

Smith School Parent Lighthouse Team Meeting Minutes

March 3, 2021 7:00 pm

Virtual- Via Google Meet

1. *CALL TO ORDER* – 7:07 pm

In attendance: Caitlynn Chernish, Virginia Wasieczko, Nancy Sand, Nikita Phillips, Michelle Sholtz & Candy Nikipelo.

2. *INTRODUCTIONS*- Board chair Candy Nikipelo.

3. *APPROVAL OF AGENDA*- Approved by Nancy.

4. *REPORTS*:

Trustees Report: Nancy Sand- Next year's school calendar has been approved.

-The 2022-23 calendar has been approved in principle. It start date is staggered- Aug 30 & 31, with the last day for students being June 29.

-Board meetings will start with the land acknowledgment.

-The AB Council of School Councils is having a conference in April. It is 3 days long but parents can only attend 2 days if they prefer. The deadline to register is April 16, 2021.

-More information regarding the conference can be found on the AB school council website.

-Aspen View's COSC meeting is the evening of March 17, 2021 via Zoom at 6:00 pm. This meeting will include school council presidents. *Want representation from all schools*.

-Parents have the option to register their children in online schooling. We have around 200 students doing online learning division-wide.

- The provincial budget is out- there is a lot that is unclear, and a lot to unpack.

-They have stated that we will not receive any less funding than last year due to decreased numbers because of COVID.

- Transportation funding remains the same. Unsure of IMR, PUF and specialized learning funding.

- AV is meeting with all municipalities. There is no set date yet to meet with the MD.

- Aspen View is working on a campaign to celebrate and promote the success of rural schools.

- Careers next generation- a high school trades partnership-they will be doing presentations for grade 8 and 9 students- this type of partnership is increasing.

- No diplomas were written this year (they were optional). Post-secondary institutions do not require or look at diploma marks, they look at overall course marks.

-The board is reviewing a few more policies before the end of the year.

-March 31st – the Education budget is released.

Principal Report: Caitlynn Chernish- (see attached)

SPLF President Report: Virginia W

-Little Caesars fundraiser sold 170 kits. Their goal is always to sell 100 kits. They get to keep \$6.00 from every kit sold so they made just over \$1000.00.

- Delivery happened outside at the school.
- SPLF has purchased a sign language board for the school playground.
- They received a grant for \$2500.00 from Canada's Farmers Grow Communities.

Board Chair: Candy Nikipelo

- Also chair of COSC.
- Very thankful that parents have stepped up to volunteer.
- We need to keep our school council going during these trying times.
- Connectivity is an issue, especially in rural Alberta- there is a committee that has been formed to try and deal with these issues.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

- Next SPLF Mtg – Need to set a date.

6. ADJOURNMENT: 7:58

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Principal's Report

- Happy first week of March!
- K-7 students received Farm Safety presentations via Zoom last week.
- Hot Lunch will be provided the last day of every week beginning this week, *free of charge* for all students who want it, provided from local restaurants and funded through the Nutrition Grant.
- The division is continuing to focus on the mental health of students. Active Wellness Line:

Wellness@asperview.org

Toll-Free: 1-855-690-3030

- All COVID-19 protocol is still in place in Smith School. Staff is continuing to work very hard to keep students safe. We are being very diligent regarding mask-wearing, hand-washing and sanitizing.
- Pink shirt day was a huge success! We had 85 % of students and staff wearing pink.

- Grade 1-9 F&P reading assessments have been completed.
- We had 6 applicants for Secretary to Admin position! Amber McConaghy was hired as the new secretary to Admin.
- Tricksters Theatre is coming back to Smith School! They will be working with students during March 15-19 and March 22-26. The skits they create with classes will be recorded and are all based on aspects of the social studies curriculum.

Upcoming Dates:

- **March 12-** Professional Learning Day (No School).
- **March 17-** Council of School Councils Meeting at 6:00 pm on Zoom.
- **March 17-** Saint Patrick's Day (Wear Green)!
- **March 29-April 1-** Spring Break (No School).
- **April 2-** Good Friday (No School).
- **April 5-** Easter Monday (No School).
- **April 15-** Parent Teacher Interviews 4:00-6:00 and 6:30-8:30 pm.