



Galbraith School Council Minutes

March 8, 2022– 6:30 pm

Chair of Council – M.D.

Vice Chair – Ki.Ki.

Attendees: T.V., A.G., K.H., M.T., N.G., M.D., Ki.Ki., C.Li., C.L..

Land Acknowledgement

- We acknowledge that we live, work and play on the traditional territories of the Blackfoot Confederacy and give recognition to the Blackfoot people past and present.

1. Adoption of Agenda – accepted with additions

- Addition of 8.5 – ASCA
 - o Approved By: Ki.Ki.
 - o Seconded by: M.D.

2. Minutes of January 2022 School Council meeting (February was Town Hall Meeting) – accepted as presented

- o Approved By: Ki.Ki.
- o Seconded by: M.D.

3. Business arising from the minutes

- None

4. School Trustee's Report – C.Li.

- The Board presentation was from Human Resource on hiring practices in the Division
- Had policy review, policy 303.1 Administration Appointments and 404.3.1 Leaves of Absence
- Communications Officer, Garrett Simmons reviewed the communications plan and that is on the division website, if you have any feedback connect with Garrett Simmons or Genny Steed:
<https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/download/221678>
- Committee of the whole dates have been set. These are meetings they are having outside of the Board
- Meetings. These are not public meetings, but gives the board opportunities for learning and committees, there are no votes or policies decisions. The first one was held on March 8th, they talked about Victory Park renovations and plans for that school.
- On March 29th, they are doing their budget debrief and have conversation about the budget.
- Had the first Community Conversations meeting on Tuesday Feb. 10th. The Board is hoping to connect
- monthly with the community. The next Coffee and Chat will be at March 17th at the Boys and Girls Club
- Youth Center, that event will be posted on the Division Website:
<https://lethsdcommunityengagement.schoolsites.ca/home/news/post/first-board-of-trustees-communityconversations-event-set-for-feb-10>
- On February 1st was the Town Hall, thank-you to all who participated. Last week they had the retreat to go over the feedback received at Town Hall and helps with strategic planning and conversations going forwards. As a Board, they have the Town Hall Meetings and it doesn't seem like there is a lot of communication about how the feedback impacts the Divisions, so they are talking about how to make the outcomes of the feedback more available.
- The next Board Meeting Tuesday March 22nd and the public forum beings at 5pm

5. Division School Council Report – M.D.

- Discussions about how to proceed with meetings going forward. Most Parents preferred a highbred meeting as restrictions are lifted
- Spoke about the \$500 Engagement Grant
- There was a presentation with the results of the Town Hall, that is on the Division website, some of the themes that came out of Town Hall were:
 - o Inclusion
 - o Wellness
 - o Practices in the classroom
 - o Communication
 - o Covid restrictions
- School Polies on violence in school and how it's handled.
 - o The policies are on the division website: <https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/our-district/policies2>
 - o The policies are listed in the '500 Students' policies, the information around student behavior and consequences start at 502.1 through to 502.1.11.

6. Staff Members' Reports:

6.1 Staff Report – K.H.

- Report cards will be available on Friday in PowerSchool
- With the lifting of the Covid restrictions, there is more information on busing and Teachers are looking into field trips. Grade 3s are looking to do something for the year end that will be close to normal.
 - o Talking more about the switch from virtual back to in person
- ISP updates are being done as it's mid year
- Fun in Class rooms and different virtual activities are going on.
 - o Grade 3 are doing a fun Ukraine Virtual activity
- Usually March madness is about basket ball, but this year they are focused on literacy.
 - o The school is doing a big picture book for March Madness that is new and exciting. All the kids are reading picture books in their classrooms and voting on the books. Kids are excited for the winner and building the sense of community. At the end of the 6 weeks they will know which book is the most favorite. Some examples of the books are 'My Teachers a Montser', 'When Bird met egg' and 'There is a Monster at the end of the book'.

6.2 Vice Principal's Report – N.G.

- Staffing Update: in mid-March N.G. is acting Vice Principal. N.C. is scheduled to come back at the end of March. M.T. is the acting Principal.
- Finished the Beef Jerky fundraiser, made over \$4000 with that fundraiser. The school would like to thank the Community and Parents.
- Had the first Hot Lunch in February. The kids were very exited about it. Thank-you to School Council/Society for getting the ball rolling and bring Hot Lunch back into the school
- Report cards open on Friday, Parent Teacher interviews will occur next week
- Had some fun changes in the school, it was nice to see the elimination of cohorts.
- The school is excited to have an extra classroom space, a committee has converted that class to an art room. It's been a long time since Galbraith had a dedicated art room.
- Everyone has been navigating the lifting of restriction and what that means. Discussions about assemblies and field trips and recess are going on. Teachers and Staff want to set the students up for success, as some of the kids don't have the concept of some of these things, such as assemblies as this is their first experience with it and Teachers and Staff are doing this in a supported way as they navigate those changes with the students. It may not look like things are not happening yet, but conversations are happening to support kids.
- The Grade 5s are starting visits with Wilson Middle School. They came last week and grade 5s will be heading over to tour Wilson later in the year.

6.3 Principal's Report – M.T

- Covid updates: when the restrictions started to be lifted, it's Albert Education and the Minister of Education who tells the Schools the rules, and the school gets to interpret those rules. There are some pieces like vaccination that have been lifted or changed to reflect those changes in the rules and allow more opportunities for families to be more engaged in the schools. Parents can volunteer in the Schools again, Office Staff can help with getting parents to fill out the volunteer forms.
 - o One of the structure pieces that the Division feels stronger amount for Student and Staff are going to have Galbraith to remain as a closed facility. That means the doors will remained locked. That doesn't mean that families are not welcome but they want to know who is in the school and when.
- Field trips, investigating costs of busses and makes it more feasible, as the cohorting has been lifted so it's not as expensive to pay for a buses as classes can be combined.
- The dates for the Modernization Vision Scope meetings were changed to May 11th and May 12th, it's from 9am – 4pm. There were some parent Volunteers and Staff is checking to see if they are available for those dates.
- The School will be sending School Assurance Survey information this week. Grade 4s and 5 Parents should be on the look out for an email with a link to an online survey. Closing date is March 25th.
- Future School Council meetings, the Division indicted to redefine what the school structures look like, so the question that they discussed, there is the opportunity to meet in person, meet on line or hybrid meeting online. What is the most inclusive?
 - Discussion:** parents are with a hybrid or blended meetings
 - Looks like moving towards the hybrid model.

7. New Business – N/A

8. Other items

8.1 Provincial Grant for School Council Engagement (\$500)

Ideas to Spend the \$500 Grant:

- Get someone in to do some science stuff, could do it as a Family Fun Night.
- Could do a drumming circle, N.G. has just shy of 30 African drums.
- Could do a few Family Fun nights, could do one in April and one in May
- On March 17th, Wilson is bringing in vendors and people to highlight programs that will benefit students emotionally well being.

Discussion is tabled until next meeting. N.G. will research the Scientists in School and will take this discussion to Staff for further discussion.

8.2 Succession Planning

- Growing School Council – trying to make the agenda more welcoming
 - Could use Social Media to tell parents what School Council is, such as “did you know that School Council...’ Take away some uncertainty and mystery around school council.
 - Could do a video to reach some parents
 - Put something together with some kids and huge engagement, silly play on the ‘we want you’, recruitment video. You decide our hot lunch! Decisions that are being made are tangible and affect their students.
- Open positions – Secretary
 - No volunteers for the Secretary position, tabled until the next meeting.

8.3 Parent Teacher Interviews

- occurring on March 16th and 17th for kindergarten and on March 17th for grades 1 to 5.
- As a Division, it will be all on teams and phones

- PT interview can be booked on line
Question: Parents would like to know if they can keep the Parent Teacher Interviews on Teams or with phone calls?
Answer: This is one of those opportunities to touch on and they decide the structures that work within their buildings. Don't see a reason why that wouldn't continue to offer that offer that Teams options.

8.4 COVID Feedback from Parents:

- The School is looking for feedback. They could send a survey out for parent's feedback in regards to Covid, what worked, what didn't. Plus let parents know that they can reach out to the Division Board to help with future pandemic plans.
- There is value in gathering parents/community feedback.
- Looking at maybe doing a combined survey for covid feedback and parent engagement
- It may be wise to do this in the future and revisit this in a few weeks
Discussion tabled until the next meeting, but ideas for the survey can be sent to Tracy.

8.5 Alberta School Councils Association (ASCA)

- ASCA conference dates are set, April 22nd & 23rd and at this time will be on line only.
- AGM will be held on April 24th
- The School Division will pay for the registration
- Looking for volunteers to go or should we start to seek out a proxy vote to have a vote.
 - No volunteers look for proxy
 - Resolutions will be discussed next meeting.

9. School Council Adjournment - 7:44pm

Next meeting: April 12, 2021 @ 6:30pm



Galbraith School Council Society Minutes

March 8, 2022– 6:30 pm

Chair of Council – Ki.Ki.

Vice Chair – M.D.

Attendees: T.V., A.G., K.H., M.T., N.G., M.D., Ki.Ki., C.Li., C.L., D.L., G.D.

Has Quorum* been met: Yes

1. Adoption of Agenda – accepted as presented

- Adopted by: M.T.
- Seconded by: T.V.

2. Minutes of January 2022 School Council Society meeting (February was Town Hall Meeting) – accepted as presented

- Adopted by: N.G.
- Seconded by: C.L.

3. Treasurer's Report – C.L

- Casino check went in and out and balanced to zero as expected
- End of February balance is \$5,133.74
- The recess equipment is pending \$1,800, balance is around \$3
 - Adopted by: M.D.
 - Seconded by: M.T.

4. Business arising from the minutes - N/A

5. New Business

5.1 Grade 5 Year End Ceremony – A.G.

- A.G. gave a presentation for some changes for the Grade 5 Farewell Ceremony and requests for funds

Grade 5 Farewell Ceremony

- We are preparing for the possibility of in-person or online and will be flexible to accommodate health guidelines.
 - Planning to use the gym and stage in either scenario rather than classrooms.
- Decorations and Student Gift
 - In previous years School Council has provided a budget for a small gift for the Grade 5 students. We would like to discuss a budget to continue this tradition. Gift will be in the spirit of continued learning/active living (water bottle, frisbee, etc.) with Galbraith branding as a keepsake to take to Middle School.
 - We would like to discuss a budget for decorations (balloons, streamers, etc.) to make the day more festive.

*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)

Proposed Changes to Award Structure

After much discussion as a Grade 5 teaching team we would like to propose a more flexible approach to the Farewell Awards. We would like to be able to celebrate each year's students for who they are in the most genuine way possible:

- Rather than using the same list of awards from year to year we would like to create awards that represent the individual recipients.
- Awards would still reflect a balance of academics and character.

Example Awards:

- For students with a passion in a specific subject: Mathematician, Scientist, Author, Literacy, Historian, Artist, Athlete, Musician, Story-Teller, etc.
- For students with overall academic strengths: Critical Thinker, Innovator, Academic Excellence, Commitment to Learning, etc.
- Character-based: Helping Hand, Kindness, Leadership, Above and Beyond, etc.

From year to year we may have more than one winner under a specific title or have individualized awards. Each award would come with a description that matches the particular student.

This flexibility would allow us to be more adaptive to the different students in any given year.

How School Council Can Support the Grade 5 Students at Farewell

- Continue funding a Farewell gift for each Grade 5 Student
 - Fund decorations for the Farewell ceremony
 - Continue funding for the updated awards

This day is always so memorable and important to our school community and we appreciate your continued support of this special event.

- There are less kids this year, but the branded items are a bit more expensive. Just under 47 kids in Grade 5.
- C.L. will look into branding with a company that their family deals with.
 - Discussion:** Are we doing a dollar amount per student, so a budget example, such as \$5 per kid, so look at per student to keep it consistent over the years as the class sizes change.
- There are protocols for clothing, but there are not protocols for other items.
- Society agreed to estimate that Society could fund up to \$800, next meeting A.G. will start looking at prices for branded items, gift cards, awards, etc.
- Motion is tabled until the next meeting.

5.2 Kona Ice for School (Year End) – T.V.

- Every year they have them come in, some kids got it and some didn't last year,
- June 27th, 12:30 to 4pm, they might do something for the EPP in the AM.
- Putting on Society, to cover the costs, it's about \$3 per cup, works out about \$800.

MOTION: C.L. makes a motion to pay up to \$800 for Kona Ice for the year end treat

Seconded by: M.T.

All in Favor, no objections

5.3 Possible Sports Day Snacks (Year End) – T.V.

- The ask is for Society to purchased the Sports Day Snacks
- The date is TBD

- Motion is tabled until next meeting.

5.4 Hot lunch-labels (less time) – T.V.

- M.D. is going to do the spreadsheets/pivots for the Hot Lunch orders
- Panago likes the labels and those will work well for Subway. Boston Pizza wants a list for each class room.
- Teachers stay in the room and the labels works better for the Teachers

6. Other items

6.1 Succession Planning – New Society Members required

- Open positions – Secretary
 - No volunteers for the Secretary position, tabled until the next meeting.

6.2 Casino Update

- The Casino event went very well. All Volunteers showed up
- For future reference, the food budget does not come out of the individual schools fundraising, but it taken from the Quarter's total for every organization that participates.

6.3 Fundraising for 2022/23 – M.D.

- The School and Society switch off years for the fundraising, so the School will do the fundraising one year and Society will do the fundraising for the next year.
- Society will do fundraiser for the 2022/2023 school year
- Would like to do a big fundraiser and planning can start now. If you have any ideas for next years fundraising, don't hesitate to reach out to the Office Staff or email marlainaditrich@shaw.ca
- It is nice to support locally owned and operated organizations

7. School Council Society Adjournment - 8:33 pm

Next meeting: April 12, 2021 @ 7:30pm