

GPMS School Council Minutes
Monday, Nov. 15, 2021 - 6:30 PM

2021-22 GPMS School Council Executive

Chair: Carrie Boschman

Vice-Chair: Jennifer Gordon

Treasurer: Arlene Anderson (trainee Jen Gordon)

Secretary: Vicki Hazelwood (trainee Jenn Prosser)

DSC Rep: Jamie Walburger, alternate Carrie Boschman

Attendance: Darryl Christiansen, Lindsey Hagen, Annette Siemens, Arlene Anderson, Brie Schindel, Carrie Boschman, Catherine Thorsen, Jen Gordon, Jen S., Jenn Prosser, Jocelyn Smith, Jamie Walburger, Matt Bruner

1. Land Acknowledgement, Welcome and Introductions – Darryl and Carrie
2. Additions to the agenda
3. Approval of the Agenda
 - a. Approved by Jen Gordon
 - b. Seconded by Arlene Anderson
4. Approval of October 2021 Minutes
 - a. Approved by Jen Gordon
 - b. Seconded by Jocelyn Smith
5. Financial Statement – Arlene Anderson
 - a. Current balance \$1174.77
6. ADMINISTRATION Reports
 - a. Principal's report – Darryl Christiansen (Principal – Grade 8 Administrator)
 - i. Other schools are continuing with Zoom meeting for November. In-person meetings may be considered for January.
 - ii. Remembrance Day assembly thank you – Remembrance Day assembly was held virtually on November 10th with student involvement and special guest from the Canadian Military.
 - iii. Nov. 9th Social Media presentation – November 9th Social Media presentation with Ted Emmett. He did a student presentation in the morning and a parent presentation in the evening. He encourages use of the acronym THINK (Is it true, honest, illegal,

negative, kind) prior to posting anything online. The recording for the parent presentation will be shared

- iv. CoVid Notification procedures – Covid notification procedures – two cases in 2 days recently which prompted letters home to entire school population and all school cohorts impacted. No action taken unless more than 3 positive cases within one cohort.
 - v. Fine Arts / athletics update –
 - 1. Fine arts – winter concerts December 14th for choir and December 16th for band. Building capacity and current Covid protocols are being used to determine attendance. Information will be shared in the next week.
 - 2. Athletics – volleyball season just finished and rec boys won the championship! Girl's team lost in the semi-finals. Basketball camps have begun and try-outs happen later in the week. Information sent home by email already.
- b. Matt Brunner (Acting Vice Principal – Grade 7 Administrator)
- i. Term 1 completion, Term 2 options – Term 2 starts November 29th. Administrators check on marks upon completion of term 1 and the storing of grades happens December 3rd. This allows admin to generate honour role.
 - ii. Term 2 options – options are tight with student numbers, but parents can email administrator and Matt will look into whether a change is possible. This does have to be initiated by parents. Every attempt is made to accommodate change requests.
 - iii. Middle School Reporting – email will be upcoming re: what on-going/continuous reporting means for students. There is not a summative end of term comment because this should be done on a regular basis, on at least 3 of the assignments throughout the term.
- c. Catherine Thorsen (Vice Principal – Grade 6 Administrator)
- i. Enrolment and new students and families – 75 – 80 new students since the start of the school year (2-3 students on average).
 - ii. Assurance Plan Review/ Update - Staff Inquiry-Based Learning
 - iii. Student Learning Supports - Numeracy / Literacy – Language Arts and Social Studies teachers are looking at how they can bring love back to reading and spark perseverance and confidence. Looking at community experience of readers, read-alouds, Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) program. Supporting student writing is another area of focus to help students learn to start or initiative the writing

process. Numeracy -teachers are looking at inspiring students to build confidence in numeracy and rich thinking tasks.

- iv. Wellness, Counselling Team information – Newcomers Lunch Club will begin tomorrow November 16th and will continue every Tuesday. Angel Tree and Food Drive – see website for information for how to sign-up for Angel Tree

7. District School Council Report – Jamie Walburger

- Received a grant from Alberta Ed to use toward school council presentation. If there are things the school council is interested in learning, we can access presentations on specific issues. Topics that can be covered is information on bylaws, fundraising, and other board development. Send any ideas for presentation to the school council chair.
- Allison Purcell is the new chair of the school board, and Christine Light is the new vice-Chair of the school council. Tyler Demers is the new GP liaison.
- LSD51 board meetings have changed to put any incamera meetings at the top of the meeting and the rest of the meeting will then be in public. The public meeting will begin at 3:30pm - will be live streamed and can be attended in person. The public forum portion of board meetings will start at 5pm (no change).
- Board is concerned about gaps regarding access to resources for mental health and have begun planning and discussion on advocating for more resources.
- Previous board started an engagement portal - this is now named “public engagement” and there is a micro-link on the LSD51 site and there is a way to sign up for direct updates from the school board. Link: <https://lethsdpublicengagement.schoolsites.ca/sign-in-for-updates>
- The board is reviewing how to make surveys anonymous - there has been feedback that the need to put a name on the surveys felt uncomfortable for some parents.
- Community Engagement committee: a way to engage with the board as a community member and can help direct public engagement from the board. These meetings are held the 1st Monday of every month, 6:30pm.
- Parent learning sessions are available at 6pm prior to the District school council meeting on the 1st Monday of the month.
- Alberta Ed has set Diploma marks to be set at 10 per cent for 2021-2022 school year.
- Parent learning session in December will be in 2 sections: Div 1 and Div 2.

8. Other

Staff appreciation lunch planned by school council:

- Considering planning a staff appreciation fund or event in December.
- Arlene will get in touch with Vicky about planning.
- Brie: Lakeview Bakery has been used in the past, excellent food / cost

9. Motion to close meeting: Carrie Boschman

Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.

Next meeting dates – Jan. 17, February (Division Town Hall tentative), March 21, April 25, May 16