



GPMS School Council
Monday, Nov. 16, 2020
7:00pm, Zoom Invite

In Attendance: Annae Jones, Catherine Thorsen (Vice Principal), Jody ___, Brie Schindel, Arlene Anderson, Clark Bosch (Trustee Rep), Nadine Bosma, Darryl Christiansen (Principal), Matt Brunner (Grade 7 Admin), Rachelle Ririe, Allison Purcell, Jocelyn Smith, Evelyn Murakami, Kensworth Morris, Aubree Jubber, Jen Carey, Annette Seamans, Trevor Butler, Jamie Walburger,

CHAIR – Annae Jones
VICE-CHAIR – Joni Heggie
TREASURER – Arlene Anderson
SECRETARY – Vicki Hazelwood
DSC REP – Jamie Walburger

- 1. Welcome and Introductions – Annae Jones**
- 2. Approval of the Agenda – Annette Seamans**
- 3. Approval of Oct. 2020 Minutes – Jocelyn Smith**
- 4. Financial Statement – Arlene Anderson**
 - **Our current balance as of Oct.31st is \$1,239.84**

5. ADMINISTRATION Reports

Darryl Christiansen (Principal – Grade 8 Administrator)

- a. Annual plans – We just completed the annual plans and will be reviewing them with the Division. Division focus: Goals, Innovation and Inclusion. As a school goal we are looking at how do we ensure success for staff and students in the pandemic. These plans will be on GP website next week.
- b. School Council Tim's Cards – Thank you to Parent Council for the Tim cards and encouragement.
- c. Remembrance Day assembly – Thank you to M. Proulx and M. Levitt and their team that helped to organize this assembly. A number of classes were involved in the presentations. It was well received in the classrooms.
- d. Pivot Point update – We did not have a lot of change. 5-6 students moved to at home learning and 5-6 students moved to in school learning so there weren't changes to class sizes at this last pivot point.
- e. COVID quarantine procedures – Since our last Council meeting, we had a few COVID cases in school. We had two grade 6 and one gr 8 classes out in quarantine plus seven school staff. AHS contacts Gilbert Paterson. AHS asks us to send out a letter by email to all parents letting them know there is a case in the school. We follow all AHS protocols. Most students were able to move to online learning for the quarantine period.
- f. Pandemic Plan Update – Our school board in consultation with the administration decided that the Pandemic Plan will stand as is and be reviewed in January.

Clark Bosch: If you are wondering what these decisions are based on we have a document on the Division website that outlines our considerations.

Matt Brunner (Vice Principal – Grade 7 Administrator)

- a. PowerSchool reporting and learning feedback
We no longer do a summative report card. We are doing a cumulative reporting. Teachers are requested to enter in a certain number of comments per term for parents. The grades are stored at the end of term Nov. 30th. Comments will remain there all year.
- b. Bussing update – Southland Transport is starting to do their succession plan and taking over some of the school roots. Southland Transport isn't going to be changing the roots but will be changing the drivers and buses. The Division is very excited about this new partnership. Roots will be reviewed after this school year.
Clark Bosch: We had some concerns going to a private provider however it looks like at this point if you qualify for busing you would not have additional fees. The City would like us to do the transition as quickly as possible.
There will be some turn over with bus drivers. Some will be staying. Some will retire or move on. Southland has put out a hiring notice needing 90 new drivers.
- c. Winter weather changes – boot rooms, lunch – We've made makeshift boot rooms for the kids. We are doing our best to get the kids outside as much as we can. We keep reminding kids to wear their winter clothing because they will be going outside.

Catherine Thorsen (Vice Principal – Grade 6 Administrator)

- a. GPMS Angel Tree and Food Drive – 28th Year of the Angel Tree. Looking to provide new toys for 2,600 children in the city (0-18 years). More information will be on website soon.
Our Wellness Team is doing a Food Drive for one family at each grade level. Nov. 30th – Dec. 8th classes will have opportunity to bring food donations in.
- b. Holiday Christmas Tree Project – Our Christmas tree challenge – Every class will be provided a tree and they will make all the decorations. The trees will be donated to organizations. Donations will be accepted for the supplies and charities that the children choose for their trees. We will have almost 30 trees to give away. If you have suggestions of where the trees could be given please contact Catherine.
- c. French Immersion update – Continuing to work on French oral skills. Online learners are having one hour of French online. We are getting ready for our carnival festival for online and in school learners.
- d. Student Supports – Our counselling team is offering universal services in class and on Zoom. We are noticing an increased number of families needing financial support for rent, food, and other needs. We are receiving quite a few lunches from the Lethbridge Food Bank. We are noting that we are running all kinds of adaptive learning programming for our students right now in literacy and numeracy.

Administration – Feedback or Questions?

6. District School Council Report – Jamie

Education session “Lethbridge School Division & Covid-19” on YouTube

(<https://youtu.be/URx78s-zsbo>)

Supporting document Covid-19 Decision-making and Protocols

<https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/download/310293>

Future **parent/public education sessions** (held at 6:30 the half hour prior to the DSC meeting, usually the first Monday of the month) have been set and will be sent out (as well as a listing of past session topics). December 7th is mental health.

Some discussion was had between the Oct and Nov meetings about allowing volunteers in the schools, and whether fundraising efforts were needed or would continue, and if so, how they would be modified. The division has said there could be some degree of flexibility ie. distributing products when students are not in the school, and should be arranged on individual basis at school level with administrators. Any food has to be pre-packaged and sealed (nothing homemade). Many schools are not fundraising with limited happenings in the schools.

Board’s annual organizational meeting end of October, elections held. Christine Light is Chair, Tyler Demers is Vice Chair.

Go to the division website (lethsd.ab.ca)> **Board > Board Meetings > 2020-21 Board Meeting Agendas, Minutes, & Highlights** to find:

- trustee’s reports to the board
- some information about the new southside elementary school (Robert Plaxton Elementary, principal Erin Harkett named, on schedule for Sept 2021 opening)
- info about new bussing provider (Southland), routes, and implementation
- school resource officer programming and public forum response to a concern; plans to review parent concerns about visible minorities
- inclusion and wellness
- public forum response to parents requesting continuation of extracurriculars
- division school, employee, and student highlights
- board priorities report and upcoming events
- updates on boundary reviews
- policies up for review

Policy Advisory Committee will meet on the 18th at 12:30. If you have feedback on the policies (sent through school council updates), send it to me on the 17th.

jamie_walburger@hotmail.com

Next board meeting is the 24th at 3:30 at the Education Center. *Public forum always available to you at 5:00 during every regular board meeting.*

Send any concerns, comments, or highlights about our school to me and I can present to DSC at next meeting.

Please sign up for updates. School website > Menu > Parents > School Council > Subscribe for updates button.

7. Other

- 8. Next meeting dates** –Dec – no meeting, Jan. 25, Feb. 2 (District Town Hall tentative), March 15, April 19, May 17

Meeting Adjourned: 8:18PM – Arlene Anderson

Tiger Society Meeting to follow for those interested



Gilbert Paterson Tiger Society Meeting

November 16, 2020

Attendance: Catherine Thorsen, Vicki Hazelwood, Annae Jones, Jamie Walburger, Arlene Anderson, Jody, Matt Brunner, Darryl Christiansen, Rachelle Ririe, Allison Purcell, Jocelyn Smith, Nadine Bosma, Nigel L, Evelyn Murakami,

1. **Welcome:** Annae Jones
2. **Approval/Additions to the agenda:** Approved Allison
3. **Approve new members/membership fees if any:** Annae Jones (new member fee is \$1 and is approved by the board.) TABLED
4. **Treasurer's Report:** Arlene Anderson – Our balance at the end of June 2020 was \$10,913. We had a refund from playground basketball nets. We are looking at saving this as seed money in case we need a future matching grant. There are no pressing needs at this time.
5. **Questions/New Business:**
 - a. Table/benches plaques – These are in the process of being done. Becky from last year was working on this.

- b. Tiger Society volunteer audit – The financial statements are done. We need two parents who are not on the Executive to look over the statements so they can be signed off. This can be done virtually.

Volunteers: Annette Seemans, Jocelyn Smith

- 6. Fundraising:** We decided to not do the fall fundraiser due to additional stress and uncertainty of finances for families. We could talk with staff in the New Year and see if there are needs for a fundraiser and what ideas are out there.

- If staff or parents want to look into grant opportunities that is a possibility.
- Suggestions from parent that if we do not need to fundraise, we leave it be at this time unless there is a real need for it.

- 7. Adjournment – 8:32 PM – Annette Seemans**

- 8. Next Meeting:** January 25, 2020

Items for January:

CALENDAR – please see the website for updates and more information

November

- 16 – School Council 7PM - Zoom
- 19 – Rock Your Mocs Day
- 19 – Rock Your Mocs
- 23-27 – GPMS Food Drive
- 30 – Parents to check Term 1 grades and reporting

December (watch for other dates / activities in December)

- 1 – Term 2 grades begin
- 11 – Red and Green Day
- 16 – Christmas Sweater Day
- 18 – PJ Day and last morning

Holiday Break – Dec. 19 – Jan. 3, classes resume Monday Jan. 4