

# Galbraith School Council Minutes

Nov. 9, 2021

Chairperson of School Council: M.D.

Vice Chair of School Council: Ki.Ki.

Location: Teams

**Attendees:** C.Ly., C.Li., K.H., Ki.Ki., Ti.Ki, M.Ty., Mo.A., Ni.Co, Ni.Ga., Sh.B.B., Ta.Le., M.D.

## 1. Adoption of Agenda – accepted as presented:

- Approved by: M.Ty.
- Seconded by: Ki.Ki.

## 2. Approval of the Minutes from Oct. 19 2021 School Council meeting – accepted as presented:

- Approved by: M.Ty.
- Seconded by: Ki.Ki.

## 3. Business arising from the minutes - No volunteers or nominations, tabled until the next meeting.

### 3.1 Open Positions 2021-2022 School Year: Secretary

#### Secretary

- The school council secretary typically acts as a recorder at each meeting and ensures that the minutes are prepared accurately to reflect the directions agreed to at the meeting.

## 4. School Trustee's Report - C.Li.

- C.Li. (Trustee) and Mo.A. (Executive Council) are the School Liaisons for Galbraith School. If you have any questions you can email them at the Division. To see who the School Liaisons are for schools you can go to the Division Website and click on 'Board > Trustees > School Liaisons' : <https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/board/trustees/school-liaisons>
- C.Li. asked for Galbraith School and is a parent to 2 children in the Division and is happy to be involved and is ready to work together. She took tour of Galbraith with Ni.Co & M.Ty. last week and got to know and see the history of Galbraith.
- Trustee Report:
  - o The first Board Meeting is usually held in October, but due to the elections this year it was pushed back to November 1, 2021. This was to engage with newly elected members, allow for onboarding and training prior to their first Board Meeting.
  - o C.Li. was voted in as the Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees who govern the Lethbridge School Division. Al.Pu. was voted in as the Board Chair at the first Board Meeting.
  - o If you would like to see who all the Board Members are you can go on the Division Website and click on 'Board > Trustees': <https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/board/trustees>
  - o During the first meeting, as a Board they talked about Health and Mental Health supports. As we're in year 2 into a difficult times, School Administrations is sharing that there is pressure on support systems. Some families are finding it difficult to find referrals for Health and/or Mental Health Specialists in Lethbridge due to the shortages with resources, doctors and supports. These shortages are having an impact on the health and mental wellness of students. The Board made a motion to write a letter to the City of Lethbridge, Chamber of Commerce, Lethbridge MLA's, Minister of Education, Minister of Health, Economic Development, MP Rachel Harder, Alberta Health Services and the Primary Care Network outlying the concerns about the Health and Mental Health Support, need to advocate for those supports to be in place.

## 5. Division School Council Report – M.D.

- There was an update on the Criteria for the Community Engagement Grant that is \$500 for each school.
  - o The \$500 dollars has to be used by the end of the school year or it will be sent back
  - o There were some examples of what we can use the money for, such as:
    - Workshops for parents to increase capacity for School Council
    - Info sessions to support Student learning at home
    - Parent workshops for mental heal, cyber bullying, etc..
    - Programs to support multiculturalism and indigenious families
    - Professional development
  - o Some examples of what we cannot use the money for are:
    - food
    - Technology, cannot buy capital assets
    - The expenditure must be in the future, cannot be used for something in the past
    - No honorariums or gifts
    - No entertainment activities
  - o Ni.Co stated that she would look into some ideas from Key Connection
  - o M.Ty. suggested that they could brainstorm something along the lines of a virtual presentation
- Through the Poverty Intervention Committee, there is a program called WAM Bags. WAM Bags are weekend and more bags.
  - o This was started at Wilson Middle School for students who are in need of immediate access for food if they are in an emergency situation. They get a food hamper with pantry staples plus a grocery gift card for fresh ingredients. They also get a recipe card. Last year they increased the grocery gift card amount and that will continue and they are increasing the amount of pantry staples for larger families.
  - o If students are in need, they are to contact their School Administration who can coordinate
  - o If you are interested in the Poverty Intervention Committee, you can go to the Division Website, click on 'Board > Committees > Poverty Intervention Committee':  
<https://povertyinterventioncommittee.schoolsites.ca/>
- Covid Update: it was asked if there were any plans, when the Covid Vaccine is approved for ages 5-11, to have them done in the Schools. The Superintended responded that they have not heard anything about how the vaccines will be distributed, but if this will happen in the schools it will have to be coordinated by Alberta Health Services with written parent permission.

## 6. Staff Members' Reports:

### 6.1 Staff Report - K.H.

- The last Staff meeting was great
- They did some Professional learning with Ro.He. (speech and language) in regards to how speech is changing and how to access those services.
- They are working through a book called 'Cultivating Genius' to be better prepared, looking at the school through an equity lens, learning about how Teachers can be more inclusive, diverse and how to teach Students to be more tolerant for those who are different from ourselves.
- They are working on the All About Me program, they are using the 'My Blueprint' app, this is a tech journey for the Teachers with the different levels of expertise with technology. The 'My Blueprint' would be helpful for High Schoolers and Middle Schoolers to help be a stepping stone for future careers.
- Reports will be ready soon, Teachers have to have the grades in by November 19, 2021, Parents will be able to see the Report Cards by November 26, 2021.
- After Report Cards are done, they will jump into Spirt Week and the food drive. There will be Hats for Hunger on Monday. Tuesday will be Hungry Hero's, dress as superhero's. Wednesday will be

colour day to wear orange and blue for Galbraith. Thursday will be Wacky Hair Day. Friday will be pajama day.

- November 15, 2021 to November 18, 2021. The kids will be taken down to the fair to make their shopping list, then link will be sent home to parents or parents can send their child with some money to school to purchase.
- The Staff would like to thank everyone for their dedication and continued fundraising efforts.

#### 6.2 **Vice Principal's Report** – M.Ty.

- There was a lot of benchmarking last month
- Teachers are working on reading comprehension with students
- Parent Teacher interviews happened last month, some on the phone, on Teams and in person
- They are working on individual Support Plans and Behavior Plans for those who are in need of support
- The Speech and Language Teacher has started her schedule. Majority of the day is spent supporting within the classroom on how to use language properly. There are small opportunities to work one on one or in smaller groups for articulation of sounds.
- 'My Blueprint Portfolios' are taking shape, Ni.Ga. is doing 300 portfolios for the kids
- They are working on literacy and numeracy supports. Due to covid, they have seen the need to literacy and numeracy with a lead Teacher in the class. They have LST who is working on lower intervention pieces with students who are struggling with reading.
- There is a Remembrance day celebration on Wednesday, November 10, 2021.

#### 6.3 **Principal's Report** – Ni.Co

- New trustee – C.Li. is the new Trustee for Galbraith
- Parking Update
  - The City of Lethbridge was called and we cannot get signs for angle parking or have lines painted for angle parking as the parking on 8A Ave is supposed to be parallel parking only. A few years back, some people decided to angle park and it caught on. It was suggested that in the next Galbraith Gazette that there could be a spot to remind parents of traffic safety all around the school as drop offs, picks ups and parking can be chaotic and unsafe.
- Outdoor Learning Space Project
  - The courtyard, near the Learning Commons now has fence around it that was constructed by the City of Lethbridge. The area is now secure and safe to build or construct an outdoor classroom to be used all year round (expect in -40 of course). Galbraith has been saving for this outdoor classroom, speaking with the Division and looking at outdoor furniture for a full class. They have also applied for Grants to help pay for this. Outdoor learning provides many opportunities, they can have some indigenous plants, using themes, they can put up some artwork on the fence. The Wellness Committee has been working very hard, but still in the beginning stages.
- Panago Donation
  - Panago donated \$250 to the school
  - Galbraith will do another event with Panago late in the year where Galbraith will earn a portion of the proceeds for every pizza sold for one particular night. Date is TBD.
- Thank you to C.Ly.!
  - A HUGE thank-you for C.Ly. for purchasing the new recess equipment for the kids. This was lot of work to price compare, track down items, going to multiple stores and gathering everything on the wish list! Thank-you!!!

7. **New Business**

8. **Other Items**

- Provincial Grant for School Council Engagement (tabled from last meeting) – this was discussed earlier in the meeting.

9. **School Council Adjournment** – 7:12pm

**Next meeting: Jan. 11, 2021 @ 6:30 PM**

# Galbraith Parent Advisory Council Society Minutes

## General Meeting

Nov. 9, 2021

Chairperson: Ki.Ki.

Vice Chairperson: M.D.

Location: Teams

**Attendees:** C.Ly., K.H., Ki.Ki., Ti.Ki, G.D., M.Ty., Ni.Co, Ni.Ga., Ta.Le., M.D., Sa.Ki.

Has Quorum\* been met: Yes

### 1. Adoption of Agenda – accepted as presented

- Approved by: M.Ty.
- Seconded by: Ni.Co

### 2. Minutes of Oct. 19 2021 Galbraith Parent Advisory Council Society meeting – Accepted as presented

- Approved by: M.D.
- Seconded by: C.Ly.

### 3. Business arising from the minutes - N/A

### 4. Treasurer's Report – C.Ly.

- o Petty Cash: \$3.84
- o Casino Account: \$1.11
- o Chequing Account: \$7,777.03

### 5. New Business

#### 5.1 Pie Fundraiser Update – Ni.Co.

- o Galbraith Killed it, so may pies sold it was mind blowing for the Pie Store. The most pies that they usually see is about 500 to 600 and Galbraith Families sold 1800 pies. This meant families couldn't pick up their pies this past weekend as The Pie Store needed a few more weeks to fill all those orders. Not sure the exact amount, but approximated \$5,000 was raised to help pay for field trips.

#### 5.2 Casino Update – M.D.

- o The Casino on January 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> have 2 shifts, the day shift from 1pm – 8:30pm and the night shift that goes from 8pm – 4:30am. The day shifts for both days have been filed with volunteers, but we are in need of volunteers for the night shifts. If you can volunteer for the night shift on one or two of those days, email [marlainaditrich@shaw.ca](mailto:marlainaditrich@shaw.ca).
- o 5 volunteers will be added to the application for the Casino who will require a background check

\*Quorum at General Meetings is met when 7 Members are in attendance with Minimum Representation and Parents are the majority of Members present (Bylaw 2.13, 2.14, 7.2, 7.1 & 9.2)

- At the January meeting, we'll have to vote to write a check, from the Casino account to pay the fee for the Casino Advisor. This will be in the amount of \$1,734.60, however after the event, the Casino will deposit this same amount into Galbraith's Casino account to cover the cost of the fee. The Casino Advisor will hold onto the cheque and not cash it until that money has been deposited. This is also a check for the Casino to ensure the money and future monies will be deposited into an active and correct account.

### 5.3 Hot Lunch Update – Ki.Ki.

- There hasn't been a date set for Hot Lunch
- There is more research needed to compare prices, in the past Galbraith charged \$6
- Some Hot Lunch Ideas are:
  - Panago Pizza
  - Boston Pizza, you get a coupon for a free kids meal as well
  - Lakeview Baker does a sandwich, a piece of fruit, cookie and a juice box

### 5.4 Music Request - Ni.Ga.

- Ni.Ga. gave a presentation about a new type of Recorder for the music program
- The Nuvo Recorder, which is built better than the standard Records that are currently being used
- These recorders are better as they have pads over the sound holes, so it avoids the squeaking when a child doesn't fully cover the sound hole with their fingers. This is important as children have different levels of fine motor skills, finger sizes, dexterity which can be very frustrating for a child when they are unable to correctly hold or cover the holes. The Nuvo Recorder solves for this frustration.
- The Recorder is an important part of music education as it's the only woodwind instrument that kids are introduced to before they are able to join Band in Middle School and the recorder can help set them up for success and give early opportunities for reading music on a woodwind instrument.
- Ni.Ga. is looking to purchase enough of the Nuvo Recorders for all of the Grade 4's and 5's.
- In the past, students have been given the opportunity to purchase their own recorder if they are able, but if the School has the recorders on hand for all students, this will also promote financial equity and inclusiveness.
- Financing:
  - If the school purchase less than 100, the price is \$16.25 + tax
  - If they purchase over 100, the price is reduced to \$14.99 + tax
  - The school would need approximately 150 to cover the Grade 4's & 5's
- Care and Sanitization:
  - The Nuvo Recorder come in a hard shell case so it is covid friendly for storage
  - The Nuvo Recorder is washable and can be sanitized
  - Ni.Ga. will print off a label for the recorder and the case and assign it to one student for the year.
- They start with the Recorder in January & February

**MOTION:** M.D. makes a motion to spend up to \$2,400 to purchase 150 Nuvo Recorders.

- Seconded by: C.Ly.
- All in Favor, no objections

## 6. Other items

### 6.1 Possible uses for Casino Funds - Ni.Co

- The iPad that are being used in the class rooms are being evergreened/retired at the end of this year. They will no longer be on the Divisions network and will no longer work.

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- Ni.Co would like for everyone to consider using Casino funds to help replace the classroom iPad. This could come at a cost of \$25,000 for 40 new iPad.

Discussion:

- What happens to the old iPad? The iPad that are currently in use are first generation, they cannot update with newer Apps, they cannot download newer software or updates which makes them a security risk. As they are being removed from the Division network, they will no longer work at all and will not be supported.
- M.D. will find the list of acceptable uses for Casino funds to bring to the next meeting

#### 6.2 Positive Covid Letters to Parents – Ki.Ki.

- the Covid letters that are sent home when there is a positive case, are they meaning to put in the classroom where that person tested positive?
  - Ni.Co answered that yes, there is a template letter that they have to fill out and they have to put in the Teacher's name of the classroom. Middle Schools may have a different requirement as Students are not always in one cohort class, but that is the requirement for elementary schools at this time.
  - Ni.Co answered that yes, there is a template letter that they have to fill out and they have to put in the Teacher's name of the classroom, as per letter sent to parents from Cheryl Gilmore on Oct. 25.
  - Covid protocols are constantly evolving.

7. School Council Society Adjournment - 7:47pm

**Next meeting: Jan. 11, 2021 @ 6:30 PM**

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