



Heritage Hills Elementary School Council (HHESC) Meeting

Thursday, November 4, 2021 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Submitted by: Jessica Jones, Parent Volunteer

Attendees:

Families represented: Kelly Annesty (Chair), Jodi Lakevold, Susan Shwaga, Lisa McDonnell, Lisa Solamillo, Lori Tootosis-Friesen, Marla Dorin, Michelle Beck, Andrea Kardal, Jessica Jones, Sarah Without

School Trustee: Jim Seutter

School Staff: Stacey Carruthers, Theresa Wells-Taylor

School Administration: Bill Schlacht, Kyle Samaratunga

1. **Welcome and Call to Order** at 6:33 pm by K. Annesty, Chair
 - 1.1. Intro of HHE School Council Executive
 - K. Annesty has stepped into the Chair position
 - Still looking for Vice Chair and Secretary volunteers
 - 1.2. Intro of HHE School Admin & Teacher Representative
 - 1.3. Intro of the School Trustee
 - Welcome back J. Seutter!
 - 1.4. Review of the Agenda
 - No changes
2. **Approval of Minutes** from September 27, 2021 meeting
 - Previous minutes yet to be distribute. S. Carruthers to complete soon for review next meeting
3. **Updates for Parents**
 - 3.1. School Trustee Update - Jim Seutter
 - Hard work lies ahead, especially dealing covid 19 issues
 - Proposing that new K-6 curriculum be delayed, many behind scenes conversations with AB Education
 - Looking at right sizing of facilities and attendance boundaries. There are still some over utilized facilities, including Sherwood Heights. Looking for funding
 - Trina Boymook as Chair, Vice Chair Colleen Holowaychuk
 - Excess capacity at Fultonvale
 - Received learning gap funding for grade 2 and 3 to catch up students, more coming later for grade 1
 - Schools having AB school board meeting Nov 24 HHE at 1:00pm
 - Trustees and School Council Chair are invited to Assurance Review, which will be a Zoom meeting. J. Seutter to clarify for L T-F if parents are also able to attend
 - 3.2. Principal/School Update - Bill Schlacht & Team. Key points noted:
 - Two communication documents are sent out – Staff Weekly and Parent Weekly. HHESC won't repeat what's in the weekly although parents are welcome to bring questions forward at HHESC meetings.
 - School volunteers: All EIPS schools follow AHS covid guidelines. HHE is currently allowing volunteers in the school, but not with the children directly. Will move towards volunteers being able to work in classrooms as the covid situation improves.



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- Mission, vision, values, motto, mission statement: So far staff have spent two PD days working on these. Slowly narrowing down a lot of information. Reminder that there is a Values Form in the Parent Weekly asking for feedback from parents. Currently working to summarize what's been said so far. Reminder for all parents to fill out the Questionnaire – no specific end date but the sooner the better!
- Next steps will be to determine a school mascot, this is a very exciting opportunity
- Live streaming of school events – Kyle gave summary of privacy law; anything broadcast out of school is subject to law and parental consent (bright space is able to be shared). Remembrance Day ceremony for example, will be displayed within school, but not with parents due to this.
- School Education Plan (SEP) – posted on website, visited at all staff meetings, a living document, which is referred to often and followed. Measures at end of document to evaluate performance and implementation of plan. Encourage parents to look at SEP and suggested taking some time to look at the SEP during School Council meetings.
- Assurance Survey looks at last year's results. SEP to help guide this year. HHESC will review the Assurance Survey at our December meeting.

4. Other discussion Items

4.1. HHESC Chair Update

- School Council meetings have been moved from Mondays to Thursdays
- K. Annelly attended her first fundraising meeting, and expressed appreciation to all those who have been helping her out in her new role
- Reminder that Vice Chair and Secretary positions are still open!
- Fundraiser and pizza day coming up November 17 and 19, deadline to order is November 10, 2021

4.2. Frequency and Timing of School Council Meetings

- Monthly is quite frequent compared to other schools, open to suggestions to tweak if desired – no changes suggested at this time
- Recommended to stay virtual – no concerns with this approach at this time

4.3. Council of School Councils (COSC) Information – S. Witholt

- Calendar for 22/23 is not yet approved, will be approved at Dec school board meeting. No significant changes are expected.
- EIPS has 5 school resource officers, which is great news for Strathcona County schools
- Newly announced school council grant of \$500 will be available to every school council, HHESC will discuss in January how to spend ours. Requirement is that money must be used for engagements or development activities for the whole school. Another opportunity may exist to pool all of the moneys and do district wide activity – will require a vote if we want to go this route. Grant must be used by end of 21/22 school year. As school councils do not have bank accounts, they will receive funds once they have a plan in place and are ready to spend.
- New idea – some schools have implemented a “shout out” forum for teachers, staff, or anyone who deserves a special thanks for their contribution related to HHE. Kudos is put in a form, if that person is comfortable with it, can go in newsletter or be discussed at HHESC meetings. It's a free place for parents to



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express gratitude for things we see in our kids. S. Witholt to get more information on logistics and bring it back to the HHESC. The idea was supported by HHESC in general.

- Zero schools on outbreak status currently in EIPS
- Current protocol for kids with covid symptoms is to isolate for 10 days or until symptoms return. No covid tests required before return. 10+ cases warrants outbreak status. If that happens, HHE could move to cohorts, with no extra curricular activities, enhanced cleaning, and potentially at home learning (as last resort). Outbreak status gets at home rapid testing.

4.4. Staff Appreciation Committee Representative

- Staff Appreciation Committee Representatives are M. Beck and S. Shwaga (co-chairs) and they are looking for ideas! World Teacher Day was early October, the SAC provided doughnuts and variety of coffees for teachers on behalf of School Council and all parents – check out the photos on Facebook!
- Will be doing a Christmas appreciation, will work with B. Schlacht on timing and hope to have fun
- Will also plan a spring appreciation and a year end appreciation event.
- Some donations from families have been received to date (which paid for the October event)
- MOTION: that the Staff Appreciation Committee is able to fundraise \$700 as budget for fundraising activity through the 21/22 school year be approved. PASSED unanimously.
- Staff loved receiving thank you emails from parents, very valued

4.5. Fundraising Association

- First fundraiser is this Saturday November 6, bottle drive will be at HHE 10:00am to 1:00pm. Looking for volunteers for 1 hour shifts to collect bottles.
- Main goal for fundraising is for construction of phase 2 of the playground
- School is currently in discussions with the County on asphaltting the playground basketball courts
- Purdy's fundraiser link is now available on Facebook page, will send special email November 5 on this, along with the pizza update
- Jaclyn Manchik is taking on hot lunch this year
- Panago is first location for our Pizza Day – will be doing personal pizzas this time and may consider shared large pizza in future. Will have another hot lunch before Christmas holidays (likely the Thursday/Friday before)
- Plan to host another bottle drive early in the new year (post meeting note – this will be on January 8, 2022)
- Will plan March Pi day activities – perhaps blaze pizza day fundraiser, possibly math a thon with kids bringing in pledges
- Will plan little Caesars Kit fundraiser in April
- New Asian village is a potential as well, if parents are willing to pay \$12 for a hot lunch meal (typical is pizza in the \$6 range, although would offer us something different). Will discuss more later.
- Fundraising Association meeting to follow HHESC meeting

5. **Meeting Adjourned** at 7:55 by K. Anesty.

Next Meeting at 6:30 pm, Thursday December 2, 2021