

Alexander Forbes The Academy School Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 7, 2023

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.
2. Introductions: Rhonda Schneider (teacher rep), Kendra Stewart (vice principal), Renee Bruno (Munch a Lunch rep), Jenn Khon (chair), Deirdre Puff (vice-chair), Jake Roberts (vice principal), Kristina de Metz (principal), Andrea Baum (vice treasurer), Rob Martin (school board trustee), Caitlin McMurrer (secretary)
3. Approval of Agenda
Moved: Renee Bruno
Seconded: Deirdre Puff
The Agenda is approved.
4. Approval of Minutes of May 2, 2023 (tabled at last meeting)
Moved: Renee Bruno
Seconded: Jennifer Kohn
The Minutes of May 2, 2023 are approved.
5. Approval of Minutes of last meeting – October 10, 2023
Moved: Renee Bruno
Seconded: Deirdre Puff
The Minutes of October 10, 2023 are approved.
6. School Board Report – Rob Martin
 - a. Welcome to Rob Martin, our newly appointed trustee.
 - b. October 10th meeting:
 - i. Approved 42 students at Derek Taylor going to Bamfield this school year.
 - ii. Alberta Education funding model changed. Assessment data from the end of the school year is used to allocate funding.
 - iii. Student growth at 4.8 percent, instead of the 2 percent that was projected. This is the second year in a row that we doubled our projection. Working with the government on how to minimize the effects of the three-year rolling average. Met with the Minister of Education.
 - iv. The Minister of Education was here on October 23rd.

1. Toured The Comp.
 2. Students from the Advisory Committee toured the Minister.
 3. Toured G.P. Christian.
 4. Observed classroom size and classroom composition.
 - v. Division Christmas card contest. Open to The Comp, Charles Spencer, and The Bridge.
 - c. October 24th:
 - i. First meeting with other divisions re: calendars has happened. Draft calendar will be shared with staff in November/December for feedback. Will be shared with the Board in December. This will come to school councils soon.
 - ii. Weighing of Diploma exams has reverted to 30 percent.
 - d. Thursday, November 30th is the first School Council Chairs meeting.
 - e. Rob will try to make all the meetings he can. If he can't make it, he will send a report.
 - f. Send an email to Rob if you have any questions (Rob.Martin@gppsd.ab.ca).
7. Treasurer Report – Sarah Patterson
- a. There is \$9723.49 in the School Council bank account.
 - b. Upcoming accounts receivables are the Munch a lunch orders and the Purdy's Fundraiser.
 - c. Upcoming accounts payable are the Munch a lunch orders, the pizza for the Halloween door contest, the Purdy's order and the DJ and concession for the December 8th dance.
8. Administrator's Report – Kristina de Metz, Jake Roberts, Kendra Stewart
- a. See page 5 below.
9. Actions from last meeting
- a. Crosswalk: Email from city
 - i. Jenn spoke with the City Traffic Admin. They will review the intersection. One request draws their attention to the issue. It's not in the budget for this year but the budget meeting is set for November 14, 2023.

- b. School Dance
 - i. DJ is booked. The invoice was unavailable at the time of the meeting.
 - ii. Need to send DJ a playlist for the dance.
 - iii. Next council meeting is before the dance to finalize details such as concession and food bank donations.
 - c. School Fundraising/Sorting Volunteers
 - i. Purdy's fundraiser- sorting the orders and calling parents to see if they would like to pick up earlier or at parent teacher interviews. Having a station for pick up near the library on Parent teacher interview days.
 - ii. Seed fundraiser for March/Spring. Deirdre has the details and information package.
 - iii. Exploring more fundraisers even for the new year or following school year. School Start & Mabels Labels.
 - iv. Exploring more restaurants for Munch a Lunch. Pizza Hut and Facebook/ Classroom poll.
10. New Business
- a. Purchasing classroom enhancements
 - i. Last year, rocking chairs for older students were purchased (alternative seating). Is this something we want to do again?
 - ii. We will look at putting forward an amount in the new year to be used for classroom enhancements.
 - b. Grade 6 Great Book Buy

Motion: School Council will sponsor the Grade 6 Book Buy at \$10 per student.
Moved: Renee Bruno
Seconded: Jennifer Kohn
The motion is approved.
11. Questions/Other Business
- a. Make It Sow
 - i. Approximately 30 percent
 - ii. Possibly done in January/February?
 - b. Education Foundation
 - i. Grant program requests upcoming
 - ii. Rob will send the Sign-Up Genius for Cars for Christmas. There are some day shifts that are hard to fill.

- c. School Start? Consider doing this for next year.
 - d. Christmas Concerts – Can we consider one for next year?
 - e. Hallway decorating?
 - f. Mables Labels as a fundraiser
 - g. Music programming
 - i. Offered as a Program of Choice at a few of our sites, along with STEM.
 - h. Communication around special needs and supporting students of parents with special needs.
 - i. Trickster Theatre?
 - j. Sensory room?
12. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 5th at 6:00 p.m.
13. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

School Council – Administrator’s Report

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Celebrations and Appreciation

- Halloween Door Decorating
 - Thank you to our wonderful School Council for sponsoring such a fun community-building event!
- New postings: Grade 3/4 teacher and EA
- Grade 5/6 Trip Ball – Tournament was on Saturday. Thank you to our coaches!
- Grade 7/8 volleyball play-offs are this week and next.

Collaborative Work and Staff Focus

- Teachers are in the process of creating their inquiry question for the year.
 - New staff are being apprised of the process.
 - Returning staff looking at data to determine the focus for this year.
- On Friday, October 27th, we participated in a professional learning session on support for students with behavioural difficulties. This was led by Mike Heckbert, a psychologist on our Complex Behaviour Team.
- The Third Path with Dr. David Tranter – We started our work with Dr. Tranter in August. It will continue throughout the year.

Information

- Remembrance Day: School assembly on Thursday at 10:30 a.m.
- Report cards go home on November 24th.
 - Access these on the Parent Portal. Paper copies will also be sent home.
- Parent Teacher Interviews on Monday, November 27th and Wednesday, November 29th.
 - Sign up using Sign Up Genius

Important Upcoming Events and Dates

- November 10th – Professional Learning Day – No school for students.
- November 17th – School Spirit Day: Silly Sock Day
- November 24th – Report cards go home.
- November 27th – Parent-Teacher Interviews from 5:00-8:00
- November 29th – Parent-Teacher Interviews from 4:00-7:00