

# School Council Minutes - Secondary Campus

**Attendees:** J. Barthel, G. Wolfers, J. Faber, S. Cheung Forigo, G. Adam, J. and E. Bueckert, A. Hus, L. Kilbreath

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**February 29, 2024 6:30-7:30 pm - Secondary Campus LINC**

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1. Call to Order and approval of agenda
  - 6:37 pm approval
2. Welcome, Opening Prayer and Land Acknowledgment
  - Prayer - Jason Bueckert
  - Land Acknowledgment - Gacynth
3. Approval of December 9, 2023 minutes
  - Minutes approved - Allene, Erin
4. Administration Updates:
  - Calendar Feedback
    - Looking at next year, what changes would you like to see to our calendar?
      - Reviewing 2024-2025 calendar
      - Opportunity for feedback provided
      - Other schools have a November break
      - Is there a desire for a longer November break? Parents at the student council feel an extra day off could be desirable. Jadan may consider November 7, and 8 as additional days off.
      - School staff have already given input
  - Secondary Needs
    - Volunteers
      - Thankful for volunteers.
      - Some field trips may not happen if there are not enough volunteers.
      - Suggestion from Allene - post in Edsby in the parent volunteer group when help is needed - parents may be able to volunteer even if not their kid's grade.
      - Suggestion from Allene - At Meet the Teacher night - have a volunteer table - help parents sign up to volunteer that night. Make it more visible. Have a QR code to scan on your phone.
    - Rob Oostenbrink Celebrations
      - Retiring - ideas for celebrating this
        - Community event?

- Typically, celebrations have been driven by the retiring teacher - what they find meaningful.
- Today - Sandy is willing to lead a committee to plan something. May create a link for donations. A video from students/parents that he could keep and look back on. Sandy will let Jadan know what she needs. Check with Kelly Bouwman as she may be gathering things as well.
- Celebrations
  - Beauty and The Beast
    - Kids did a great job as well as behind-the-scenes workers.
  - Junior High Dance
    - Thanks to parent chaperones.
    - Jill is hoping for a spring dance as well.
  - Grade 7 Band Trip
    - Made it back safely today.
    - Rachel is doing a wonderful job at leading this program.
- Secondary Initiatives/Opportunities
  - Requesting Lego donations for use in the Well
  - Mental Health Team
    - Trying to build capacity in kids. Developing skills to help each other. Still encouraging them to talk to adults.
    - Trying to do a program for younger kids through YWCA.
  - Science Olympics
    - Haven't done this yet but will try.
    - Will have two teams - one for Div 3 and one for Div 4. The teams will go to the Olympic Oval to present in May.
    - Need to advertise and a staff volunteer is needed for grades 7-9.
  - Dual Credit
    - Highlight this for parents
  - Online Option List
- Secondary Student Council Updates
  - Candy Grams
    - Can make some kids feel left out.
    - The school has a way to help with this.
  - Junior High Dance
- Secondary Policy/Procedure Review
  - Cell Phone Policy
    - Continues to be a challenge.
    - The school tries to keep them away. Policing cell phones sucks teachers' energy away.

- The school continues to talk about this. Not all parents support kids not having phones at school. Worse stories happen every year. Parents and youth need to understand how serious the problem is.
  - Teachers end up having to deal with the supervision part which can be difficult.
  - Jadan is willing to try something more aggressive regarding cell phones, especially in grades 7 and 8, and expand over time.
  - Parents would like consistency from teachers so kids can expect the same thing in every class.
  - Assessment
    - Division and school moving towards research-based assessment.
    - Excited on one hand but also nervous but it doesn't look the same way as the past.
    - We have to find a way to educate parents on what is current. Things may not look the same as when parents were kids.
    - Grades should be more based on what kids know in the end. Have conversations on what a new grading system may look like. Outcome-based report card. Have parents understand what this means.
    - When school tries to shift, challenging to get the audience required. Tie sessions into when parents are already here.
    - Start the education of parents early, slowly, and over time.
    - Give more meaning to feedback.
    - Is there information that can be read and posted on the CCS website? Jadan will provide resources for this learning. Create a focus group.
    - A specialist, Natalie is speaking to a focus group of CCS teachers on March 16.
    - Include education on Meet the Teacher night.
5. New Business:
- Operating Procedures
    - Council mandated by Alberta Education and requires Operating Procedures. ASCA provides a template for the procedures, Gacynth modified the school name and the number of meetings to be held in the year. ASCA suggests 7, which was modified to 4 meetings. These Operating Procedures are not bylaws.
    - Motion to approve Operating Procedures

- Will table motion until the next meeting when the procedures have been read and reviewed by the School Council.
- Parent Engagement Ideas
  - \$500 grant received - will select an engagement topic.
  - Desire is to select a topic that parents will want to come to.
  - Allene would prefer a virtual option.
- Committee Reports
  - Staff Appreciation,
    - December breakfast buffet, specialty coffee, online gifting
  - Grade 12 Grad,
    - Finalizing the bookings. Hall has been booked.
  - CCS Love our Neighbor,
    - 25 kids are involved in volunteering in our neighborhood.
    - Focusing on grade 9.
  - Celebrating Cultural Diversity Parent Team

### **Celebrating Cultural Diversity Parent Team**

#### **Meeting Highlights - January 22, 2024**

1. **Celebrating Cultural Diversity Night:** Scheduled for either Mar 5 or 12, from 7:30 - 9pm, for parents and students in Grade 7 and above.
  2. **Culturally Diverse Team Executive:** Is forming to set meeting agendas.
  3. **Name Change:** The team is now known as the **Celebrating Cultural Diversity Parent Team.**
  4. **Prayer of Lament:** For incidents of harm occurring at CCS, and for wisdom for our school Principals who are leading in restoration. Prayer for our community as we support school leadership.
  5. **Vetting Process:** A vetting process for new members is currently being piloted.
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    - 10 members
6. Future Agenda Suggestions
- Let the School Council know of suggestions of agenda items.
  - We want more parents to be engaged.

7. Adjournment

- At 7:57pm by Allene

Next meeting is April 18, 2024 at 6:30 pm