



## LCI School Council Meeting

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### Agenda (Tuesday, September 24, 2024)

**Attendance:** Tiffany Hill, Sarah Heringer, Jamie Walburger, Daniel Heaton, Kyle McKenzie, Annette Fox-Bruised Head, Shelly Roest, Albert Negoy, Cilena Matthieu, Amber Murray, Jocelyn Smith, Candice Beattie, Fiona Kirkby, Jacqueline Gartshore, Elaine Jacqueline, Annette Siemens, Vicki Hazelwood, Gord Vatcher, Jennifer Gordon, Rachelle Ririe,

**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, Sarah

**3. Approval of Minutes** – Candice Beattie,

#### **4. Election of School Council Executive 24-25**

- Chair – Tiffany nominated. Nominated by Shelly Roest. None opposed.
  - o Concern raised that parent didn't know people so difficult to vote for people I don't know.
- Vice Chair – Rachelle Ririe (past Chair at Lakie). Nominated by Sarah Heringer. None opposed.
- Secretary – Shelley Roest nominated by Jocelyn Smith, Vicki Nominated by Jacqueline Gartshore. None opposed
- DSC Reps – Sarah Heringer nominated by Annette Siemens, Shelly Roest nominated by Jamie Walburger, and Amber Murray nominated by Jocelyn Smith,
  - o First Monday of each month (Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>)

#### **5. Reports:**

##### **a. Administrator – Annette Fox-Bruised Head**

- i. Registration – We hope to have registration completed in 2025 by June 1<sup>st</sup> to ease up the pressure in August. Students will know in June what classes they will have for the following school year. We are working out things with IT. Notices to families will go out to register in February. By April 1<sup>st</sup> we hope to have students choosing their classes with their advisors. Parents can help by making sure their students register and complete course selection in

February so accurate numbers are available when timetables are set up. Currently 1580 students at LCI.

- ii. **Space Exploration Program** – Last year Ms. Matthews did a trip with students to Kennedy Centre. Ms. Matthews has also done PD at Jonathan Space Centre and will be returning with several teachers in February. Ms. Matthews taught astronomy and has built partnerships with Lethbridge Astronomy Club and University of Lethbridge. Given the interest in space that students have shown, Ms. Jacqueline has written 3 courses on Space Exploration which have been approved by the province and our school division (Space Exploration 15 – 25- 35).

The Space Exploration Program will be an interdisciplinary course that integrates science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM) and humanities with hands-on learning experiences. Students will have the opportunity to explore:

- The history of the Space race and the scientific discoveries of the time
- Rocket Science and the Technical Analysis of Space Exploration
- Life in Space

The goal is to foster a deep appreciation for space science and to inspire the next generation of scientists, engineers, and explorers.

Ms. Jacqueline has put together a donation letter that will be sent out to companies (Space X, Nasa, etc) to see what funds we can generate for expenses such as VR headsets that are needed. Ms. Jacqueline and Ms. Matthews plan to take some students to the elementary schools to share their excitement and spark curiosity.

- iii. **Hosting Provincial Volleyball** – November 20 – 22, (Gordon Vatcher) – Working with Gilbert Paterson, Chinook Highschool and Lethbridge Polytechnic for court space. Planning is underway. Gr. 9 and 10 volleyball players will be helping.

\*If parents are interested in helping, please contact Gordon Vatcher.

## **b. School Council Chair**

### **i. Parent Question/Concerns:**

1. **Athletic Fees** – Concerns with volleyball fees of \$1,000. Parents requested breakdown of fees and have received them. Moving forward, parents are requesting discussions about number of tournaments, what parents can afford, and transparency on fee breakdown. We are a 4A school so tournaments tend to be Calgary and Edmonton. There are travel and hotel expenses in addition to sport fees.

Fees are being reviewed, concerns have been heard, and action is being taken to review costs and set boundaries around expenses within the budget.

2. **Financial Report – School Council account** – There were some issues with last year's financial report. Tiffany is working with the School Division to review the financial report. Everything has been moved into one account. The current balance is \$1,326.

**Discussion:** Should we include on the agenda each month the starting and ending balance in the account so it is shared at every meeting to avoid any surprises down the road?

**All spending from the School Council account must be voted on during a Council meeting.**

3. **School Council Bylaws** – need for updating? – The Bylaws haven't been updated since 2016 so there are several things needing changed. A subcommittee is being created to review the Bylaws and they will be presented to School Council at next AGM.

**Subcommittee: Jamie Walburger, Jennifer Gordon, Amber Murray**

**Next Meeting: Add vote about ASCA to agenda. Division pays the cost to join.**

4. **Need for Society?** – LCI already has 3 societies (Choir, Ram Pack, Band). The challenge is we are all competing against each other for Casino fundraising etc. Proposed the possibility of partnering with one of the current societies or starting our own. School Council has not had a Society since 1983. **Something to think about for next meeting.**
5. **Lunch tables:** Could more tables be put outside to encourage kids to get some outside time at lunch? Additional chairs have been added into the cafeteria to add seating. Administration will consider the possibility of more tables outside noting they would need to be bolted down.
6. **Locker and School Fees:** Why are there new locker fees this year? Could there be a breakdown for school fees, PE fees, etc.
  - The Business Admin person left at the end of June and the new person started August 12<sup>th</sup> so admin is trying to get everyone up to speed. Locker fees are being reviewed.
  - **Admin will bring the school fee breakdown to next meeting.**
  - Christine Light mentioned that fees have been a discussion at the Board. If there is an increase of more than 5% in fees, then a clear notice needs to be shared. Messaging and information must be transparent. We are seeing an increase in fees. The rising unaffordability of experiences in school is a concern and discussion at the board level.
7. **Scheduling** – Concern with Band, Art, and Choir all at the same time.
  - This is the case for grade 9s because the option classes for gr 9 are offered only in period 5 due to time table scheduling.

c. **District School Council** – Shelley Roest – no updates, first meeting October 7<sup>th</sup> . There are committees to get involved in: wellness, community engagement, and policy.

d. **Board Trustee** – Christine Light – Board Chair and Trustee Liaison for LCI this year. October 5<sup>th</sup> is World Teacher Day so we are celebrating teachers and all staff on that day. West Coulee Station School is going to be opening September 2025. Boundary committee has put forward a recommendation to change boundaries. Information about the boundary changes is up on the website. There is a feedback loop open until Oct 18.

The Board is going to be discussing Jr High/Highschool model and looking at other divisions that have different configurations for consideration.

e. **Executive Council Member** – Christine Lee (Executive Council Liaison) and Daniel Heaton (Facilities) – update on accessibility issues – In July Daniel, Christine, and Mike did a tour with an accessibility

consultant at LCI. We talked about the three layers with accessibility. Our plan is to start the journey to address the first level of accessibility (quick wins, not costly changes), then second level and third.

**Level 1** – What are the easy things we can do to improve accessibility. I.e. Way finding. A consultant will be coming again this fall to determine what these first project will be.

Each washroom is around \$100,000 to reno. This would be a Level 2. Boilers will need to be done soon, cost \$1 million.

We've asked Government for money for accessibility this year and boilers. We have put a request in as well for the gym floor.

Concerns were raised that we continue to get more students funneled into the school, but we are not given money to support the infrastructure and building. The gym needs rebuilt not refloored.

Expanding the gym would be a \$10 million dollar project.

Two top capital projects currently are a new high school in west Lethbridge and a new elementary school in west Lethbridge.

#### **f. New Business**

**Future Meeting Dates: Oct. 15, Nov 19, Jan 21, Feb Town Hall TBC, March 18, April 15, June 17**