**Meeting Minutes**

**Davidson Creek Elementary School Council**

**May 10, 2022 6:30 PM**

**Board Members**

Heidi Schneider, Chair | Stacey Knafelc-Dies, Vice Chair | Breanne Sweeney, Secretary | Sara Gruninger,Communications | Rochelle Reed, Fundraising Liason

**DCE School Council Minutes**

The Chair welcomed attendees and guests and gave a Treaty 6 Acknowledgement

**Attendance:**

Executive Committee: Heidi Schneider, Chair; Breanne Sweeney, Secretary; Sara Gruninger, Communications

DCE Staff: Kaye Schindeler, Principal; Murray Howell, Assistant Principal; Marlis Marler, Assistant Principal/Counselor; Christa Gawon, Office; Alex Clark, Teacher; Celeste Santerre, Teacher

Parent Representatives: Karen Green

Invited Guest: Trina Boymook, EIPS Trustee, Jaqueline Shotbolt, EIPS Trustee

**Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

Minutes incomplete, awaiting Trustee report to be re-emailed.

Agenda was not printed due to the few items to be discussed.

**Kaye, Principal**

* Budget reviewed, copies available.
* Davidson receives approximately $5000 per kid, and it is divided up as follows
  + 1% reserve of approximately $35000
  + Administration salaries and extra needs
  + The first nation program
  + The kindergarten program (approx $20000)
  + One time allocations (such as EAs for learning disruptions)
* 95% of spending includes primarily certificated staff, with the rest split up between classifed staff support and subcosts and extra materials.
* A question was asked if the budget included extra outdoor toys or repainting the activities on the asphalt. It was suggested that the council can ask for paint supplies and the stencils are still in the office if volunteers would be able to repaint these activities.
* Murray and Marlis will not be returning to Davidson Creek next year, the new principal is going in a different direction with new staff.
* The Salisbury greenhouse gift card fundraiser sold $9700 worth of gift cards for a profit of $1940.
* Volunteers will be needed around June 17 to hand out the write-on stationary orders in the afternoon. These boxes will be too big to take on the bus and must be picked up at the school
* The LL1 kit has arrived and volunteers are needed to stamp the books prior to distribution. They are currently in the office and this can happen anytime.
* A fundraising request will be sent for approval by email to receive $600 to use for the grade 6 farewell planning
* Movie night will be June 24, and will likely happen indoors so that a 6pm start time would work. Volunteers will be needed to make the popcorn and distribute, and bring your own container and water bottle will be encouraged. A $150 fundraising request will be put in to cover kernels and oil.
* A question was asked about the breakdown of classes next year. There will be 4 classess each of grade 1-4, 2 grade 5 classes, a 5/6 split and two grade 6 classes. There will be 3 kindergarten classes and one kindergarten/grade 1 split that will have 10 grade 1 classes that will get a 1:10 ration half of the time. These kids will be chosen by the school based on assessments and learning needs.

**Trina, EIPS Trustee**

* The Board has held a number of budget working sessions through the month of March and April. These meetings focused on identifying pressures on the system for the upcoming year, strategic investments in our Four-Year Education Plan. As well as reviewed the feedback that we received from parents, staff and stakeholders in our budget survey. This informed our budget discussions on how best to leverage reserve dollars in the upcoming year. The Board approved a $8.6M three-year reserve plan with $6.4M being allocated out in year one.
* The approved budget allocations to schools and departments at our April 21 Board meeting, as well as school fees, system administrative fees and student transportation fees. Due to rising cost to busing the Board a $21 increase to student transportation fees for the 2022-23 school year.
* The Board sent a letter to the Minister requesting for a delay in the implementation of the K-3 LA and Math and K-6 physed wellness and move forward with a second-year pilot instead.
* Board’s received notice from the Minister on curriculum implementation on April 13. The minister hosted a meeting with Board Chair’s April 14, where we were provided with an opportunity to ask questions and gain more information.
* The Board held a student forum on April 12 where we engaged Grade 9 and 12 students in discussions on preparing for life after EIPS and student mental health and wellbeing. The information gained through the forum will inform our strategic approach to preparing students for life beyond high school and student mental health strategic plan.
* The Board toured 5 Sherwood Park schools on May 9. School tours give Trustees to get a glimpse of that is taking place in our schools and to learn more about what they are focused on.

**Karen, Parent representative**

* Karen has been attending COSC meetings, and suggested sending a volunteer next year for the once a month meetings.
* There is an advocacy group that a council executive could sign up for emails and information about workshops. They currently lost government funding to continue, but hope to maintain workshops based on donations.
* Karens reports are as follows
  + **Trina Boymook** gave a report from the Board. Points of interest:
    - Last meeting the Board had asked the Minister to delay implementation of the three subjects and instead have a full year of piloting. Then the Minister held a press conference to announce the finalization of ELAL, Math and Phys Ed/Wellness.
    - Support for curriculum implementation: We have had 7 teachers, one for each grade level, hired specifically to develop resources. Five of these will continue into next year. In addition, each classroom teacher will get 2 days of release time, sub provided, to work on their own plans.
    - Mental Health: EIPS is keeping the 3 family school liaison workers, who seem to be primarily involved with families who have withdrawn their children from school and are anxious about sending them back.
    - Trina touched on the budget for next year and noted that despite announcements, the Division still does not know exactly how much money the government will give and what the parameters and restrictions may be.
  + **Brenda Kell of ASCA (Alberta School Council Association)** gave a presentation entitled The Assurance Framework: An Opportunity for School Council Engagement. (This was one of 3 sessions funded by school councils contributing their school council engagement grant.) Kell stated that the assurance framework is really about building public trust and verifying that the system is meeting the needs of stakeholders. It is there FOR parents. Associate Superintendent Sandra Stoddard added that these surveys really are taken into account when planning is done. The slide show will be made available for anyone interested.
  + **Jaquie Surgenor and Krista Scott, locals who just finished terms on the ASCA Board of Directors,** talked about ASCA’sannual conference andAGM.Note that ASCA will get no government finding next year and will run on donations, fees from workshops, etc. School Council Engagement Grants ($500) will be available again next year. The chairperson commented on the amount of red tape involved in disbursing and tracking these funds.
  + **Lesley Bowman, Chairperson** mentioned the Caregiver series: info in package.
  + Also: **School Council Annual reports are due to the Superintendent by June 28.** There’s a form in the package here. If School Council does not have its own bank account, you do not need to worry about the financial form. The fundraising group did not have to report, just the School Council.
  + **Sandra Stoddard, Associate Superintendent** outlined the whole process behind the Draft Spring Budget. Slideshow in package. Points of interest:
    - The government has announced very small increases. For example, a 1% increase in funding ECS and grades 1 -12, 1% increase to Operations and Maintenance and 4.6% to Student transport. Meanwhile the CPI (Consumer Price Index) shows a 5.5% increase as of February and energy costs have increased 31.3%. Note that student funding is not based completely on projected enrollment. The latest formula has 20% of funding based on 20/21 enrollment, 30% based on 21/22 enrollment and 50% based on projected enrollment with a clawback if the Division overestimates.
    - The draft budget projects spending down reserves (8 million from Operating reserves, some this year and most the coming year) as the Government has capped the amount that boards may keep in reserves. The April 21 Board meeting package has information on what this money was used for.
  + More information about COSC can be found at [Committee of School Councils (COSC) | Elk Island Public Schools | EIPS](https://www.eips.ca/parents/committee-of-school-councils-cosc)