for the community!

Watch social media for upcoming shinny and public skating times.

Town Council Meeting Nov.15th at 7pm at the Fire Hall

Lions Bingo on Nov. 27- doors open at 6:30pm

Other Business

Seniors are having their Christmas Supper on December 8, 2023. Tickets are \$30 for a great meal, let's try and get lot's of community members to attend and give support to the seniors group.

Let's get more information on getting used skating equipment for the kids so that we may be able to organize skating days for the students. Skates and Helmets are needed, Jamie will contact Play It Again Sports and Kids Sport to find out about equipment.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:01PM Next meeting December 5, 2023 at 5:30PM