



SGS School Council

Meeting Minutes – February 23, 2021

7:00PM via Google Meet

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:01pm

2. Welcome and Attendance

Randy Roszell, Principal
Glenys Edwards, Trustee
Lisa Pasichnyk
Tarah Samuel
Tarra Mitchell
Carmen Leibel

Marcus Hoople, Chairperson
Judy Krajnak, Secretary
Krystal Jenkins
Denise Watson
Melinda Oakman

3. Review of agenda

No additions/modifications were made to the agenda

4. Approval of the January 26, 2021 Minutes

Lisa Pasichnyk motioned to approve the minutes. Seconded by Tarra Mitchell. All in favour.

5. Reports:

Administration Report: Randy Roszell

February cold weather- gym use has been increased/allowed, but less “walk time” made some classes noticeably less calm and comfortable.

Registrations are out early, options are going to half-year (except Band and Performing Arts). We expect a few glitches as some students have already strongly-established passions.

With numbers going down(ish), we are hopeful to be able to get into some semblance of pre-pandemic normalcy even as early as the fourth quarter. Badminton and field trips are finding their way onto the table, although transmission and the variant continue to cause concern.

Beginning to look at Grade 9 Farewell and other celebrations.

Grade 6 Visits – after Gr.7-9 students leave the school. Minimizing touch points in school and cohort contamination.

School Promotional Videos – AC and SGS are main foci.

School Visits – Late French Immersion, French Immersion, and Congregated Programs will be happening throughout March, as long as COVID protocols can be adhered to.

Robert Rundle Winter Festival – Grade 9 students safely ran stations, but were unable to join elementary cohorts.

Campus Book Study “Power of Our Words” starting in the next week or so.

Coldest Night of the Year – \$3000 raised for the Bissell Centre

Crush for a Crush – close to \$1000 raised

“Good Kid Breakfasts” – one of those celebrations listed above, about 40 students received a pancake breakfast last Friday. Staff will continue to find creative ways to celebrate!

Pi(e) Day is fast approaching, and we are going to celebrate that too, while strictly monitoring safety protocols.

Interviews are just around the corner (March 23/24).

Spring Break/Easter

April PD day (April 19th)

Two questions were posed to Principal Roszell:

One has to do with a concern about racist/demeaning language being displayed/used openly within the school when the staff are not present. Considering discussions/demonstrations happening across society, and more specifically, within Alberta, how is the District and SGS addressing issues of equity to ensure that all students and staff are free from racist behaviours and language to ensure safety within schools? New policies are being advanced at the district level. New trainings (e.g., LGBT) are/have been offered to staff. New teachers will be required to take sensitivity trainings.

An idea was raised about parents hosting a session that speaks to this. How do we speak to our children about this in a proactive way? A key note speaker could be brought in to start the discussion within the District. This idea will be taken forward to COSC for further discussion.

Another question was about the posting of resources for families during this difficult time. There is interest in ensuring that parents know where to go for additional help. A space is available on the SGS website.

https://sgs.spschools.org/for_parents/parent_resources

School Board Trustee: Glenys Edwards

The Board had asked administration for mental health supports for staff/students. They wanted to determine what is available and given the funds the District currently has, if there are adequate supports. Trustees will soon find out what is available.

Another letter has been written to the Minister of Education – re: the curriculum. Experts in our division have concerns. Staff have served on provincial committees in the past. New curriculum guidelines appear very prescriptive around what subjects are taught at what grade level.

Consistency is key. Once scope is given to a grade level teacher, they should be able to move through it at the pace that works for the class. Teachers need autonomy within the classroom.

They are working at provincial level. Environmental education should be part of curriculum through all grade levels. A lot of education due to the passion of the teachers. This can start from Kindergarten up.

Budget is coming out. Trustees will meet with both MLAs (March 12 & March 19th). By then the district, will have gone through the budget.

Division is case-free.

Division is part of pilot for rapid COVID-19 testing. Only staff who qualify for testing (e.g., close contact or symptomatic). This pilot is over and above the regular COVID test. They still need to have the regular COVID test.

Chair Report : Marcus Hoople

Attached to this meeting's agenda were the Minutes from the January 21, 2021 COSC meeting. Next COSC meeting is in May.

In addition, there has been a request for stakeholder feedback for three policies under review, including one that pertains to School Councils. Marcus sent the policies under review out to everyone earlier today. These are also on the Division website and accepting comments. Feedback is due by April 1, 2021.

Marcus wrote a letter thanking our administration for covering the cost of COSC fees. He also wrote a letter to Minister LaGrange in support of the AB Council of School Councils. To date, there has not been a response.

6. Next Meeting: April 27, 2021 @ 7:00PM via Google Meets

- Future Meeting dates: **May 25, 2021 @ 7:00PM**

7. Meeting adjourned at 7:52pm