

Alexander Forbes The Academy School Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 3, 2024

1. Call to Order: 6:12 pm
2. Introductions: Deirdre Puff (Chair), Kristina de Metz (Principal), Tammy Ogilvie (Parent), Meagan Jamieson (Parent), Jennifer Kohn (Vice Chair), Sarah Patterson (Treasurer), Jessica Randell (Parent), Rhonda Schneider (Teacher Rep), Caitlin McMurrer (Secretary)
3. Approval of Agenda
Moved: Sarah Patterson
Seconded: Deirdre Puff
4. Approval of Minutes of Nov.5, 2024
Moved: Deidre Puff
Seconded: Tammy Ogilvie
5. School Board Report – Joan Nellis
 - a. Joan was at the Striving for Excellence Dinner.
 - b. See page 4.
6. Treasurer Report – Sarah Patterson
 - a. Balance: \$3593.09
 - b. Accounts Payable: Childcare for School Council. Dance supplies (hot chocolate, pizza and popcorn), staff appreciation lunch, upcoming Munch-a-Lunch
 - c. Accounts Receivable: Upcoming Munch-a-Lunches. Purdy's and Poinsettia fundraisers.
7. Administrator's Report – Kristina de Metz, Jake Roberts, Kendra Stewart
 - a. Kendra and Jake were at the Striving for Excellence Dinner.
 - b. See page 5.
8. Actions from previous meetings
 - a. Fundraiser Update:
 - i. Purdy's- Initial numbers look like we made \$1600
 - ii. Growing Smiles- Initial numbers looking like we made \$400.78

- b. Festival of Trees
 - i. Setting up December 13
 - ii. Voting closes December 18
 - iii. Award winners December 20
 - iv. Possible prizes for winners: hot chocolate and movie day, Bowling? Subway platter for lunch?
- c. Winter Dance-December 12
 - i. Hot Chocolate and Coffee bar
 - ii. Munch-a-Lunch Pizza Hut and order extras to be sold at the dance. \$3/ slice
 - iii. Hot chocolate and Tims coffee available \$1/cup
 - iv. 120 bottles of water donated by Water Express
 - v. Popcorn purchased by council at the Cineplex to be available for free.
 - vi. DJ, Flip Entertainment, is booked and paid for.
 - vii. Coat check station in Mrs. Johnson class.
- d. Staff Christmas Lunch- December 19
 - i. About 55 staff members.
 - ii. \$1600 budget. Motioned by Deirdre Puff. Seconded by Jennifer Kohn.
- e. Munch a Lunch
 - i. Possible day change to accommodate Academy- Looking into moving the second term starting in February 2025 to Wednesdays.
 - ii. Lunch times: 12:15-12:35 for 1-4, 12:25-12:45 for 5-8. Moving the arrival of the food to 12 instead of earlier for the majority of students.
- f. Art Supply Update
 - i. \$700 order from Spectrum. Motioning after the dance and money from the fundraisers comes in.
- g. Staff Wish Lists
 - i. Balancing requests versus funding and utilizing funds and accounts for such lists and requests.

9. New Business

- a. APPLE Schools-Online presentation
 - i. Jenn Flynn, Executive Director, & Tracey Lockwood, School Health Mentor) presented about APPLE Schools.

They are an Edmonton based program that promotes health (mental wellness, healthy eating, and physical activity) in over 100 schools throughout BC, Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario since 2007.

- ii. Each school has a coordinator for resources, grants and to bring ideas into the school. Examples include movement breaks, taste tests, healthy celebrations, student leadership, breathing exercises and making school a safe place. There is no cost to the school.
- iii. The next step is hiring the school coordinator to start January 6 with training and to be actively in the school by the end of January/ early February.

b. Council of School Councils Meeting- Report

- i. \$700,000 surplus
- ii. The high schools are at capacity already
- iii. Looking for more supports for ESL families in the community.

10. Upcoming Events

- a. December 6: New Report Cards
- b. December 12: Munch-a-Lunch: Chubbs
- c. December 12: Dance 6-8pm
- d. Throughout the month: Various Christmas theme days

11. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at 6 pm

12. Adjournment- 8:14 pm

School Board Trustee Report – Joan Nellis

- Our board gave the first reading to a bylaw that will require any candidates for Trustee in the next election to submit a criminal record check with their nomination papers. We will be giving second and third reading to this bylaw in December, if you want to learn more or have an opinion on this, please reach out to me soon.
- We heard from Director Therrien on the division's annual attendance report. There was a lot of information in there, and I am sure you've noticed the Division Attendance Matters campaign on social media. Attendance in some areas is an ongoing issue. We were pleased to hear that last year we saw an increase of approx. 500 students in the 90% or better attendance range, this represented a 5% increase.
- In addition to our capital plan, the Division just requested some modular classrooms from the province to address pinch points at the Comp and Isabel Campbell. This does not mean we will get the rooms, but those 2 schools need relief, so we are hoping that the province will allocate some to us.
- We had our council of school councils meeting on the 28th. Thanks for Forbes reps for attending. They can speak to the meeting but if you have questions, I can answer in next time. We shared information on enrollment, budget, and our new advocacy priorities and discussed January's meeting. January will be a PD meeting. We will share some more details with this group once we get everything together.
- We approved our annual audited financial statement. We are proud to have another clean audit. We had planned for a deficit of \$2.5m but with midyear unexpected funding and a shortage of staff (hiring subs and EA's), and better than expected interest on investments, we ended up having a surplus of around \$700,000. This is a good problem, but still a problem. Our Board has a 3-year budget where we attempt to spend money from today on today's students, while saving for unexpected and planned projects. Our work on priorities will guide this work. We expect a new funding formula from the government in the new year so we will need to adjust our plan again once we have details on that.
- We also approved our Annual Education results report. This is something we are required to send the government yearly. It shows our academic results and gives some background on changes and adjustments we are making because of them. It will be posted on our web site if you are interested.

Administrator's Report

Celebrations and Appreciation

- Thank you for our pizza parties! The students really enjoyed celebrating together.
- Support during Parent-Teacher Interviews. Thank you for feeding us and our community!

Collaborative Work and Staff Focus

- We are continuing our work with our inquiry questions and responsive planning based on the needs of our students.
- Our school three-year plan has been submitted.

Alexander Forbes Education Plan Priorities and Outcomes 2024-2027

Priority: Teaching and Learning	Priority: Belonging
Outcome: Staff use student achievement evidence to support responsive planning.	Outcome: Alexander Forbes The Academy School is a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe environment where students, staff, and families know they are valued.
Outcome: Literacy and numeracy outcomes are prioritized through planning, instruction, and assessment.	Outcome: The physical, mental, and emotional well-being of students and staff is supported.

Information

- Basketball – coaches needed
- Report cards go home on Friday.

Important Upcoming Events and Dates

- See attached calendar (page 6).

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