



Mike Mountain Horse Elementary School

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

School Council MINUTES

October 8th, 2024 @ 6:30pm MMH Art Room

In Attendance: Kerry Taylor, Lindsay Wehrwein, Ashley Bourassa, Michelle Hood, Danica Forsyth, Jodi Anderson, Adam Grenier, Kaira Cale, Vanessa Hengerer, Indie Fyfe, Megan Paul

Call to order – 6:31pm

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of Agenda: Motion: Megan Paul

Second: Ashley Bourassa

Principal's Report: Kerry Taylor

• Staff Professional Learning Focus

- K-5 New Curriculum: Numeracy, English Language Arts and Literature, Physical Education and Wellness, Science
 - Erin Hurkett created an informative video breaking down new program of studies and this was shared.
 - No teachers at MMH are piloting the social studies curriculum
- Developing plans to address learning challenges and gaps as we implement the new curriculum
- Focus on outcomes and aligning assessment practices and reporting to families with new curricular outcomes

• Information Updates

- Outcomes Based Report Card Pilot – Staff Involved
 - The division is trying to better align reporting with the new curricular outcomes. Teachers are piloting this new form of assessment and reporting, and parent feedback will be taken.
 - Parents are encouraged to go to the New Learn Alberta website where you can get a snapshot of what your child is learning at each grade level in every subject.
 - 11 Teachers at MMH are piloting the new report cards
- 2024-2025 Current Enrollment Numbers
 - 601 Students currently enrolled in EEP-5
 - No classes are above 24 in size
- Recommended changes to West Lethbridge Elementary Boundaries were presented at the Sept. 24 board meeting
 - Tentatively, Option #3 has been proposed. Country Meadows, Garry Station, The Crossings will be moved to West Coulee Station Elementary. Spanish Bilingual would be moved from Coalbanks to West Coulee Station Elementary.
 - It would likely leave Mike Mountain Horse with around 450 students and losing 6-8 Teachers.

- Questions were asked about the decision to remove 10 portables from MMH which would eliminate 250 student spaces which doesn't align to losing only 150 students.
 - Feedback on the recommendations in the report via an online survey September 25th until October 18th
 - The Board will hold a Special Meeting on October 29th at 7pm to review the feedback and potentially approve the new boundaries to come into effect for the 2025-2026 school year.
 - Field Trips – Costs, Options
 - Kerry showed a breakdown of costs for each grade level from the 2023-2024 school year. It is grade team decided by teachers as to what field trips are booked for the year, based on the budget given by Kerry.
 - For the 2024-2025 school year, bussing prices have increased substantially. A breakdown for each provider was shown.
 - Kerry reached out to the other 3 elementary schools for feedback on what they do. Probe stated their fundraising is solely used for large field trips. Nicholas Sheran does similar field trips to MMH. Coalbanks didn't respond regarding what they do.
 - There is hesitation to begin charging a field trip fee to parents to help cover the costs, but this may be the reality in the future as prices continue to increase.
 - Town Hall Topics
 - Please email Kerry any topics you made have that could be brought up at town hall for division discussion.
- **Exciting Events from September**
 - Welcome Back Assembly
 - Kona Ice/Meet the Teacher - \$505.00
 - Terry Fox Walk to Nicholas Sheran Park
 - Orange Shirt Day
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - Oct. 4: Staff Collaboration Fridays begin
 - Oct. 9: Fire Drill
 - Oct. 14: Thanksgiving – No School for Students
 - Oct. 17: Spirit Assembly – 9am – RESPECT
 - Oct. 22: Kindergarten PTI 8:35-3:45 – No Kindergarten
 - Oct. 23: K-5 Parent Teacher Interviews 1pm-8pm: No School for Students
 - Oct. 24&25: Staff Professional Learning – No School for Students
 - Oct. 29&30: First hot lunch of the year
 - Oct. 31: Halloween Dance-A-Thon and Celebrations
 - Nov. 5: Digital Wellness Parent Night
 - Nov. 8: Remembrance Day Assembly

Committee Reports:

- **Hot Lunch – Ashley Bourassa**
 - First three are booked, the others are waiting for final approval from Healthy Hunger.
- **Staff Appreciation – Sara Prete**
 - Staff number is 58 for this year for appreciation gifts
- **Division School Council – Danica Forsyth**
 - They went through the AGM, Danica is signed up for two committees
 - It was stressed to get feedback in for the boundary changes

- Trustee report has passed a motion to gather information about grade configuration. They are looking at the 6's being in middle school and the 9's being in high school and if that is still the best choice for students. Concerns with bussing is a part of the conversation.
 - ASBA is going to be discussing 4 day, full day, kindergarten.
 - The government is funding 90 new building and 24 modernization and are waiting for applications from divisions.
 - Engagement grant got approved this year and that money needs to come to the division and go to the schools.
 - November or December, before the division school council meeting, there will be an offering for parents to attend a session on what school councils are legislated to do (a parent learning session).
 - They wanted to check that trustee reports are being emailed to school council chairs. – Indie does not believe she is.
 - ASCA will be paid for once again, as per our school council request
- **Social Media – Ashley Bourassa**
 - Nothing new to report

Treasurer's Report: Vanessa Hengerer

- **Budget for 2023-2024 Year – What do we want to see?**
 - Hot Dog Day
 - Last year it was paid by society funds, but this year it is generated from hot lunch profits.
 - Kona Ice Day
 - Yes, kids are very receptive to this.
 - Family Fitness Month (\$500 Engagement Grant)
 - Suggestion to spread it out over more than just one month. It can be a lot to try and fit it in each week. Indie will investigate options.
 - Winter Gala (Hot Chocolate/Candy Canes)
 - December 11th 5:30pm-7:00pm

Discussion Items from Attendees:

- **Better budgeting – payment options – Danica Forsyth**
 - Moving forward, can school council just make a request to society to pay for items coming out of our budget directly to the recipient to avoid two payments/transfers needing to be made? Yes – that shouldn't be a problem and will simplify things.

Trustee Report: Andrea Andreachuk

- **Not in attendance**

Board Meeting Highlights: [Sept. 24 Board Meeting - YouTube](#) – Live Streaming; Minutes and Highlights can be found here: [Board Meetings | Lethbridge School Division \(lethsd.ab.ca\)](#)

Next Meeting Dates:

- November 7th @ 6:30pm in MMH Art Room
 - Dec. 5, Jan. 9, Feb. 6, Mar. 6, Apr. 3, May 1, Jun. 5

Adjournment: 8:06pm

Motion: Jodi Anderson

Second: Megan Paul