



**GPMS School Council
Monday May 27, 2024
6:30pm, Learning Commons**



1. Attendance: Jennifer Gordon, Catherine Ball, Morgan Day, Pierre Legal, Catherine Thorsen, Caylee Low, April Matisz, Andrea Andreachuk, Rochelle Ririe, Evelyn Murakami
2. **Approval of the Agenda-Jennifer Gordon, Rochelle Ririe-second**
3. **Approval of the April 15, 2024 minutes. Jennifer Gordon approve, Caylee Low, second**
4. **Financial Statement – Jennifer Gordon: 2543.47 in bank, 2500.28 in school account, fundraising money will be moved to society over the summer**
5. **ADMINISTRATION Reports**

a. Morgan Day

- i. **Staffing update**-hiring for fall, two positions added for growth, four positions due to retirements/resignations: have re-hired three teachers into probationary contracts, hired two new teachers (one for grade 6 and grade 8). Hiring one additional grade 6 FI teacher for growth. Hiring an additional front office, 4 0.5 positions EA, will have 9.5 EAs in the fall. Had over two hundred applicants for 5 positions.
- ii. **Grade 8 Farewell**-Mrs. McFadzen will be the grade 8 farewell speaker, will be at the college on June 24 at 1pm in the gym. Every student will get two tickets, 2 dollars for additional tickets. 10 food trucks out in front of the building, plan for rain. Thank you very much to the college for all they're doing to help with the farewell.
- iii. **Assurance Plan**-goals: inclusion, well-being, learning, respect, and leadership. Please review assurance plan and email Morgan with any suggestions/comments/typos. Morgan.day@lethsd.ab.ca. at the end of the document is a plan for reserves and reserves will be focused on technology
- iv. **Thank you 2023-24 Executive**-thank you to school council members, appreciate feedback
- v. **Question about old laptops**-will hold on to as many as possible to use in the school

b. Pierre Legal

- i. Athletics-badminton is wrapped up, school did very well at zones, several teams medaled, Lethbridge school division did very well at zones, Fairbairn took the aggregate, May 22 was track, over 300 students, lots of students helped, lots of parents attended, team at LSAA on May 29 at UofL, will send a team to zones on June 4, zones will be in Lethbridge. Thank you so much Pierre for doing such a fantastic job.

c. Catherine Thorsen

- i. End of year activities-indigenous awards this year on May 30, will be a tipi set up in front of the school, grade 8 leave on Friday for Voyage Quebec, choir provincials in Edmonton, lots of field trips coming up. Kona Ice will

be coming for a few days: June 4-Grade 6, June 11-Grade 7, June 12-Grade 8. Feeder school visits happening “be a grade 6er for a day”, grade 6 leadership went to St. Mike’s care home, June 17-Henderson Pool for Grade 6/7, June 19-Grade 8 to Calaway park. June 21 is the last day for Grade 6

- ii. PATs-FI PAT, Science and Social Studies, using technology and tests will be written on-line, 6 teachers are piloting, can access PAT results as parents, they are not counted as part of the
- iii. School council books-Smart and Scattered teens, The Body keeps the score, uniquely human, the irreducible needs of children, the deepest well. Were purchased and accessible in the learning commons. Can put books out for meet the teacher, parent teacher interviews

Questions? Feedback?

6. Trustees Report – Andrea Andreachuk

- a. Board meeting tomorrow night
- b. Christine Lee reported on elementary school in Garry Station
- c. Open house around boundaries for elementary schools, feedback will be published
- d. Budget was just passed, budgeted on weighted moving average which leaves our division \$3 million short
- e. May 6-11 was OHS week
- f. E-sports games were very well attended, games are vetted, students have to keep their grades up, tech team did a fantastic job
- g. Lethbridge Astronomy society has purchased a dome that can go to schools
- h. August 17-first ride at St. Martha’s School
- i. West side study in progress to determine where schools will be needed
- j. Instructional services-EAL continue to go up, learning about where newcomers are coming from and how to best support them
- k. Collaborative communities and staff wellness very important to division
- l. Discussed about the amount of testing required for Boost funding-grade 1 teacher would need to do 11 tests to qualify
- m. LCI-rugby team going to New Zealand-approved
- n. Chinook is going to Iceland-approved
- o. Park Meadows-nutrition breaks, indigenous ways of knowing,
- p. Churchill-Mean girls play 100 students involved
- q. Five students accepted into high school right out of high school, one in Ireland, UK, Scotland-all former Paterson students!
- r. Education week-apples to the schools
- s. May 6-ICE scholarships
- t. Calendar: Winter/Christmas break, February break, Spring/Easter break, and a non-instructional day for Truth and Reconciliation
- u. 4 teachers were nominated by the ATA including Janelle Heth
- v. Rock band concert was in honour of Jax McNight-Hogan, Jam for Jax June 8.
- w. Arts Alive: May 11-June 15

- x. Community Conversation-May 15
- 7. District School Council Report – April Matisz**
- a. Parent learning: Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression from Mike Nightengale, was an excellent discussion
 - b. Discussion about school council funds-other schools are also experiencing fundraising delays with getting money
 - c. Minutes are all on website and the order has been changed
 - d. ASCA-very long meeting, concerns about Bill 20
 - e. Discussion about staff and budget
 - f. Can submit ideas for parent learning suggestions
- 8. Teacher Appreciation – June 12th- Jennifer Gordon**
- a. Moved to June 12, will send out google doc next week, add school cash donation option, will do gift cards with any cash
- 9. Art in Schools-April Matisz**
- a. Program of study-curriculum
 - b. Grade 1-6 it is mandatory but middle school it's an option
 - c. Students haven't been able to get into art classes
 - d. Curriculum is from 1986 and is quite good
 - e. Teachers feel unsure about teaching art
 - f. April has spoken with Director of Learning and discussed working groups to help support teachers
 - g. Seems to be more demand for arts than seats
 - h. No art specialist teacher at GPMS
 - i. April feels like there would be benefit to having an art specialist in a middle school
 - j. Did not post an art specialist teacher in an effort to keep home room class sizes smaller than 35. Will offer 6 blocks of art for grade 6 next year. Over 150 students interested in art, foods, construction, sewing.
 - k. Encourage teachers and principals to look at curriculum and program of studies
 - l. Arts Alive and Well-may be a place to connect for students and teachers
 - m. April would be happy to volunteer to help support students to get their work in the show
- 10. Math Nav Maps-Catherine Ball**
- a. Navigation maps are used in a variety of classrooms and they seem to be really encouraging students to put effort in and feel confident about their math skills
 - b. Are used in grades K-8 in a variety of classes but are not mandated
- 11. PATs-Rochelle Ririe**
- a. Discussion about whether not making PATs part of grades leads kids to not give as much effort
 - b. Evidence does not seem to bear that out
- 12. Adjournment: 8:06pm**

Upcoming Meeting Dates: September 2024

Tiger Society-May 27, 2024 Minutes

Attendees: Jennifer Gordon, Catherine Ball, Caylee Low, April Matisz, Rochelle Ririe.

Welcome-807

1. Approve-Jennifer Gordon, Rochelle Ririe
2. Financial report- currently \$10733.34 in bank
3. Request for field trip funds-all students have opportunity to go on field trips, natural leaders, Lethbridge college, bus costs have increased substantially, approaching society to ask for \$1000 per grade for field trips costs
4. Jennifer Gordon motioned-spend \$3000, \$1000 per grade for field trips. Catherine Ball-second. Carried.
5. Adjournment-815