



Mike Mountain Horse Elementary School

155 Jerry Potts Blvd West Lethbridge, Alberta T1K 6G8 Phone: (403) 381-2211

School Council MINUTES

October 3rd, 2023 @ 6:30pm MMH Art Room

In Attendance: Danica Forsyth, Laura Keffes-Wilkes, Tiffany Myers, Megan Gemmill, Kaila Ulch, Kaira Cale, Jodi Anderson, Ashley Bourassa, Kalila Ranaweera, Sara Prete, Casey Scheidegger, Sheana Van Mill, Kerry Taylor, Megan Paul, Indie Fyfe, Michelle Hood

Call to order – 7:03pm

Welcome and Introductions: Indie Fyfe (SC Chair), Megan Paul (SC Co-chair), Kerry Taylor (Principal), Kalila Ranaweera, Danica Forsyth (Division School Council Rep), Tiffany Myers, Casey Scheidegger, Laura Keffes-Wilkes (SC Treasurer), Kaila Ulch, Ashley Bourassa, Sara Prete, Sheana Van Mill (MMH Society Secretary), Kaira Cale (MMH Society President), Michelle Hood (SC Secretary), Jodi Anderson (MMH Society Treasurer), Megan Gemmill (MMH Society VP)

Approval of Agenda: Motion: Megan Gemmill
Second: Jodi Anderson

Principal's Report: Kerry Taylor

Professional Learning

- New Curriculum PL – Science for Kindergarten to Grade 3 and Numeracy and Literacy for Grades 4 and 5
 - Very different from current curriculum so working on a lot of PL to ensure understanding and resources for implementation
- Continue Positive School Wide Behaviour Support
 - What does it look like when we line up? What does hallway behaviour look like? What does bathroom behaviour look like?
 - Teaching kids' parameters and structure/boundaries within the building
- Continued focus during staff meetings on Creating Cultures of Thinking Book
 - Last year, the focus was on reading the book. This year, the focus is on questions stemming from the book in order to build classrooms that encourage kids to do the heavy lifting.

Information Updates

- Enrollment Update: 600 – numbers are down
 - Still registering students but class sizes are quite small this year (average of 22)
- Staffing – Learning Commons, Educational Assistants, Teacher
 - Learning commons is amazing, facilitator is really embracing what a makerspace could look like and offering engaging opportunities for students
 - We are struggling as a division to fulfill our sub list. There are many days we are down educational assistants and supports for our students.

- Teaching staff is solid – a few new faces, everyone has jumped right in. It has been a lovely September.
- Website Updates
 - A whole new format has been uploaded for the Lethbridge School Division. There is an exceptional amount of information out there for families.
 - Board Livestreams, Digital Wellness, Alberta Esports, Re3 Program, SAIAC, ICE Scholarship, Community Engagement – are some highlighted areas, just to name a few
 - MMH website has been updated with a new format. All sections should be easy to find, and a lot of answers can be found in the MMH Handbook.

Upcoming/Exciting Events

- Indigenous Bingo
 - October 5 @ 5:30 in the MMH gym for elementary school students and their families
- Respect Assembly – new format
 - A lot of discussion on how to recognize students in a purposeful way. Every assembly will be at 9:10 on a Thursday morning due to an opening in the gym schedule. They will be 30 minutes and will continue to reflect the 7 Sacred Teachings.
- Parent Teacher Interviews
 - A schedule will be sent out that may appear confusing. Parents can book online a 15/20 minute slot.
 - October 24th there is No School for kindergarten only. P/T interviews all day.
 - October 25th there is No School for all students. PL for staff in the morning and P/T Interviews from 1:00-8:00pm.
 - October 26th there is No School for all students – PL for staff
 - October 27th there is No School for all students – PL for staff

Committee Reports:

- *Hot Lunch - Ashley Bourassa*
 - Healthy hunger is a program in Lethbridge, however non of the establishments that we've already committed to using are signed up for it. They were receptive for doing it next year.
 - The first hot lunch is posted (Subway) on school cash online and the rest will be up once dates have been finalized
- *Special Events – Indie Fyfe*
 - Winter Walk Dec 13-council providing hot chocolate cups and candy canes
 - Dance-a-thon – Society will let council know whether candy bags are needed
 - Spring Walk May 8/9 - Lemonade and Cookies
 - March Family Fitness Month- in person MMA at the school Gym. “Scavenger Hunt” for other option activities. Draw box for Participation. Prizes to be won
- *Staff Appreciation – Michelle Hood*
 - What ways can we thank the staff. Any unique ideas?
 - Sara Prete & Danica Forsyth have volunteered to take it over, Michelle Hood will email them what has been done in the past.
 - 58 Staff Members this year, budget proposed at \$500 for the year

- *Division School Council – Danica Forsyth*
 - Is MMH using the nutrition grant? (Yes) – there was an extra \$15,000 they want used up this year.
 - Oct. 10th community conversations
 - Boundary engagement session is coming up – please register if you intend on going
 - Digital Wellness evening on Nov. 15th at the Yates – The Truth about Youth 7-8pm
 - The Division is debating if they want to pay for the membership of Alberta School council for all schools – is this something MMH wants? Yes.
 - Division documents are due – a reminder to please forward them on.
 - Gave a lot of thoughts on ways to show staff appreciation
 - Possible development of Learn N Play out of school care, the division will go to Medicine Hat to see their model and then get feedback from parents. They would need outside agencies to partner with for this to happen.
 - There is a vacancy for a second rep if anyone would like to join, but you only get one vote

- *Social Media – Ashley Bourassa*
 - *FB Mike Mountain Horse Parent Committees – please let her know if there were anything you would like posted*

Treasurer’s Report: Indie Fyfe & Laura Keffes-Wilkes

- *Budget for 2023-2024 Year*
 - Council is asking for \$7931.64 from the society – please see proposed budget report for the allocation lines
 - Indie Fyfe is working on getting signing authority for herself, Megan Paul and Laura Keffes-Wilkes. She is seeking the removal of past members, Ginny Bergsma and Mike Shanks.
 - Discussion had regarding what is more valued – tangible items vs. experiences when it comes to providing funds to grade levels. Society will discuss and present options at next meeting to vote on.

New Business: Indie Fyfe

- Change to Operating Procedures-moving AGM from June to September – we will vote on this at the November meeting.
- We see more new faces, hope to get more new parent involvement. A zoom link will be sent out for future meetings in case anyone would like to join from home.

Discussion Items from Attendees:

- None

Trustee Report:

- No trustee was present, and no report was forwarded

Board Meeting Highlights: Sept. 12th (Organizational) & Sept. 26th (Regular Meeting)

[Click here to view board meeting minutes.](#)

Next Meeting Date:

- November 7th @ 6:30pm in MMH Art Room

Adjournment: 8:27pm

Motion: Megan Gemmill

Second: Ashley Bourassa