

Eleanor Hall School Council

Meeting Minutes

January 18, 2024 @ 7pm on Zoom



Attendance:

Jolene Lawrence(EHS Council Chair), Michelle Bottruell (EHS Council/Enhancement Secretary), Nadine Marchand(Administrator), Mallory McNelly(teacher), Philip Petkau(parent; Enhancement Vice-Chair), Jantea Vandervelde(parent), Meagan Mccoy-McLevin(parent), Jenna Pudlowski(EHS Council Vice Chair), Jacqueline Williams(Outdoor classroom committee rep; parent), Maureen Schnirer(PHSD Trustee), Kendra Kieser(parent), Nadine Stoyko(teacher), Brittany Ford(parent), Lorraine Mccoy (parent)

Call to Order

- Jolene called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm

1. Acknowledgement — Jolene

2. Welcome & Introductions — Jolene

3. Review & Adoption of the Agenda – Jolene

- Jenna Pudlowski moved that we reviewed the agenda, and accepted the addition of “Westlock Community Foundation Youth in Action Grant” under new business. Michelle Bottruell Seconds. Agenda adopted.

4. Approval of the Minutes – Jolene

- a. Nov 23, 2023:

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- Lorraine Mccoy moves that the November 23rd minutes be accepted as written. Nadine Stoyko seconds. Approved.

5. Committee Reports

a. Outdoor Classroom Committee update — *Jackie*

- Looking into the Westlock Community Foundation grants. Applications open February 2nd and close March 28th. There are four different funding streams. We only qualify for two, we can apply for both but can only receive one. More information on the Website: <https://westlockfoundation.ca/grants/>
- Lee reached out about the project drawings and they should be done in about a week. Once we receive these we will be able to get an idea on costs/supplies.

b. Skating rink update – *Jolene*

- Just finished the last layer. School kids can start skating Monday.
- Looking for a volunteer in Clyde that would be able to store a Quad and Zamboni (preferably inside) please contact the School Council ehschoolcouncil@pembinahills.ca if you are willing to volunteer or know someone willing.
- Looking for volunteers for the spring to work on leveling the dirt and putting together a permanent wooden frame. That way it will be easier to fill and could be done sooner in the winter months. Please reach out to Robert Lawrence at 780-206-7025 if willing to volunteer.

c. Enhancement Society update – *Marnie or Donna? Michelle Bottriell will update*

- First pizza lunch was very successful with a profit of \$390.00 - Thank you to Michelle and Tom for helping with this one - a lot of students ordered pizza!
- General Account : \$11, 054.38 Cassino Account: \$9997.91
- Pizza Lunches - Does once a month work for the school? Yes - best days to have them on are Tuesdays or Thursdays and the order forms need to be due on Tuesdays (not Mondays)
- We need more volunteers to help with pizza lunches - anyone willing to volunteer please contact ehenhancementsociety@gmail.com
- Fundraising ideas for this year
 - First aid fundraiser selling first aid kits and winter vehicle kits - Jenna Pudlowski is waiting on the brochure to be sent to her
 - Value village fundraiser - Jenna Pudlowski contacted and they need a mission statement before we can go any further. Jenna could not find this anywhere and is still looking into it.
 - Connection in color fundraiser - Michelle Bottriell will set this up about the same time as last year. Jolene mentioned to set it up

a little earlier so we get the check in the mail before school closes for summer.

6. Principal's Report — *Nadine Marchand*

See attached Principles report

- a. 2024-25 Alternate school calendar review
- b. Upcoming Planning with the Board in Feb — What are our school priorities?

7. PHSD Trustee Report — *Trustee Maureen Schnirer*

See attached Trustee Report

8. Old Business

- a. Lunchbox update — *Jolene*
 - Very hard to communicate with them, Jolene moves that we do not look more into Lunchbox. Agreed.

9. New Business

- a. Council of School Councils Meeting Summary — *Jolene*
 - Jolene attended the Council of School Councils meeting on December 5th. It was well attended, and a great place to collaborate and hear from the whole division. Here are the Highlights:
 - Maureen Schnirer's presentation on Eco Schools - we can apply to be an eco school. We would need a campaign leader who would take this on, gathering all the information and applying. We are probably already doing lots of things that would qualify us.

<https://ecoschools.ca/>
 - ASCA conference coming up on Friday April 26th and Saturday April 27th in Edmonton. Pembina Hills school division has a budget of \$2000 to assist School Councils if they wish to attend. This budget is over the whole school division and would be divided amongst all the school councils willing to attend.
<https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/about/annual-conferen>
 - They encouraged us to use our school council email and website as much as possible, since it is widely available to access.

b. Annual Parent Satisfaction surveys reminder (Jan/Feb 2024) – *Jolene*

- Look out for the surveys! They are very valuable and are there for evaluating the school and the division. They are a great place to communicate with the school division to let them know what they are doing well at, could work on etc. Will send out an update when it gets sent out and don't forget to check your junk folders.

c. Westlock Community Foundation Youth in Action Grant

- Link to the application form:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1iIBJIA05FnFFMLIZL3hcr00X1loCz_NbhqWAtr60Zzo/edit
- Link to the granting program information:
<https://westlockfoundation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/WCF-2024-Youth-in-Action-Guidelines-F.pdf>
 - This could be a great program for students willing to take initiative. Jolene thinks the Student Wellness Action Team (SWAT) would be interested - will send information to Michelle Savoie.

10. Next Meeting Date: Thursday, Feb 15 @ 7pm via Zoom

Adjourn

Jolene Lawrence called the meeting adjourned at 8:10pm

January Principal's Report School Council

- As always, Mrs. McNelly did an amazing job on the Christmas Concert! We also appreciate the staff and students who helped to decorate the gym, and set up and take down the stage, chairs, etc. as well as the students who were our 'runners'.
- Mrs. Savoie and SWAT organized and ran Reindeer Games again this year for students in Kindergarten to Grade 3 and they also organized the pot-luck and the other events for the Grade 6-9 students.
- Thank you to the parents who donated the baskets. They were a big hit.
- Our Kindness challenge was well received in December. The students were given a different challenge every day. It was nice to see all the 'good deeds' that were written on paper Christmas lights and strung along the walls.
- Thanks to everyone who donated to the Food Bank, and to Mrs. Savoie for organizing and delivering the items.
- The Grade 4 to 9 students are going skiing to Tawatinaw next Thursday. It is just too cold to go tomorrow with the windchill. We another day planned in March.
- The Boys Basketball teams is up and running. Unfortunately, there were not enough players for a Girls team. The Grade 5/6 basketball has also started.
- Every year we meet in February to begin planning for the next school year. Administrators will have a chance to share with the Trustees our school context, and the priorities we have. For our Education Plan, the School's Priorities follow the Division Priorities, which in turn align with Alberta Education goals. Our priorities this year are the same as last year-student-staff relationships, literacy and numeracy, and support for staff. Jolene sent out what we are working on under these three main categories. Trustees and Regional office gather our feedback as well as examine other measures including the Pembina Hills Survey, student testing, etc. so that they can set the priorities for our School Division for the coming year and allocate resources.

In April, once the Board has set the priorities for next year, school administrators meet with our teachers and develop strategies for the Division priorities. During the following School Council meeting I will share

the priorities and strategies with you and ask for feedback, and time will be provided for you to ask questions.

A couple of things I would like to chat with the Trustees about is allocation of resources for Division supports and what our school needs (release time to work collaboratively, if there is any money for a 'proper' foods lab, and the supports we receive from Division consultants and coaches.) In our planning with Senior Admin I am also going to request that the Diversity policy continues to be worked on, as well as guidance for resources, etc.

- I only have one version of the calendar to present to you. It was sent to you with the agenda. With the Fall Break, holidays, PD Days, PATs and Alternate Operational Days, there are really very few left over days to choose from.
- The Grade 9s will be running the candygrams fundraiser again this year. Sales will be from January 29th to February 7th, \$2/candygram. They will be delivered on Valentine's Day.
- It is Pink Shirt Day on Wednesday, February 28th. This is a day when people come together by wearing pink shirts to show they are against bullying and to encourage treating others with kindness and respect.
- Mrs. Savoie has arranged for one of our EAs, Mrs. Sloat, to do a 'paint night' to raise money for our Grade 6-9 fieldtrip to Drumheller. Participants will be painting a sign that says 'Home'.

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Trustee Report January 18, 2024

- Wellness Committee Meeting Jan 11
- Indigenous Committee Jan 30
- Yellowhead Regional Library Executive training and orientation Jan 29 - Jan 31
- Barrhead Rotary Music Festival Deadline for staff and students - Feb 2
- PD on Mental Health Regulate, Relate and Reason (3 RE's)
- Feb 8 -- 11 ATA Convention no school for students
- March 4 -- 5 Alberta Rural Education Symposium

Jan 17 Board received Student Services Assurance Report

Student Services department supports students with a variety of needs, provides mental health support, and works with families to ensure the best possible outcomes for students.

Dr. McGarva discussed some of the challenges facing the division, including attendance (attendance continues to be lower than pre Covid) and severe incidents, and strategies for addressing those challenges. Dr. McGarva also discussed some upcoming opportunities and initiatives, including the new dual credit program in Northern Lakes College to be certified as an Education Assistant.

Board Approved Budget Framework

Approved a set of parameters to guide budget development within the division for the 2024-2025 school year. The budget framework includes the following priorities:

- Returning to a balanced budget, following numerous years of budget deficits •
- No major changes to operations or programming
- No significant changes to staffing levels
- Staffing costs will increase modestly due to benefit rates and negotiated increases

The Board will be apprised of new budget developments in April.

Eco Schools Certification Opportunity

December Meeting, Ratification of school calendar includes Fall break, 1.5 million from reserves for Barrhead Composite High School Modernization and Right Sizing project.

Hiring a Superintendent, applications received and being reviewed by Board Chair