

# Lethbridge Collegiate Institute School Council



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MINUTES: Tuesday, Oct 24, 2023

**Attendance:** Carrie, Rochelle Neville, Claudia Limon, Annette Siemens, Kristina Larkin (Trustee), Shannon Pratt, Katrina van der Meer, Robbie Charlebois, Gordon Vatcher, Kyle McKenzie, Cory Gillespie, Jamie Walburger, Jessica DeJager, Jacqueline Gartshore, Janessa Fyfe, Vicki Hazelwood,

## 1. Call to Order

### Land Acknowledgement

- I respectfully acknowledge that I am on Treaty 7 territory, the traditional territories of the Blackfoot Nations, including Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai, the Tsuut'ina Nation and Stoney Nakoda First Nations.

## 2. Review of Agenda – Annette Siemens

## 3. Approval of Minutes – Annette Siemens

## 4. Reports:

### a. Administrator – Wayne Pallett

1. Thanks for supporting Jax – Thank you to School Council for initiating support for Jax celebration of life with food and other aspects. A student is working on a portrait for Jax's family. Thank you to parents who contributed. We were able to raise \$1,250 for the family.
  - a. Wellness team have a long-range plan to help with family and friends.
  - b. Parent suggestion to have School Council to remember 3 m, 6m, etc as a check in with family
  - c. Someone from Lethbridge Family Services gave a presentation for parents and staff about some of the resources available for parents and students.
  - d. Morag and Jen Day have been connecting with Wellness team and staff on process and next steps.
2. Academic Results - January and June Diploma results were shown in comparison with class marks, diploma exams LCI and Diploma Exam Province.

3. Gr 9 Academic Matter – Grade 9 PAT marks shown. Note: 20-30 students were away by the late date in June when some PATs were run this results in the school receiving a zero for each student.
  - a. Gord Vatcher is doing a presentation to grade 9 students to talk about why marks matter and how it can impact their future stream for classes. US schools take grade 9 marks into consideration. Importance of PAT marks.
  - b. Recommendation for Parent Night for Gr 9 families so they understand what credit counts and academic pathways are available before they choose classes for Gr 10.
  - c. Information is available on the website of pathways and credits etc. under programs: <https://lci.lethsd.ab.ca/programs/core-courses/english> (click on other subjects to see pathways)
4. EAL Family Night – There has been a big growth in the English as an Additional Language in our community. We have created a new EAL program to help bridge the transition to a new community and school. One challenge has been engaging parents to discuss their students progress. We have partnered with LFS to run parent interviews. There are 32 students in the program at this time. These are students with beginner English. Students that have Intermediate English language. We are hoping LFS will have a few translators available to help.
  - Could an invitation be shared with families that might be willing to help with translation?
5. Student Grad committee – We have had 3 student grad committee meetings. We meet every Thursday. Last week we had 62 students. We have decided on a black hoodie, we are narrowing it down for the hoodie design. Next they'll determine a theme. We've created a LCI Grad 2024 Teams account where all information will be disseminated through. Saturday, May 25 is the Grad Date. We are anticipating approximately 290 students graduating.

### **School Council Chair**

#### **Parent Questions/Concerns**

1. Is LCI getting vape detectors for the bathrooms? No, LCI is not on the list for the first pilot due to the size of school and the cost for sensors. (Approx \$2,000 per sensor) It was an all or nothing pilot. Chinook, Vic Park, Winston Churchill and GS Lakie will be pilot locations.
2. Terry Fox – Do we do anything at LCI in remembrance?
  - This September's focus was on the 8 days of Indigenous events that LCI held for students. There have been Terry Fox events in the past. The school has to be careful how many events and assemblies they plan for students that take them out of the class as teachers need to stay on track with course timelines.
  - Can a student not participate in Indigenous events if they choose? Answer: yes.
  - Indigenous Bingo nights are being advertised. How is this being funded? Who is invited to these events? At a division level everyone is welcome. The purpose of these events is geared to help Indigenous families feel welcome and have an event that feels more familiar to them. These events help us build relationships with these families, bridge gaps, and welcome families. These events can provide us as staff opportunity to get to know families and have important conversations about their children's school experience and academic progress. There are not a lot of expenses involved in these family nights. The Indigenous Education team runs these events. Their funding comes from Alberta Education.
  - We have run these type of events for other pockets of needs that we identify such as for English as Additional Language (EAL) families or K&E families.

3. Need for LCI Gym moderation.

LCI has an old gym. Our large gym sits on a false floor. If we want to replace the gym floor, which is a need, the under area would need to be filled with concrete. We can not re-sand the floor because it is down to the last sand. To put a new floor in the gym we would need to pour a concrete floor which takes 4 months to cure. This would not address the issue with the size of the gym.

One idea for a fix for the gym would be to have the small gym expanded out into the field. It isn't known if this would be permitted by the government and if the footprint of the school could be expanded.

There are lots of schools that have a lot of needs. Ie. Galbreth recently applied to the city for the expansion of their gym. Other schools need AC, accessible bathrooms, etc.

School Boards are responsible for putting forward a capital plan to the Alberta Government for School Division renos. The province then makes one list out of all the lists submitted based on criteria. A feasibility study has been initiated to look at the westside education needs. LCI will be included in this since LCI has students from the west side.

Three-Year Capital Plan can be viewed on the School Division website.

Concerns: Can't have all students in the gym for an assembly, safety (light falling), floor condition for sports/PE,

There is also an issue with not enough theatre space for productions, band, drama, etc.

Supporting in house rather than outside venues.

4. Create Society for School Council to Fundraise, or revive old one?

Currently we are unable to do fundraising through the School Council.

Tiffany made a motion to create an LCI School Society.

Table motion until we have more information.

5. Follow up from team room discussion – Robbin Charlebois

We heard clearly that parents are looking for options. We have put together Team Room Opt In or Opt Out Options.

6. Teacher Appreciation Luncheon in December (Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>)

Usually first Friday of December. In the past we've requested monetary donations from parents.

**MOTION:** Tiffany motioned that we start a campaign for donations from Nov. 1 – Nov. 17th through Cash On Line for parents to donate to Teacher Appreciation Luncheon. **All in favor.**

7. Follow Up – Creating a committee to review LCI School Council Bylaws

**TABLE**

8. Follow up – Facebook/Instagram account for LCI School Council

This has been created and will be activated and sent out. It will be linked through School Council page on LCI website and Green To Gold Newsletter.

**c. District School Council – Jamie Walburger**

October meeting – elected council and committee reps. Policy Advisory council will be determined later as they are looking at adding more parent reps. Calendar committee is meeting before Christmas so if you have feedback let them know asap. Send information for calendar feedback to [Jamie\\_walburger@htomail.com](mailto:Jamie_walburger@htomail.com)

Each School Council will decide if they would like to be part of ASCA again. Action item is to consider if we'd like to be part of ASCA or not moving forward. Allison Percel used to be the President of ASCA.

November Parent Learning session will be about ASCA. After that meeting we will have this on our agenda to decide if LCI will be on ASCA or not.

DSC is interested in know how we are spending our School Council engagement grant. We will add this to agenda for November. We get \$500 plus \$250. If you have ideas for parent learning sessions send them to Tiffany.

We have a new Superintendent this year. His key priorities were discussed at last meeting.

Grants for outdoor improvements and nutrition are available. Administration needs to apply if interested. Schools can reach out to Wellness Team if interested in more information.

Mindful Munchies are available for students needing lunches.

**d. Board Trustee – Kristina Larkin**

Please let Kristina know if there are issues or important topics we'd like Kristina to provide more information in the future.

Public Forum Policies are being reviewed. Currently it is a 15 minute block with people having a max of 5 minutes per person.

Next Community Conversation is at Westminster Hall . These are an opportunity for community members and parents to come and talk with Trustees.

**e. Executive Council Member –**

**Enrolment** – we are up 300+ students, mainly at the high school level. Teachers have been added to larger class sizes. Prioritizing elementary school large classes.

**f. “Intentional With Tech”** workshop with Kaylee Low run at Plaxton School on Wed. Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>, 7-8PM. This will be geared to Elementary School families.

As part of Mental Health pilot we have a teacher that is a Digital Wellness expert that will be hosting “The Truth about Youth” on November 15 for all families. This team would be thrilled to plan something specific for LCI. <https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/our-district/news/post/digital-wellness-parent-night-the-truth-about-youth-cultivating-digital-wellness>

**Future meeting date:** Nov 21, Jan 16, Feb Town Hall TBD, March 19, April 16, June 11

## **LCI Athletics Volleyball and Basketball Team Room Opt In or Out Options**

A LCI volleyball or basketball team will have the following options presented to them at the beginning of the season at the parent meeting. A family will have to vote on the option that works best for the family. Please see the information below regarding parent choice for team rooms. Each choice has an implication on the athletic fee for the activity. After families choose which option works best for them then the athletic fee will be finalized.

### **Team Room Opt In Option**

This option will have the hotel fee that includes team rooms for athletes. The school will book team rooms for student athletes for the season trips. Student athletes can stay with their parents if they choose for various trips, but this will not change the fee for the season. This is our current model for athletics at LCI.

FORM(S): The parent permission form required in this option be the volunteer driver form only. This is to drive students to various tournaments/games.

### **Team Room Opt Out- Stay with own parent**

This option will not include hotels for student athletes. In this option the student athlete stays with their parent(s)/guardian for all trips. The fees for each overnight trip(s) would be removed from player fees in this option. The parent(s) will be responsible to book their own hotel room and is responsible for their players accommodation cost.

FORM(S): The parent permission form required in this option be the volunteer driver form only. This is to drive students to various tournaments/games.

### **Team Room Opt Out- Stay with another parent**

Parents would have to authorize another parent to supervise their child for each trip of the season. This option requires communication between two families at the beginning of the season. No hotel fees would be included in the student(s) athlete fee. The parent(s) will be responsible to book their own hotel room and would be responsible for their player accommodation cost.

FORM(S): The parent permission form required in this option be the volunteer driver form. This is to drive students to various tournaments/games.

A criminal record check would need to be submitted to LCI as parents are acting in a volunteer capacity for overnight supervision. The cost of the criminal record check is the responsibility of the supervising parent.

The final form for this option would also include the form below.

I am authorizing my child to share overnight accommodations with the XX (student) including parents (all parents names) and authorize my child to be in there care and