



School Council

Minutes of the ÉEVE School Council Meeting November 8, 2022 7:00pm via Zoom

SC Executive:

Caley Remington, Chair - present
Chelsey Conrad, Co-Chair - present
Judi Hunter, School Board Trustee - regrets
Jennifer Tanguay, Secretary - present
Sharelle Stitt, Treasurer - present
Logan Martin, Community Outreach Coordinator - present

School Administration Members:

Brendan Trinca, Principal - present
Alanna Berger, Assistant Principal - present

Attendees:

Kirstin Inglis, Holly MacLean, David Paquette, Nicky Homenko, Stephanie Beekhuizen, Manhar Cheema, Heather Gabrinsky

1. Call to Order

Caley called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

Caley motioned to accept the agenda as circulated; seconded by Logan; no objections; motion carried.

3. Chair Report

Parent Volunteer Orientation held last week. SC members Caley, Jennifer, Logan and Brendan were present along with Kara, a parent who is also a U of C nursing instructor, who shared nursing students will be working on starting up some clubs in the school, with the goal they can continue on after their rotation is done. Discussion around ways to introduce parent volunteers back into the school. Upcoming opportunities include teacher appreciation week and the school dance. Need to set dates now, so volunteer opportunities can be communicated to parents early. Want to streamline communication and get parents back in the school.

FEEVES Casino barely scraped by with filling volunteer positions, how can we increase parent involvement? Will need to post sooner than later next time.

Teacher Appreciation Week: Historically, the week of Valentine's Day, a week before winter break. This year, would be Feb 13-17. Will eventually need a sub-committee with volunteers to help plan, with a call for broader volunteers closer to the date. For now, just need to set a date. *Motion to hold Teacher Appreciation Week Feb 13-17, 2023 made by Chelsey; seconded by Jennifer; no objections; motion carried.*

School Dance: Discussion on timing, Brendan thought after Sound Kreation, before the spring break. Thursday vs. Friday: having it on Thursday keeps the weekend open; teachers may prefer Friday over Thursday, so kids aren't too tired; Friday could impact hockey tournaments, usually wrapped up after 3rd week in March. Dance usually over around 9:00pm. *Motion to set date for school dance on Thursday March 30, 2023 made by Chelsey; seconded by Caley; no objections; motion carried.*

Teacher Conferences: Would like to re-introduce hosting a dinner for teachers and staff on one night during parent-teacher interviews. In the past, signup genius has been used for either donation of specific items/amounts or monetary donations to be used for catering. Last year, dinner was catered by Jerusalem Shwarma. Discussion surrounding both options favoured monetary donation/catering for ease, Brendan confirmed it was well received by staff last year (and that any gesture is very much appreciated by staff). Manhar has a contact for a discount on catering by Jerusalem Shwarma. *Motion for student council to provide a catered dinner by Jerusalem Shwarma for teachers and staff on Thursday November 17, 2022 made by Manhar; seconded by Logan; no objections; motion carried.*

4. Co-chair Report

OWL Outlook discussed at last SC meeting, particularly how to increase both visibility and readability for parents. This is important as it is the main method of communication between the school and parents. Should it be sent out on Sunday, like SMS?

Clarification provided from parents that the SMS weekly email is sent out on Friday and a Sunday Primer, a point form version that recaps highlights of the weekly email, is sent out on Sunday. Discussion about sending OWL Outlook on Sunday instead of Friday, or a primer on Sunday in addition to the Friday email (like SMS). Should there be a parent survey re: preference of what day (Friday or Sunday) the OWL Outlook is sent out?

Some parents expressed interest in receiving an email on a Sunday instead of a Friday; some stated they will find the email and read it when it suits them, regardless of the day it is sent; Sunday Primer is a good quick overview, Friday email provides all the details. Brendan shared his thoughts: that from a parent perspective, a Sunday Primer would be good, it wouldn't be a lot of extra work, whatever is best for parents. Caley brought up how do we approach parents for a survey, do we contact those who have provided permission to their class reps? How do we communicate effectively that this is a request for parent feedback from SC, not specific individuals? Brendan clarified that yes, Caley

and Chelsey, on behalf of SC, can send out a survey to collect parent feedback. *Motion for co-chairs to send out survey to parents regarding how and when they receive communication from both the school and council made by Caley; seconded by Manhar; no objections; motion carried.*

5. Principal's Report

AHS backlogged, letter will be sent by Public Health if >10% student absence due to illness.

PBIS (Positive Behaviour Supports in School) committee meetings held last year. All staff collectively involved, teacher driven. Focused around 'we are a safe community that is respectful, responsible and brave.' The big idea around this is to teach kids what this looks like:

Respectful - we use kind words, we use kind actions, we keep our hands/feet/objects to ourselves

Responsible - we are ready and prepared, we take care of our spaces, we own our choices

Brave - we stand up for ourselves and others, we try new and tricky things, we all make mistakes and we learn from them

This is not coming from a place of huge need, our kids do incredibly well in meeting expectations, all RVS are doing this. Next step is making visuals and developing specific lessons to articulate what this looks like.

Over 10 staff have completed training in restorative practice, a principle-based set of strategies that can transform learning environments by building healthy relationships and developing the capacity of school staff to respond more effectively to unacceptable behaviour.

Shared a video on restorative practice. For more information, and to view the video, please go to www.alberta.ca/restorative-practices.aspx

Brendan shared that restorative practice is at the heart of his practice, Alanna as well. The big idea is to empower kids, not to use power over them. An example of this was during our first year here, when there was some soccer conflict. Met with students involved, and out of that, a student involved came to realize they played a big role in this conflict. Subsequently, they were involved in starting a beyblades club. They became a leader, were seen in a different role, and other student clubs were started. Restorative practice leads to all kinds of possibilities.

SafeArrival launches next week. School Messenger app a quick easy way to report student absences (instructions provided in OWL Outlook). Very important for parents to

check what email they have on file with RVS. Simple to use, will significantly reduce workload for front office, but don't want to lose connection with families.

6. School Trustee Report

Judi sends her regrets, unable to make today's meeting. Full report will be attached to minutes if anyone wants to read in detail. Caley shared the highlights: schools in RVS district approval for travel across Canada, but not outside of Canada. Growth across district around 1,000 students/year. Board advocating for new schools, modulars. Caley shared she and Brendan attended a joint school council meeting. Springbank schools (ÉVE, SMS, SHS) not in a pinch for space. Chestermere, Cochrane, Airdrie most affected by lack of space, we are way down on the list.

November 2022, Newsletter Trustee Hunter

Schools are well into the swing of learning. For the most part there is a return to a normal school year. An exception would be travel outside of the country. Rocky View Schools will not approve out-of-country travel this year. Travel within Canada will continue.

Rocky View School District continues to grow by about 1000 students per year. The Board is in dire need of new schools and portables to accommodate the rise in student population. The Board met with Minister LaGrange to advocate for new schools in Rocky View. The Board will actively be engaging with communities to highlight the extreme need for student accommodation in Rocky View schools.

In its effort to support school councils and the work that councils do in support of students and parents, the Board hosted a by-laws workshop for school councils October 6, and on October 27, 2022 held the joint School Council/School Board meeting, its first in person meeting in over 2 years.

Alberta Education Minister Adriana LaGrange has appointed lawyer Julia Sproule as the province's first teaching profession commissioner. Her five-year contract begins January 1, 2023. Sproule will oversee a new complaint process for the province's 46000 teachers.

Tuesday, October 11, Rocky View Schools enabled SMS/text messaging service to parents, which will be used to disseminate timely information, such as school closures from both RVS and the schools their children attend.

Alberta Education has awarded \$4 million in dual credit start-up and enhancement funding to 43 school authorities for the 2022/23 school year. RVS schools received a 50 000 grant to assist students enrolled in dual-credit programs. Below are the institutions that RVS high school kids are enrolled in:

- 2 SAIT pre-employment
- 3 second year welding at Olds College
- 12 online at Olds College in various courses
- 11 online at SAIT in various courses
- 28 in Turning point which is a trades exploration course
- 32 in Tech for Ag at Olds College
- 5 in Vet Tech Assistant course at Olds College
- 40 females will be taking part in "Jill of All Trades" (planning still in progress)

This funding enables school authorities, public charter and accredited funded independent (private) schools to provide students in Grades 10, 11 and 12 with learning experiences to earn both high school credits and credits that count toward a post-secondary certificate, diploma, or degree, including a journey person certificate. These

learning experiences will be developed in collaboration with an eligible post-secondary, business and/or industry partner.

Education continues to see educational options for parents, and school boards are trying to meet the needs of families. A remote island in British Columbia is an example.

A recent article in the Edmonton Journal gives some interesting information about the indigenous population in Alberta. Rocky View schools has set Truth and Reconciliation as a focus area, the article sets out the need for continued work. Link to article <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/indigenous-population-in-edmonton-area-continues-to-grow-statistics-canada-says-1.6624253>

Mental health continues to be in the fore front of educational decisions. Parents, teachers and students are advocating for greater mental-health supports. The recent “Support Public Education” rally in Edmonton spoke this issue in a list of others. A recent immigrant youth summit also focused on mental health support needs. <https://calgarysun.com/news/local-news/immigrant-youth-wellness-summit-builds-much-needed-peer-leadership/wcm/756e242b-35e3-4686-9567-2b096527e47f>

7. FEEVES Report

Barely scraped by in terms of filling volunteer positions for casino night. The casino stated that if we don't provide more volunteers sooner next year, we do run the risk of losing our spot. In the future, will need to ensure positions are filled in a timely manner so we don't lose this important source of fundraising for our school. A big thanks to all who were able to volunteer their time.

8. Open Floor

Request by parents to present some information on a proposed health rehab facility in close proximity to the school:

Stephanie Beekhuisen and Heather Gabrinsky: We have come together on this issue, understand the position of both the school and SC is that they have to stay neutral on these kinds of issues. We just want to get the word out about what's happening. Opus purchased the land and building at 90 Commercial Court, proposing to put in a rehab facility run by Edgewood Health Network. In April 2022, the development permit process started. They were supposed to circulate to adjacent neighbourhoods the intent on putting a medical facility into that space. We confirmed they did not. Initial development permit to have a medical facility was denied by RV county, on the premise they were going to have an inpatient facility. That decision was successfully appealed and a development permit was granted until December 2025.

Opus trying to get re-zoning of this site so they have a broader scope of medical services they can put in that building, regardless of who their tenant is. Clinic for counselling was the perception, we confirmed it is going to be a 40 bed overnight stay, up to 30 days, for patients detoxing off drugs, alcohol, sex addiction with mental health counselling. Clinical land usage right now, strict protocols on what they can do. If the land usage changes to medical, Opus can rent out the building to have an auxiliary hospital, sanatorium, detox centre etc. We are petitioning to not have the land re-

designated to medical usage, keep it as clinical, so the permit has to go up for renewal in December 2025.

There has been confusion, that it's just day programs, when in fact there will be overnight stays with actively detoxing patients. This isn't about mental health, those supports and resources are needed in the community. Patients will be there voluntarily, they can leave when they want, there will be no security, no outdoor lights or walk ways put in. The treatment protocols will include Ketamine treatment for people not responding to antidepressants. They said they won't necessarily be starting Ketamine there, but they will have it in the building.

We are concerned this is close to 5 schools and Springbank Dancers. Fight is on land re-designation, clinical vs. medical land usage status, which determines if they can open a medical facility providing 24 hour medical care. This wasn't communicated to anyone, so no one could oppose the original development permit. Petition started, up to everyone individually to decide if this is a risk or not. Public hearing on this site specific amendment will happen in January 2023 at the earliest. Springbank Community Association held a meeting with Opus and Edgewood Health to discuss community concerns, video of meeting available on Facebook.

Parent asked if this has already been approved, what can we do now, what does the petition do? Development permit approved, only good until December 2025 at which time they will have to reapply and we can fight against the development permit again. If land designation is not medical, limits the services they can offer. Edgewood Health may rethink their lease if they have to apply for a full permit again in 2025 and not have a medical designation. If there's enough pushback on the site amendment, and medical usage is not approved, Edgewood Health or any tenant that wants to put in an inpatient facility isn't going to spend the capital on the lease holding improvements of that building. The hope is they will back out of the whole process before it even starts.

Goal of bringing this up today is to increase awareness, this has been happening under the radar, we just want the correct information brought forward.

Caley: I want all parents to know we encourage communication, bringing information and issues forward. It's very important people understand the school and council can't take official positions, but parents can individually. As a parent, I want to share that it is more effective to contact your MLA personally to share concerns, carries more weight than signing an online petition. Email or call them about this land re-designation remaining clinical, not medical, which limits what they can and cannot do. If anyone is interested: <https://www.change.org/p/edgewood-health-rehab-facility-near-springbank-schools-daycares-and-youth-activities>

Manhar: Charity Skate - thank you ÉEVE for posting on the OWL Outlook last week. Once a year I like to do a charity initiative. Previously teddy bear toss, Christmas cards for seniors. This year Brown Bagging for Calgary Kids. They make 5,500 lunches/day for kids in Calgary. Bowness Elementary one of the biggest clients, 150 lunches/day.

This year they are short \$250,000 short of meeting their budget. One initiative is the Charity Skate on Friday 12:15-1:30 (Remembrance Day). Springbank Park donated ice time; Tim Horton's on 85th donated timbits, coffee, hot chocolate; Crave Cupcakes donated cupcakes. Bring in items requested - school safe snacks (peanut free, no marshmallows) listed on flyer. Can also scan QR code on flyer to donate. This is a charitable organization so bring your receipt for snacks to get a tax receipt.

9. Future SC Meetings

Future meetings will be held in person at ÉEVE with option to join on Zoom. Will be posted on school calendar. SC section on school website to be updated.

Dec 6, 2022 at 1:00pm
Jan 10, 2023 at 7:00pm
Feb 7, 2023 at 1:00pm
Mar 14, 2023 at 7:00pm
Apr 11, 2023 at 1:00pm
May 9, 2023 at 7:00pm

Motion to schedule the remaining SC meetings for this academic year made by Caley; seconded by Heather; no objections; motion carried.

10. Adjournment

Caley adjourned the meeting at 8:21pm.