



April School Council Notes

Lakeview Elementary School Council

April 16, 2024

Learning Commons

Board Members: Chair, Candice Beattie; Vice Chair, Koralie Sugimoto; Secretary Lauren Granberg; Treasurer, Stacey Keraiff

Welcome and Land Acknowledgment – Candice

Introductions

In attendance: Connie Adserballe, Melanie McMurray, Lauren Granberg, Candice Beattie, Jen Carey, Manisha and Murali, Sam DeWall, Genny Steed

Review of Minutes – Candice

Approval of Minutes – passed

Approval/Additions to Agenda – Candice

Connie addition – request from staff for funding from parent council approval passed

Treasurer's Report – received from Karla – looks in good standing, lots of field trips and bussing going out

Bottom line just to let people know where we're at:

Category balance \$12,553.00 started at \$16,000

Does not have any of the second Kernel's Popcorn in it yet

Candice will touch base with Karla re. Updated Kernel's update and make sure we're in a good place for next year

Field trips coming up and depletion coming up – keeping an eye on our numbers and we will review again with more detail in May

Also, the Panago and Special Delivery have not all been loaded in and so looking as a healthy cushion to get us through

Administrative Report

Connie welcome to everybody – was at a wonderful conference in Banff with 1100 other educators from across the world, was able to connect with other admins and discuss challenges

Welcome to new families who are joining us and those who come often

Next school year – our bell schedule will remain the same and will be revisited with new boundary changes and the new bussing that will take effect in the fall

Alberta Ed funding – there's a longer time to implement the new bussing, 51 will do it in the fall and that information will go out to families

Is the space narrowing again for bussing? No this is the same that was announced last year, 1.0 km k-6 and 2.0 km 7-12

It will impact middle schools if same family students are in grade 6 and 8 for example The new bus stops will be determined by Southland, which is a contacting company with the new changes. There will be places without bussing that will now get bussing. That schedule usually comes out in August.

Complete the forms that are being sent out, and you can always choose to not use the new service.

For planning purposes it is really important to please register for next year – that information is vital for planning and staffing. Looking at what grades will look like, there will perhaps be a combine grade 1/ 2

This is based on the assumptions of students who are enrolled, though grade 1 can change with kindergarten roll-ins from out of zone and back to their community school

Bell times – staying the same, putting the start times of middle and elementary on hold – switching middle and elementary would make bussing more complicated, and the sharing with Holy Spirit

In planning for next year, as always Connie will send out a form asking for input in terms of what you would like to share about your child's learning needs. A reminder that we do not honour people requesting specific class requests – we look at lots of different factors, checking learning needs and strengths and we try to ensure kids are placed with friends and we believe that is a big part of children learning well. We learn well when we are comfortable. That isn't to say they won't meet and make new friends in the new classroom but it's reassuring to be with at least one or two friends. We really look and take it seriously to determine placements for your child.

Do you pass those onto middle school? Often grade 5 teachers are asked to help make class lists. Elementary and Middle School work together to make the transition most comfortable. If it's super important that the school needs to know though, connect directly with the school.

Family Numeracy Night – we have teamed up Churchill Math Club and three alum Lakeview that are returning to their school. They have worked very hard and are well organized, they are rolling out tons of math games in addition to hop scotch and other fun games. This Thursday with prizes and fun family games. They are taking the fear out of math, planning games with low entry and high ceiling. Some of the games will also challenge the adults. Goal is to have fun and gather

Running Club – starting next week. Deadline to sign up is this Friday at noon. Tuesday and Thursday until the end of May. They will meet out at the lamp post. Running around the red schale path. Once they are accustomed to it they will venture out into the community. Hoping for a big turn out and parents are invited to. They leave bags out by the path. Will be done running around 8:30 am. Students who attend BLAST can go as well – parents must communicate with the program directly.

Learning Commons – spent a lot of time cleaning the LC. Last week we had a break apart activity, three ed tech experts came for grade 4 and brought hard drives and mini screw drivers. The groups then could take apart the hard drive. Most students were very gingerly, and kept their pieces on a magnet. Most were successful but the invite to take apart something and put it together was so interesting. Though we think because students are young they are tech savvy but they were not. It was interesting, so many had not used a screw driver before, just having the opportunity to get in and take things apart. We've done the same with grade 3s with other technology that we have been collecting together – keyboards, answering machines, etc. Kids are so naturally curious and so giving them this opportunity was amazing

Collaborative process and how much farther they get – the groups are randomized. Rollercoaster activity, the language behind their conversations is invigorating. Viewing and experiencing the deep frustrating and innovative ways to overcome. Plank activity next – pathways where balls can roll. Fun but frustrating and kids will be working in partners. KIVA PLANKS

Collaborating together, designing and innovating. We've invited students back into here during their wellness time, and to continue the challenge – a lot of students are choosing to come back even though they already worked on it for 40 minutes. That invite to come back and continue to explore is a new addition that has been really exciting for students.

Microbots for grade 5

VR is on the stage, providing some challenges at the younger age groups. Lethbridge College is doing amazing things worldwide. The impact isn't as huge. Masking tape is worth a million dollars so it's interesting to watch them wanting to use their hands.

New shelving on wheels, quickly can move things around. \$5000.00 grant from Richard Chase Memorial Fund, will be putting new picture shelves on rollers. Key to being able to use LC is being able to clear the space so kids can get on the floor and we are on our way.

Feedback request – Report Card “What's Important to You?”

New curriculum and reporting with an old report card

Open discussion -

Outcomes based – this is what teachers are teaching based on curriculum

Not covering all outcomes in one unit of course – it is a year long

Right now it can be difficult

It is very general

Specifically wanting to know where children are struggling – data based, rubric based, but parents are wanting specific feedback with goals

Get and give feedback

Learning Celebration is challenging to have conversations about concerns

What are children learning? As parents we do not know what is being taught, the current report card is so general.

The links for outcomes is on the website for parents

Parents around the table like the outcome based report card

Figure out what 2s and 3s mean

Easier for parents to help when we know what's challenging, and putting the relationship between families and teachers into a partnership

Wanting more direction from teachers, strengths and goals

More specific what students needs to work on directly from curriculum

Really important we have a clear rubric or scale to communicate to parents

How successful are you in this school at having this accessed by parents?

Connie – pretty good access and report card printing when available

Report Cards can't be accessed from phones, and most people don't have printers to print off

3, 2, 1 can mean a different thing from kid to kid

The best feedback is face to face opportunities

If it was written in a comment would it be the same? It informs but it doesn't guide.

Parent teacher interviews are more powerful than Celebration of Learning

Teachers are available all the time, parents can reach out to set up any times if they have concerns – teachers also reaching out the other way to parents

Celebration of Learning – some come for interviews and some come for celebration – giving confidence through the celebration is purpose

Accessing report cards, next year Lakeview will have a checklist, have you accessed

PowerSchool, do you know how to print report card

Parents would like good communication – lack on consistency with teachers

communicating parents. Some teachers are updating quickly or weekly whereas others are maybe not as quick to communicate

Consistent communication – though different personalities communicate differently

Fine balance between over communicating and not enough information being sent home

Different from school to school

Advocacy for teachers to have professional time to call parents

Phone calls over e-mail?

If we gave teachers extra time for assessments and give them more time based on the budget, Here are all things, here is what is costs, the pie doesn't get bigger – what is going to work best for teachers. In terms of giving teachers more time, but the division can so

Genny Steed will take back and adjust the calendar accordingly. Elementary can't build it in, in the same way – collaborative time needs to be together

A report card sometimes feels too late, teachers feel empowered to reach out to parents. What is parents preferred level of communication? A culture of us helping our children, instant updates instead of waiting for report card. Wanting teachers to know parents are ready and willing during the day.

If you have a concern today, we contact parents today – directive from admin
Wanting feedback, and taking it seriously.

District School Council Representative

School Trustee Liaison, Genny Steed

Trustee with the board at the district office

Taking back some of these conversations back to the division level

The board priorities – the gov't outline of focus (domains) - areas where they want to see success. They want us to submit a plan for strategies of how we are going to achieve these strategies. We look at each of those domains as a board with superintendents at a high level what are our goals? We have sat down as a board and done strategic planning and from there where are we going to focus? Looking for input from school and parent councils

It is a fair amount of information to summarize but you can go onto the division website and you can look at the Assurance Plan

The board's goals and priorities – see what we developed for this current year and how can we adjust them for next year. E-mail Genny your thoughts, areas of improvements and adjustment. What we rely on heavily, the town hall event was really well attended – 300 people there and 1100 responses which help us shape and get a grasp on the environment and current concerns. Themes were assessment and achievement – how is it working and how communication of assessment working? Parents are partners in education, in the Education Act and to recognize the opportunity to collaborate with parents. Strong conversation about technology, and safety around technology. If anyone has any opportunity to look at those and respond to Genny via e-mail. Based on this information and priorities the board will set the budget. If there was extra money where would you put it? If you had to cut, where would it be? Summary of areas – staffing and classroom sizes, access to support.

Policies – working with consultant, 168 policies, looking to get down to about 30 = more accessible

Revisory committee, portal on website – these are the policies we are working on and the proposed amendments – send it out to all stakeholders

Right now up on the website, assessment of student achievement – should be on website until April 29th or May 1st

Look on there and give any feedback you can on that one

Anyone who is able to give us feedback on the last two, last month was really appreciated

Really easy to access

Opportunity for engagement there as well

Community conversations – every month the board offers an opportunity to meet, off of division property – the hope is that is accessible and easy to help gain understanding or ability to voice anything. Sometimes meetings with other parents. This month is at Petals and Paws > 22nd from 6-7 p.m.

Moves around every month and everyone is welcome

Division School Council is the first Monday of every month – parent learning session 630-7 – topic is by request – this month – Understanding of The Anti Racist and Anti Oppression that was passed last year. Mike (Superintendent) is hosting it. The policy advisory committee is trying to have three parents instead of one, the intention is to have a better grasp of stakeholder feedback. Developing a system where that feels as a representative has had an opportunity to hear from each of the schools for the level that they represent. Can bring it back to the CHAIR of parent council – she would touch base with chair and then bring it back to the parent council

Genny's e-mail address genny.steed@lethsd.ab.ca

Old Business

1. ASCE Grant

Going to use towards Literacy Night – can't be used to purchase prizes – the school council just gave them the money. Has to be used for professional learning for the parent group. Purchasing books that parents might be interested in borrowing as well. Will continue discussion next month

New Business

1. Priorities at Lakeview

Will do something more and revisit next month – much like what Genny already shared – Assurance Plan. Ours is due by the end of May and will be posted on the website, used throughout year and informs budget. The priorities, soft start, building a culture of thinking, and Connie will share draft
E-mail form to gain more feedback

Announcements/Questions

Funds – repeatedly come up with staff – recess equipment for kids. Teachers are asking for money for that, \$100 per class (\$1600.00)

We talked about reaching out to businesses

Improves quality for kids outside – has a short life. Playground balls, what would kids want outside?

How much is being asked? No amount as of yet

If a funder comes forward, can they have the tax receipt? Yes

Sam will reach out to Canadian Tire and other vendors

Put a bit more money towards grade 5 group – drumming workshops will be booked in May

Next meeting May 21st

Kernel's Popcorn will be here April 26th so we need to reach out to have volunteers come and organize it. Candice will contact our parent volunteer person.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:27 p.m.