



# Mike Mountain Horse Elementary School

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

## School Council AGENDA

April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 @ 6:30pm MMH Art Room

***In Attendance: Andrea Andreachuk, Kerry Taylor, Lindsay Wehrwein, Megan Paul, Kaira Cale, Jodi Anderson, Danica Forsyth, Indie Fyfe, Michelle Hood, Kaila Ulch, Adam Grenier***

***Call to order – 6:41pm***

***Welcome and Introductions: Welcome to school trustee, Andrea Andreachuk***

***Approval of Minutes: Motion: Kaira Cale***

*Second: Jodi Anderson*

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***Principal's Report: Kerry Taylor***

- Professional Learning:
  - Upcoming: Dr. Robin Bright – supporting Comprehensive Literacy Classrooms Kindergarten to Grade 5.
    - 3 full day PL sessions with teachers beginning in the fall
    - The hope is during the second year she will do some residencies in the classroom
  - Assessment – How to make assessment more meaningful, student-centered, contain voice and align with academic growth. Related to our new outcomes-based report card.
    - Myron Dueck will be coming in a leadership role to help support this next year
- Information Updates:
  - Pilot Report Card Information – from Erin Hurkett
    - A 7-slide video was shown that discussed the purpose of report card comments.
      - It is to provide a personalized overview of each student's academic performance and personal development.
        - Student Strengths (learning, personal)
        - Student Areas of Growth (academic, personal, effort)
        - Student Supports (at school, and partnerships with home)
      - An example comment was provided for viewing
      - A QR code was provided for anyone wishing to give comments or feedback
    - Discussion was had about whether report cards could be emailed home from teachers to parents as a simple PDF. This would make it easier for parents who may not have a desktop to view it and haven't requested a paper copy.
  - Great turn out for Celebrations of Learning
    - The best participation we have had in years
  - Sending enrollment projections into Ed Centre in March, April, May
  - Staffing in very earliest stages
    - West Coulee has been staffed. Brittany Petkau and Marie Lowe will be moving over to the new elementary school in the fall.

- It is still unknown how many teachers MMH will be allotted for next year
  - Screen Time – a form survey was sent to staff asking how often they are using screens in the classroom. It is about a 50/50 split on staff of who uses it during nutrition break – a variation of movies/YouTube, some are informing parents, and some are not.
  - Mindful Eating – lower grades do 5 minutes of not talking, some of the older grades have a maximum of 12 minutes without talking during nutrition break. It was a good data collection and provides insight for next year.
  - Assurance Survey for Grade 4 families just closed on the 28<sup>th</sup> and response was low but still the most it has been in awhile.
- Exciting Events:
  - Grade 3 Travel Showcase tomorrow
    - Aligned with the social studies curriculum
  - Grade 5 Badminton Club
    - M/T after school – very popular with students, about 60 grade 5 students attend
  - Grade 1-4 Drama Club
    - Taking place during recess time, a good turnout of students for this as well
  - Kindergarten to Grade 5 Learning Exhibition
    - Nicole Baker is beginning to organize. It is similar to a science fair, however it can be on any topic, with the majority of the research done at home. It is a voluntary opportunity for students to take part in.
  - Spirit Assembly April 17<sup>th</sup> 9:00am
  - Grade 4 Food Truck PBL Kick Off April 9<sup>th</sup>
  - April 14-16 MHCB Pop Up: Connections
    - The wellness team through the division will be coming to present to every class in MMH, and it should be fun for each student to participate and learn about how to build connections.
- Upcoming Events:
  - April 4: Grade 3 Travel Showcase - No Gym Available
  - April 7: Green Shirt Day
    - Urban Dance Family Fitness Evening 6:00-7:00 gym
  - April 9: Grade 4 Food Truck Kick Off – Kona Ice Here for Grade 4s Only
    - MMH Spirit Book Club
  - April 14-16: Mental Health Capacity Building School Wide Pop Up – Connection (Art Room)
  - April 14: Purdy’s Chocolate Fundraiser Delivered to School
  - April 16: MMA Family Fitness Evening 6:00-7:00 Gym
  - April 17: Spirit Assembly – Wisdom – Blue and Yellow Spirit Day
  - April 18: Good Friday – No School
  - April 21-25: Spring Break – No School
  - April 28: School Resumes
  - April 29: T/Th Kindergarten, 1, 2, 3, Hot Lunch
  - April 30: M/W Kindergarten, 4, 5, Hot Lunch
    - Dress as your favourite book/movie character day

### **Committee Reports:**

- *Hot Lunch - Ashley Bourassa*
  - Profit of \$300.24 from Quesada Mar. 25/26. Our next lunches are Little Caesars (Apr. 29/30) and Dspot Café (May 27/28)

- We currently have \$21 collected from Healthy Hunger gift card.
- *Staff Appreciation – Sara Prete*
  - April recognition is ready to go – Sara sends her regrets that she can't attend tonight.
- *Division School Council – Danica Forsyth*
  - *No Division report yet, because they meet on Monday*
  - Proxy Vote Decisions
    - ASCA said we didn't have a membership with them when Danica registered, so they are billing the division because it was requested that MMH be signed up for it back in September.
    - 5 Topics to Vote on Today:
      1. *Electrical School Busses in Alberta – Pilot Program* – a request for the Minister of Education to fund about a dozen electric school bus pilot projects in diverse rural and urban districts across AB. – Consensus: **VOTE NO**
      2. *Mandatory funding for specialist teachers in elementary schools* – gym, music, library, and a resource teacher must be mandatory for all elementary schools. --- Consensus: **VOTE YES**
      3. *Sunlight is the best disinfectant* – asking for a public report that includes how our public schools are functioning to ameliorate the issues caused by lack of public knowledge and misinformation. --- Consensus **VOTE NO**
      4. *Discontinue Mandatory Timed Testing of Kindergarteners to Grade 3* – Consensus **VOTE YES**
      5. *Online Safety* – Minister of Education needs to mandate that each board must establish a committee composed of representatives including educators, counselors, law enforcement, parents, and community members to recognize, respond, and report regarding all harm to students. In addition, there needs to be mandatory instruction for teens on the reporting of online harms, risks of sharing digital consent, harms of exposure to pornography and awareness of resources available for support. Lastly, each board must ensure that student records are anonymized and encrypted. – Consensus **VOTE NO**
  - ASCA Advocacy Policy 24-05 Amendment
    - Consensus – In agreement with the proposed changes
- *Social Media – Ashley Bourassa*
  - Updates continue to be posted on Facebook page

### ***Treasurer's Report: Vanessa Hengerer***

- Budget 2024/2025
- Upcoming Expenses
  - MMA & Urban Beats will receive cheques for family fitness nights
- Update on request to society for the field trip allotments (direct to school)

### ***Special Events – Indie Fyfe***

- **MMH Family Fitness Month**
  - **Bingo Sheet**

- Prizes – \$260 will be allotted to buy prizes so that each homeroom class can have a winner (26 winners x \$10 prize value).
      - Michelle Hood will come and collect all the participant slip envelopes on Apr. 11, draws will be made, and winners announced the week of Apr. 14 – 17 with Kerry Taylor going to each homeroom to deliver prizes.
  - **Mike Mountain Horse School Family fitness evenings**
    - **Gym Activities**
      - Happened April 1st
      - Feedback: There were approximately 60 people who came out which is amazing participation from the community.
      - Is this something we could offer throughout the year? Perhaps once a month?
      - Thank you to Ashley Bourassa for putting the reminders on social media
    - **Urban Beat Dance Studio (at the School)**
      - \$150
      - Dance styles: Hip Hop, Metis Jigging and vote on third type.
      - Monday April 7th
    - **MMA**
      - \$100
      - Wednesday April 16th
- **Succession Planning**
  - Discuss executive positions & committees
  - AGM will happen in September which will include nominations/ volunteering for positions and a vote.
    - This date needs to be posted before the end of the school year.
    - Could there be some kind of incentive to get more involvement next year? Especially with new kindergarten families.

### **Discussion Items from Attendees:**

- Is there interest in *Closer to Home* coming in to present to the group about foster care?
  - We don't feel like it is the right avenue for a presentation. Perhaps the division would be more apt to take this on.
  - <https://closerhome.com/>

### **Trustee Report: Andrea Andreachuk**

- Funding has been allocated for a new Westside elementary school on the far south side. Land has been allocated.
- Pre-planning money has been approved for the modernization of LCI to allow for more accessibility.
- ICE Scholarship showcase was March 27<sup>th</sup> and there were 26 tables of kids with projects. This is the 9<sup>th</sup> year and there was good community support.
- Morag Asquith reported that the kindergarten evening was well attended
- Indigenous Education group had a PL session and took staff to the Buffalo Jump
- March 17<sup>th</sup> staff in the division had collaborative groups
- KinderCare in the division received recognition with an article in the newspaper
- Mike Nightingale spoke to the ATA about the budget and that was appreciated

- The Spirit of 51 support staff awards happened and it was well attended with 150 support staff receiving recognition and getting cookie kits.
- The new report card was discussed and how it is being communicated to parents
- Robbie Charlebois in HR spoke about West Coulee Station being mostly staffed and there will be movement this year with teachers
- A restructured teacher mentorship program is coming back – so that is exciting news
- Acknowledgement of excellence – GS Lakie was highlighted – FISH FRIDAYS continues to be a success. As well as Galbraith and Senator Buchanon with their highlights
- May 7<sup>th</sup> is the next conversation opportunity with the board – location is TBD but it will take place in the evening
- Christine Light talked about the city and the two school divisions continuing their partnership
- ASCA money was approved for councils
- A mom from SJF came to talk about food insecurity – they are seeing 40% more use of the food bank.
- Transportation – \$413,000 deficit from bussing at the 1KM. The government is funding 1.6 KM distance for K-6 and 2KM for 7-12
- Edwar Parr Nominee was named – Gr. 1 teacher from Nicholas Sheran
- School fee discussion was tabled because more information is needed about discrepancies amongst schools.
- The budget was presented, and capital plan was approved. Most growth is expected on the west side – Chinook is operating at 140% of its capacity and 500 westside students are being bussed to LCI. A new high school on the westside is next priority.
- Trustee code of conduct passed the first reading, it was tabled for now.
- Breakfast with the board has been brought back to schools – taking trustees into the buildings
- New Teacher Induction happened for the ATA

Board Meeting Highlights: Feb. 25, 2025 - [Board Meetings | Lethbridge School Division](#)

Live Stream - [March 25, 2025 Board of Trustees Meeting](#)

**Future Meeting Dates:**

- May 1, June 5

**Adjournment: 8:38pm**

*Motion: Jodi Anderson*

*Second: Danica Forsyth*