



HSS School Council Meeting Wednesday, March 12, 2025 Learning Commons 7-8:15pm

In attendance: Tracy Brown Ewert, Margie Steingart, Dean Nielsen, Kristina Rentz, Melanie Lorek, Ray Pollock, Janet Stone.

1 min **Call to order at 7:02pm and welcome** – Tracy Brown Ewert *School Council Chair*

1 min **Acceptance of minutes as circulated from Feb.5, 2024** acceptance by Margie.

1 min **Additions to the agenda/acceptance of the agenda:**

- Tracy provided an update on the \$500 learning grant available for the school council to support educational initiatives. CES proposed combining funds to collaborate on a joint learning opportunity, maximizing the impact of the grant.
- Financial Correction: Margie identified an error in the reported available funds. The correct amount is \$1,342.31.

5 min **HSS school council reports:**

- **Vacant Vice Chair position**
 - Call for nominations or volunteers with no names put forward tonight.
- **Financial report** – \$2559.59; correct amount is \$1,342.31
 - Please come with ideas of how this money can be used within the following framework:
“Funds will be used to benefit students’ experience and HSS community”
 - Use of money from parent engagement grant fund
 - ◆ **Motion:** Margie Steingart moves to transfer the funds in their entirety to **HSSEF** for the sole purpose of the outdoor infrastructure. **Motion seconded by Melanie Lorek.**
Motion carried.
- **Current playground removed summer 2025** - update from Dean
 - HSSEF requires parent support to continue the planning/fundraising process.
 - ◆ The recent donation drive generated \$950. It was a fairly easy process, and there are plans to organize another one in the near future.
- **ASCA 2025 Spring Symposium to be hosted at HSS**
 - CES will be joining and invitations will be sent to Didsbury and Cremona school councils
 - ◆ This event offers a great experience with opportunities for learning and connection. Parents are welcome to bring their child if needed, and the event will be a **come-for-as-long-as-you-want** format. Melanie created an invitation, which Tracy will include with a letter from the chair. Dean will connect with the other principals to gather contact information.

10 min **Parent engagement opportunities to enhance school community:**

- **HSSMA (music association)** – Andrea Morton hssma.pts@gmail.com
- **Kodiak Booster Club (support school athletics)** – Lindsey Good gav2007@gmail.com
- **HSSEF (enhancement fund/fundraising)** – Jen Massop hssefs@gmail.com
- **HSS lunch and breakfast programs** – Shellan Holinaty sholinaty@cesd73.ca
- **Teacher lunch supervision** - February 27th lunch had to be cancelled; next lunch dates are April 17 and May 15 [volunteer signup](#)
 - HSS School Council will actively promote in hopes of getting more volunteers.

5 min **School reports:**

→ Student leadership- student leadership role at HSS

- ◆ Dean showed a digital report of Leadership groups both middle school and high school. Current and future initiatives to enhance the school community within HSS.

5 min **Trustee's Report:** Melissa Copley

Melissa sends her regrets. Dean reported that Jason Drent has been appointed as the Corporate Secretary of Chinook's Edge. The division is currently working on the capital plan, with Sylvan Lake as the top priority, followed by Innisfail (modernization), Olds (new school), and Carstairs (new school).

20min **Principal's Report:** Dean Nielsen, Kristina Rentz, Teri Sadek

- Surveys came directly from the Principal's email. A reminder was given about school fees, with academy fees being separate from other fees.
- Introduction of the Ag Academy, which will offer in-house training, with students gaining hands-on experience by working directly with local farmers.
- Planning for next year has started, with the first budget meeting in two weeks. Predictions indicate an increase in middle school enrollment compared to last year.
- Aligning with CES on student placement for the upcoming school year. Creating class lists is a complex process. Parents can reach out if they have specific needs. Students will be asked to list three friends, but no formal survey will be conducted.

5 min **Roundtable discussion** – where parents have the opportunity to highlight their perspectives

No additional items were brought forward for discussion.

Next meeting Wednesday, April 16, 2025

60 min **Adjournment at 8:08pm (meeting over no later than 8:15pm)**