

GPMS School Council Minutes
Monday, Oct. 16, 2023
6:30 PM – Learning Commons



1. **Attendees:** Jennifer Gordon, Evelyn Murakami, Catherine Ball, Brie Schindel, Paige Olson, April Matisz, Pierre Legal, Morgan Day, Catherine Thorsen, Caylee Low, Claudia Limon, Saara Terry, Jinye Meng, Jocelyn Smith, Nola Haynes
 2. **Welcome and Introductions – Caylee Low**
 3. **Approval of the Agenda**-moved-Evelyn Murakami, second-Paige Olson
 4. **Approval of September 2023 Minutes**-moved-Jennifer Gordon, second-Nola Haynes
 5. **Cason Machacek – digital wellness**-comprehensive lesson teaching and parent support, ensure wellness and safety is present in the digital space. Digital wellness looks different for different people. For student well-being: maintain a safe, healthy balance in use of technology. How technology affects the rest of our day. Since the advent of social media, mental health concerns are increasing. Cason is able to come in and teach alongside teachers or teach lessons—has spent time teaching in Grade 6 at Paterson. Educates around digital thriving. Teaches 8 concepts about using technology and boundaries around technology. Wednesday, November 15, 7-8pm: The Truth about Youth, panel discussion including members of LPS, AHS, psychology, parents, administrators. Will be a recording available. Pamphlet will be developed. QR code to submit questions. Is there accountability for teachers about the amount of screen time in school? Digital Detours: monthly newsletter.
 6. **Financial Statement – Jennifer Gordon**-3131 in the bank, will pay for the Save our Kids presentation
 7. **ASCA – Caylee Low**-as a school council, we can have a membership for ASCA website, information on how to complete roles, division will pay for membership (\$100 per council). The chair gets the password and can set up other accounts. Will be brought up again at the next division council meeting. We will maintain our membership.
 8. **Teacher Appreciation – Caylee Low**-luncheon in December and in May. Parents sign up or can send money on school cash. December 6, 2023. Jennifer Gordon will send information and sign up sheet.
- 9. ADMINISTRATION Reports**
- Morgan Day (Principal – Grade 8 Administrator)**
- a. Administration staffing update-50 walk ins August-September. Looked at best way to support kids. Hired another teacher in Grade 6, hired Lauren Blinkhorn, English. October 16 was her first day. Will develop new pattern on October 30. This way parents will be able to meet with current teachers for interviews but also meet new teacher. Have hired new caretaking staff. ~12 new staff from last year. Revisiting the most important words. Empathy, connection, resiliency. Social media connection—how do we connect, how do we promote resiliency. Becky Hudson has moved to Calgary, have hired Amy Brizali in Grade 6.

- b. Wellness-adding more supports for teachers if they need additional support, added Connection Café, time for teachers to be together and connect, support coaches and athletes.
- c. Bike Rack-bike racks have moved to be behind a locked area. Feedback that a student felt more comfortable riding their bike.
- d. Budget-modified- Will present a budget and assurance plan in November.
- e. Andrea Andrechuk will be at next meeting

Pierre Legal (Vice Principal – Grade 7 Administrator)

- a. Athletics Update-teams did well in X-country, 90 kids participated, won all six divisions, 40 kids participate in zones, 31 families show up, anyone who needed a ride got a ride. Tiger classic volleyball tournament was this past weekend. Boys and girls teams won the tournament. Volleyball Zones are next and then city playoffs. Basketball starts early November.
- b. Leadership Update-school dance on Friday. Leadership classes are planning dance, some community involvement in school and outside of school.

Catherine Thorsen (Vice Principal – Grade 6 Administrator)

- a. ISPs and student supports-need more tech for supports for translation, one dedicated iPad cart, need support for readers and scribes (using laptops and iPads), technology is being used for support for readers and scribes in school. ISPs will be discussed during parent teacher interviews. ISPs are updated regularly. Have targeted ESL groups. Looking at grants for iPads, will take donations for iPads.
- b. French Immersion update – Voyage Quebec—May 30-June 6—Grade 8 going to Quebec.
- c. Period awareness-supplies will be going into washrooms, coming out shortly.

Administration – Feedback or Questions?

- 10. District School Council Report – April Matisz**-Digital wellness, nutritional wellness grant can be applied for, elections for executive, committees that folks can join, discussion about flow of information in school councils, people aren't aware of where the best place to have their voices heard, community conversations—trustees available, location changes, available on website, discussion about ASCA, Mike Nightingale discussed class sizes, shortfall is about \$3 million, \$187,000 given.

[429125 \(lethsd.ab.ca\)](http://429125.lethsd.ab.ca)

Digital Wellness Education-Christie Schipper—parent presentation and youth presentation. Christie Schipper presented to students at GS Lakie on October 6th and will also be sitting on the November 15th Digital Wellness panel for parents. She has content appropriate for both student and parent audiences.

Topics covered in the student presentation:

- My vision of a healthy relationship with electronics for kids/teens
- 3-minute neuroscience degree/brain lesson
- The science of addiction and how it applies to electronics and social media.
- facts on electronics and how they affect our brains.
- safety recommendations
- How to get started with change.
- 3 simple rules...
- pop quizzes throughout with prizes
- discussion panel

If she spoke to parents, there would be more content on explicit/inappropriate content on the internet.

11.

12. Learning Commons Facilitator, needs helpers for book fair-October 23-27 Scholastic Book Fair, parent volunteers on October 26-2 volunteers 3-5:30, 5:30-8, will be in Paterson Press as well, families to connect with Sarah.

13. Other

14. Next Meeting Dates – Nov. 20, Jan. 15, Feb. Town Hall TBD, March 18, April 15, May 27

Meeting Adjourned-8:01pm

Tiger Society Minutes

Call to Order: 8:02 pm

- 1. Apple fundraiser-apple fundraiser, short turn around times, made \$322.44, very easy. Will be grapefruit and oranges in January. Took awhile for Division to pay for the fruit. Next time—consider timing, may pay out of society.**
- 2. Panago fundraiser-panago north will do fundraisers, consider for February, admin will let Caylee know the date.**
- 3. Financial statement—exactly the same, \$10,000**

Adjourn-8:11