



Cochrane Christian Academy

School Council Meeting

November 23, 2017 7:00pm

CCA Learning Commons

Agenda

A. Call to Order: Ellen Covey at 7:05pm

B. Opening Prayer: Allan Elkin

C. Introductions. Round Table.

D. Review Council Purpose and School Mission. As suggested to review more often via Rachelle. Written on the bottom of this agenda. Very important to guide us.

E. Approval of Agenda: Abby Blough moves, Dustin Doyle seconds

F. Approval of Minutes Oct 26, 17: Dustin Doyle moves, Sky Spidla seconds

G. Committee Reports:

a) Student Leadership Report (5 mins)

3 of 9 leadership executive students present. Many students have wanted to be on leadership over the years. From several larger leadership groups we have made a smaller executive leadership group. First meeting was today. They came to speak to council and answer questions and explain what it's about.

Sophia Grade 8; a part of 2 different leadership crews 1) Kindness ninjas (hot chocolate CCA students coming with Mr. Jansen) 2) E crew.

Olivia in 1) decor crew 2) E crew. E crew doing a lip sync battle in February, Mitford will be asked to watch.

Hannah in Decor crew, Planning Christmas decorations is upcoming.

Q: Please share why you wanted to join. Hannah: Want to help and decorate. Also help Mitford to know Christ. Olivia enjoys leadership and wants to expand our schools ideas to others. Sophia: Enjoys working with the crews to plan events for students. Share ideas to help improve the culture of the school.

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Very neat vibe, many teachers are involved with helping these students. Leadership executive representatives will be back to join us a few times this year.

Q: What do you like most about CCA: Olivia: How it teaches us about God and chapel. Hannah: Christian school and get to know Jesus. Sophia: Welcoming it was and warm and friendly it was to new students and with the bible.

Q: Are you making crafts? Lindsay Stickle (who is one of the CCA staff who is a part of this leadership executive); we made the crosses and the poppies as well as all the post it notes for Remembrance Day. Now we are just starting to brainstorm for Christmas.

Q: Do you have enough supplies? Lindsay: We don't have a full plan yet, so we won't know until after brainstorming. Lindsay will send out an email with wants/needs in the future.

b) Administration Report: Allan Elkin and Rachelle Prud'Homme (7 mins)

Survey Results: Did you know for our Parent Monthly Feedback. 30 parents participated. This was sent out through email. Creating a new expectation around focusing on being a culture first school. Keep connecting with emails and newsletters. We will start showcasing students and staff and making the newsletter reflect people and who we are.

Remembrance Day assembly. Our goal this year is to SHOW what we do here at school so that it's more visible to our parents and community. If you have ideas please pass them onto admin staff. Admin and the faculty staff believe we are so strong when we work together. You will see more surveys to help dig a little deeper to lead the school.

Coffee Connections this Friday from 8:15-9:15 Learning commons

Report Cards are in Full swing coming December 8th. Parent portal 9% login in September, we are now up to 52%. We would like to aim for 75% or more by year end. Use to be called Grade Book it is now called Power Teacher Pro. Similar program, it integrates with Power School. Teachers still learning the new system. Portal is always closed during pre-report card time for teachers to enter info.

Annual Skating Party last Wednesday December 20th at Spray Lakes. No siblings but parents welcome to come and join in.

CCA Christmas Evening. Thursday December 14th 6-7:30. Goal is to make connections. Staff is excited. There will be a collective time in the beginning for all families to be together. There will be then centres that will be put together outside of the gym.

Q: Did the transition to Fireside school go well? A: Yes, it went well. Fireside had one weekend to move everything. It worked! The teachers did a great job.

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c) Rocky View School Board Trustee Report: Fiona Gilbert, Trustee (5 min)

The new Board of Trustees has been quite busy since the election in October and has spent time participating in Board Orientation workshops and professional learning. There is lots to learn and a new team to build with 5 of 8 trustees being new to the role.

The Board Organizational meeting was held on Thu Nov 2 where Airdrie Trustee Todd Brand was elected to the role of Chair of the Board, and Cochrane Trustee Fiona Gilbert elected as Vice-Chair.

The provincial government has recently introduced 2 pieces of legislation that will have an impact on schools and education in Alberta:

Bill 24 - An Act to Protect Gay Straight Alliances looks to close some identified gaps in the existing legislation in order to provide clarity to school authorities, students, and school communities and will have limited impact on current policies, procedures and practices within RVS.

Bill 28 - School Act Amendments, proposes several changes to the current School Act:

establishing a common age of entry for kindergarten,

adds standards for Educational Service Agreements between boards and Indigenous communities for “off-reserve” education

new eligibility criteria for transportation service

new certification requirements for school leaders

requirement for Boards to have a Trustee Code of Conduct

More details will be forth coming as government releases the corresponding regulations that go with each of these amendments. Also look for opportunity to provide feedback on these changes as government looks to gather feedback

November 16th Board meeting saw the Board approve the spending of about \$12M from Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal Funding and Cash-in-Lieu monies over the next couple of years on infrastructure for some of our aging schools — Elbow Valley and George Mac will see some modernizations while Indus and Westbrook Schools will be rebuilt, subject to ministerial approval.

The Joint Board School Council meeting was held on November 16th and was a good opportunity to network with other councils across the division and provide feedback to the Board on decision making and communication on how your child is doing.

All Trustees were in Edmonton from Nov 19-21 attending the Alberta School Boards Association Annual General Meeting and Conference. Good opportunity to connect with school boards across the Province as well as MLAs and AB Education staff.

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Q: Is there a max age for K entry. A: the same rule is for Grade 1, so if they fit into the grade 1 then they fit into the K range. With the new age change coming in 2020 for K (& grade 1 admittance) the option to wait will still be open to parents.

Q: Is Westbrook's new school going to be larger? Currently Westbrook holds 140 students, it will be built to hold 180-200. The growth is not huge for that community so it should be sufficient. There will be an add on for portables if needed.

Q: Bus efficiency for Riversong & The Willows, why don't they join these bus routes. A: With Fireside moving it may now change once they reevaluate. There also may be students that have a paid seat but aren't riding the bus due to various reasons. Trying to find the efficiency and the service level and responsibilities of the parent vs school.

d) Chair Report: Ellen Covey

No questions or concerns have been voiced to chair. Still looking for a vice chair position. CCA Facebook group page has been created. It will be a private FB group for parent communication to start within the next week. Invite will start for council and added on for CCA parents from there.

H. Regular Business

a) Fridge/Food Program Update

Launch was very good. Information notice coming out Friday Nov 24th. Same message out to Mitford parents as well. 2 fridges. Still looking at how the school culture will respond to it. Trish and Liz are doing a great job with it. Making sure kids are never hungry. They are currently being locked off after lunch time for various reasons. Great community support and funding. Really is a great start. It was shared with the students in an assembly last Friday. It is already being used in a very positive way as expressed through Lindsay Stickle.

Parent concern: Grade 8 students saying "it's not cool to eat". Allan will bring this issue to our middle school faculty for monitoring.

b) Prayer group update

Beverly, schedule has changed. Tuesday mornings would be her time that she can commit. She has such a desire to support the school and our students in prayer.

I. New Business

Jennifer Darroch looking for more volunteers to help with Friends of CCA. Movie fundraiser coming up Ferdinand Dec 16th @ 10am. Family photos will be coming out. 15min session, Lisa Henry will be the photographer. Lisa is donating all of her time. All the photography money will go to the school. Dates and info coming soon. Possible Walk a thon in June for the kids. If we can raise enough money we could get an iPad cart, update our park. Please check out our Friends of CCA FB page.

Q: Possibility of adding the two meetings together. A: Council could possibly add another hour onto our meetings to help facilitate that.

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Cookie dough went great! It was a blessing to this school. Full info coming out.

Q: Teachers and their blogs, how do we link? A: Ask Mr. Shaw directly. Blog is showcasing what the kids are doing. There are some app conversions that are happening too. Trying to figure out what will sync and what won't. Rolling it out now and trying to get info back from RVSD what will be the most sustainable.

J. Adjournment: Ellen Covey 8:27

In attendance: Erin Nielsen, Fiona Gilbert, Allan Elkin, Ellen Covey, Beverly Walker, Jennifer Darroch, Dustin Doyle, Sky Spidla, Brandie Weatherbee, Lindsay Stickle, Abby Blough, Leadership students for Q&A portion: Olivia, Sophia & Hannah

Next Meeting Date: January 25, 2018

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