

ÉCOLE ELBOW VALLEY SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

November 4, 2015

7:00 PM

ATTENDANCE

KARIN HUNTER

CELIA BARRINGTON

MELANIE SPAGRUD

FRANKIE-LOU NELLIGAN

TRISH CULL

BRENDA RNOWDEN

SALLY LOCKHART

NIKI FERBY

MICHELLE ADAMS

MONICA WEBSTER

LORI CHAMPAGNE

ALEX MARTIN

MICHELLE HORNUNG

NATALIE PENTNEY

CINDY PERALA RALPH

VANESSA KELLY

DIANE STEVENSON

ÉCOLE ELBOW VALLEY SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

November 4, 2015
7:00 PM

AGENDA

A. Welcome

Troy Millington /
Karin Hunter

B. Approval of Agenda

* Melanie Spagrud makes the motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Michelle Adams

C. Approval of October 2015 Meeting Minutes

*Monica Webster makes the motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Cindy Perala Ralph

D. Council Reports

1. Chair's Report

Troy Millington /
Karin Hunter

Karin Hunter

- Thank you to everyone who is volunteering for the Casino this week! This is the single biggest fundraiser for the school and it takes a committed group of volunteers to plan and staff the event. Thanks to Monica and Troy for getting the event organized.
- This is a busy-time of year! So many parents have been helping throughout the School - from inline skating to field trips - thanks to all of you!
- Another big event, the Mathathon was today. It takes a whole lot of volunteers – thanks to all who helped out organizing and in the classrooms.
- On another note, Karin has managed to successfully get added to the authorized signatories for the Council.
- At the last School Council meeting, a Long-Term Planning Committee was formed. The Committee's mandate will be to work with administration, staff and parents to identify a set of goals for Council for the next 3-5 years. As an example, one idea gathering traction is an outdoor classroom. If you have any ideas for the Committee to consider please contact Frankie-Lou Nelligan at Itsplancom@gmail.com.
- On a related note, the Lions Club has offered to include us in their next Casino – looking to donate \$5,000 to our school. We are in the process of getting them a short-list list of projects. A suggestion of having one project in order to recognize their donation such as a Learning Commons.

- A few upcoming events - the Staff Appreciation Luncheon is the first week of December. This is a great way for parents to help our teachers out with a hot meal during parent-teacher conferences.

2. Principal's Report

Celia Barrington

- In Line skating was a great success. Thank you to Council for funding this event.
- I know that Judi and Trish will speak to this, but from what I hear, the Vulnerable Readers' conference was outstanding. Thank you for your support.
- My 36th and final Halloween Parade was a lot of fun. There were some great costumes again this year.
- School Annual Results is completed and will be on our website by the end of November, once it has been approved by our Superintendent.
- Our Remembrance Day ceremony will be held on Nov.10 at 1:30 p.m. and all are welcomed.
- Alberta Opera has 2 performances on Nov.18.
- We are anxious to see how the new report cards will be received by parents. They will be sent out on the 27th. We also look forward to meeting with all of our parents and students during the evenings of Dec. 1 & 3. We have also added a day for Mrs Threndyle and Boraas' conferences as they have double classes.
- We have the opportunity to invite senior council to our council meetings if it is of interest.

Judi Poole

- Thank you to Brandi Schroeder for cutting 190 Christmas bulbs to send to the troops along with cards

Vulnerable Literacy Conference

Judi Poole and Trish Cull

- Teachers took away strategies that can be implemented immediately and will be presented to teachers at the next Pro-D day.
- Staff would like to thank school council for sending 10 staff members to the event.
- Would like to see classroom teachers sharing strategies and guiding their parent reading volunteers.
- Staff will look at strategies that can be built upon each year.
- Will be hosting a parent literacy workshop. (More information below)

Elbow Valley Elementary Parent Advisory Council
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures
as of October 31, 2015

	2015/16 Actuals	2015/16 Budget	2014/15 Actuals
REVENUE			
Special Lunch Program	-	-	29,078.35
Special Lunch Program - rebate	2,538.51	10,000.00	7,666.80
Mathathon	-	20,000.00	27,627.55
Family Fun'raiser	-	10,000.00	12,300.90
CPF Springbank	-	-	900.00
Yearbook	1,544.68	-	125.00
FEEVESS	-	10,000.00	27,283.99
Interest Income	7.52	-	146.58
Total Revenue	4,090.71	50,000.00	105,129.17
EXPENDITURES			
Special Lunch Program	416.27	-	20,070.95
School Programs			
Grade Teams	-	8,000.00	6,211.51
Committees			
Volunteer Coordinator	-	1,000.00	657.78
Spirit of Caring	85.58	250.00	85.58
Bussing			
Field Trips	-	9,000.00	7,854.70
Skating	-	2,000.00	1,097.28
Swimming	-	14,600.00	10,647.68
Special Programs/Events			
Special Programs	-	8,800.00	12,654.96
Special Day - Literacy Week	-	2,000.00	-
Sports Day	-	500.00	415.10
In-Line Skating	-	10,520.00	9,985.96
Sound Kreations Residency	-	5,000.00	-
Vulnerable Readers Conference	-	8,500.00	-
First Aid	-	4,500.00	-
Reading Bags	-	4,300.00	-
Photocopier and Tack Board	-	1,200.00	18,140.00
Yearbook	-	-	136.90
School Council Expenses	160.20	1,250.00	-
ASCA AGM	-	2,000.00	741.50
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	662.05	83,420.00	88,699.90
NET INCOME	3,428.66	(33,420.00)	16,429.27
Opening Book Balance	33,422.76	33,422.76	16,993.49
Net Income	3,428.66	(33,420.00)	16,429.27
Closing Book Balance	36,851.42	2.76	33,422.76

- Melanie Spagurd makes the motion to approve the budget. Seconded by Sally Lockhart
- Healthy Hunger would like to do a direct deposit weekly instead of a monthly cheque. Melanie Spagurd to follow-up.

4. Teachers' Report

Trish Cull

- The character focus for November is Assertiveness. Learning to set boundaries and make good choices for oneself regardless of the pressures around us is a complex, yet very important character trait to foster to help our children and students to grow into confident and balanced individuals.
- We are all still recovering from the spooky Halloween parade last Friday. Thank you to the many parents who came out to be part of the festivities and for the delicious treats donated at various class parties. The kids and staff all had a blast.
- French vocabulary in Mme. Boras' class, Mr. Bones in Mrs. Threndyle's class and Bat in Mrs. B's class are keeping the Kindergarten students busy. The teachers and parents who came to help out with in line skating were amazed at how quickly these little ones caught on. By the end of the fourth session they were flying! Kindergarten has also really been working on Kelso's Choices each week with Mrs. Z. As well, Kindergarten teachers are sending home weekly alphabet flashcards using QR codes for further practice of alphabet letters and sounds.
- Grade One students are looking forward to their first Recognition Assembly this Friday. They will have a special presentation called Wildlife Crossings. A Naturalist from Parks Canada will come to present to all of the grade ones about how the Wildlife Crossings help protect animals. This presentation helps to kick start the Bear Inquiry units for Science. Grade ones are also enjoying their monthly Destination Imagination challenge and they have an upcoming field trip to the zoo. They also had a police officer guest presentation and will have a firefighter guest presentation that tie in with Social Studies as students study about community helpers.
- Grade Two students and teachers have taken a step back in time with the start of their social studies unit of A Community in the Past. They are very fortunate to have been able to create a pioneer museum in our school as Mrs. Juett, one of our school's resource assistance, was able to share her numerous family artifacts and treasures. They were also able to take their first field trip of the school year to Heritage Park where the kids got to experience life as a student in a one room schoolhouse, life as a child visiting the Sam Livingston House and life as a fur trader while visiting the trading post. All the students have agreed that life was very different and challenging but especially for children as they had to clean out the chamber pots! The children also completed their second Destination Imagination challenge entitled "Move It". The challenge required the students to collaborate, problem solve and communicate in teams as they created a tall tower that had to be moved by a hook and string. They also continued to have Mrs. Z, work in the classes on Kelso's Choice as a means to solve problems with growing

independence. The language of Kelso's Choices continues to be highlighted during monthly Positive Playground sessions as a grade two team. The children are taught a variety of games that can be played during their recesses. They loved having 4 hours of inline skating and enjoyed learning new skills in a safe manner. Finally, Halloween was a huge success from crafts afternoons, to parties and to parades. What an exciting time in Grade Two! Yabba Dabba Doo, Grade 2!

- Grade Three students study the countries of Peru, Tunisia and the Ukraine. Most classes are currently learning about Peru. As part of this unit, the students are or will be learning how to weave with yarn. Most classes use weaving looms made from a simple piece of wood and some nails. Mrs. Sather's class is using looms made from three straws. This loom creates a narrower piece of fabric that the students will turn into a bookmark for their novel studies. Weaving is a favored grade three activity and the results are beautiful.
- Grade Four students had Teacher's Pet in for a Waste and our World Presentation. The presentation covers most of the outcomes for this unit of science in a 2 hour session. Students enjoyed a long day at Atlas Coal Mine. This field trip ties into their Social studies unit of "Stories and History of the People of Alberta and Natural Resources". Grade four students also had in school Landfill Presentations. The students were able to construct mini-landfills in the classroom that kept the environment around it safe from leachate and other harmful materials.
- Parent Literacy Workshop
As mentioned in the newsletter, we will be hosting a parent literacy workshop on Wednesday November 25 from 6-7:30pm. We will look at what the research tells us about how children learn to read and how parents can support the literacy development of their children at home. A quote from Calgary Reads says "Research tells us that there is a window of opportunity from Kindergarten to Grade 3 during which time a student's basic literacy skills must be developed in order to shape the trajectory of a child's life. Children in Alberta spend approximately 950 hours per year in school and 7,800 outside school. The responsibility for ensuring all children can read with confidence and joy is shared, and must involve schools, families, caregivers, and the greater community." We are hoping for a full house on November 25!
- Curriculum Connections:
A student from Ms. Pocklington's Grade Three class has agreed to let me share her very descriptive and well written Halloween story.
A student from Mrs. Threndyle's Kindergarten class shares what she has learned about bones. (Digital)

5. Volunteer Coordinators

Sally Lockhart
Niki Ferby

Mathathon

- Today we held one of our biggest fundraisers, the 2015 Mathathon. It was a successful event the grand total raised at this point in time is \$20,201.25, with a small amount to follow in the next couple of weeks. A big thank you to all the people who volunteered.
- We did struggle getting volunteers for the kindergarten groups. We may need to do some further educating with new parents into the school on the value of volunteering.

Picture Retake Day – November 5th

- Looking for 3 volunteers to help out tomorrow morning from 9 to 11 (at the latest) if anyone is available please let us know.

Staff Appreciation Lunch - December 1st

- Sign up for the luncheon went to our Volunteer Classroom Reps yesterday and you should see this coming home via your class rep over the next day or so.
- Frankie-Lou is coordinating the luncheon and is looking at trying to get all Teachers eating at once instead of shifts as staff need to cover yard duty during their lunch hour. We will look at getting parent volunteers to cover staff lunch time supervision. Please watch for a sign up.

Volunteer Projects

- We are working with Mrs. Barrington on automating the tax receipt system. We are currently waiting for Rocky View Finance to get back to us. We were going to do a test run with the family dance receipts, however, there has been a few other priorities come up at the Rocky View so we will need to hand write the receipts. If anyone would like to help with the receipts please email evevolunteergroup@gmail.com

6. Special Lunch Coordinator Alex Martin Michelle Hornung

- Thank you to everyone who has volunteered.
- Healthy Hunger provides us with reporting on profit, orders, etc...

7. Library Coordinator Monica Webster

- Volunteers have been amazing in the library.
- Library folder has been added to the Google Drive
- Book Fair will take place during parent teacher interviews (Dec. 1st). Volunteers will be needed, a Sign-Up Genius will be sent out.

8. Yearbook Committee Brenda Renowden

- Nothing currently to report

9. French Immersion/CPF Lori Champagne

- Cheese fundraiser has started and has been distributed via email and was also in the newsletter.

10. Long-Term Planning Committee

Frankie-Lou Nelligan

- We have been informed that the local Lions Club has decided to include Springbank schools in their casino fundraising, allocating \$5000 for our school to use on a specific project. They asked us to come up with a short list of potential projects that we could use the funds for. It was determined that we would propose using the funds for either Outdoor Learning/Activity Spaces or Educational Resources. These funds are a wonderful windfall and certainly got the committee discussions started.
- The ASCA has resources available to assist School Councils with strategic planning so it was determined that Troy would be tasked with getting us set up with a facilitator who could help us get the ball rolling. We are hoping to have a committee meeting with this individual by the end of this month.
- We have set February 2016 as goal to have a strategic plan in place.
- Our committee was introduced to the school parents through November's newsletter which included a link to our new email address: Ltsplancom@gmail.com. There is yet to have been any traffic at this email address but we are hoping that we will soon be getting feedback regarding possible projects from the parents.

11. FEEVESS report

Troy Millington

- Casino begins tomorrow, currently all spots are filled.
- Thank you to those who have volunteered.

E. School Trustee Report
No Report

Helen Clease

F. Other Business – ASCA
No Report

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting Date:

December 2, 1:00 PM

