



Calgary Christian Elementary School

School Council Meeting

October 26, 2021
12:00pm – 1:00pm

1. Welcome, Opening Devotion and Introductions

2. Palliser Board: Lorelei Bexte, School Trustee, 2021/2022 Update: Unable to attend, updates will be provided during the next School Council meeting; parents are also encouraged to email Lorelei directly with any questions:
lolelei.bexte@pallisersd.ab.ca

3. Administrator's Report: Mike Thiesen
 - ☞ Covid Protocols: Calgary Christian School is currently on Outbreak status. Outbreak status is given to a school when 10 or more positive cases take place in the school within 14 days. Currently, a couple classrooms have shifted to online learning due to positive cases (6M and 6SG) as the criteria for a class needing to switch to online learning is if there are 3 or more cases in that class within 5 days. As a result of the outbreak status for CCES, the Christmas concert will be virtual this year. If your family is testing for Covid-19, please relay your outbreak number to the testing facility as this is distinct to CCES. Further, due to this status, students and their family members can get tested if asymptomatic. November 3 is potentially the lifting of the outbreak status if no further positive cases (at which point the outbreak number no longer provides access to testing while asymptomatic). The outbreak number is 2021-EI-10955
**Of note, the school is looking for support with videography; *if this a skill you can contribute to the school, please email the school.*
 - ☞ Gaga Ball Update: Administration has the pit information and will be using composite materials as this will last longer. The full cost has been covered

(including rubberized matting to avoid the grass getting wet or muddy) through the funds provided by Hot Dog lunch days. A big thanks to all those who volunteer to make this possible!

- 🌀 Hot Lunch Opportunity: Macdonald's has offered a hot lunch opportunity to our school. This lunch would comprise of a main course option (such as a burger), apple slices, drink (white/chocolate milk or apple/orange juice or water), cookie and yogurt for a price of \$5.50 with a Big Mac option with similar sides for \$8.50. This Hot Lunch option could take place 4-5 times per year. Please give feedback to Michelle Anderson or Michelle Zuk regarding this opportunity.
- 🌀 Sound Creations is teaching Hip Hop to the students this week with this opportunity also available due to the success of hot lunch days. Similarly, in-line and cross-country skiing activities are available to students from these funds.

4. Calgary Society for Christian Education: Ken DeWyn, Executive Director Society Updates – Q&A

- 🌀 Thank you to Mr. Thiesen, staff, and parents for their diligence in slowing the spread of Covid.
- 🌀 Building Improvements:
During assessments of the school building, a necessity for more fresh air within the building was discovered. As such, the Society wanted to ensure the heating systems were not cycling old, stale air in the classrooms by installing new heating units last week during the Teachers' Convention. This improvement allows fresh, heated air to be cycled throughout the building. Further improvements, possible through Federal relief dollars, included removing washroom doors, improving faucets, adding permanent basins and sinks in classrooms and additional lighting with the intention of making this a safe environment for everyone. Another concern was regarding the issue that Kindergarten classrooms had water underneath the building with the clay swelling resulting in heaved floor structures. To resolve, a channel was created

to create new pathways for the water to flow underneath the facilities. As the clay dries out, hopefully the heave will reduce with ongoing maintenance potentially needed.

- ☞ Long term focus: Approval for campaign of improvements over the next 3 years. This funding would support: new High School Science lab with pending work to expand the gymnasium facilities (doubling the capacity). The Society has spoken with some donors and will come to the community for additional support. There will be a campaign committee with more information to come shortly.

5. 2021/2022 CCS School Council

- ☞ Mission Statement: The School Council would like to add a mission statement to the website. The following is the rough draft of this statement with Council seeking feedback: The CCS School Council together with the administration, staff and parents will work to create a supportive learning environment that encourages academic achievement and cultivates a culture of God-given purpose.
- ☞ Fundraising Opportunities: Council continually receives offers of fundraising opportunities which will be provided to families to vote on whether to proceed with any of these new opportunities. Please stay tuned!
- ☞ Nicole Bruins is the teacher representative this year for the School Council. Thank you, Mrs. Bruins!
- ☞ Questions/Feedback:

Field Trips this year: None planned as restrictions increased mid-September. AHS worker came for an inspection of the school due to current outbreak status which also resulted in further restrictions (such as no Lost and Found table where students may congregate or the allowance of Field Trips). Mr. Thiesen is still awaiting the report from AHS. There may be opportunity for ongoing on-campus activities (such as the Sound Creations event currently taking place). Once back to non-outbreak status, the school can have one outside person come to the classrooms to share information. Another opportunity is for an Author/Illustrator to perform a virtual presentation

during literacy week in November.

Several questions regarding vaccination for teachers and the position of both CCS and the Society were asked. Ken DeWyn and Mike Theisen both clarified that any mandates or policies regarding vaccines would be done so by the teachers' employer, Palliser. Further procedure directions will be shared on Wednesday, October 27 via Palliser. Any Palliser questions can be directed to Lorelei Bexte, our Palliser Trustee.

School Directory: Administration may be able to move forward with this request in the future as not quite as restricted as previously. Do not want to transgress FOIP but looks hopeful for this option.