

Ecole Airdrie Middle School Council Meeting Minutes

Welcome and Introductions-Melanie Gaze

Approval of Last Months Meeting Minutes-Brittany Harcus and Melanie Gaze

Student Council Report-Hailey and Eloise came to visit our meeting and update us on what they have been doing:

-Student council has one student representative from each class that meet once every school cycle.

-planned Terry Fox Run, Truth and Reconciliation activities, PJ/blanket Day

-helped with Halloween Howler, the snack shack, GEAR Bingo, Airdrie Hampers

-asked what are their favourite things about student council? Volunteering for snack shack and seeing kids having fun and enjoying ideas/plans that they came up with

School Trustee Report- Melissa Bowen

-Grades 1 & 2 students worked with George Mac students to come up with a 3D model for a garbage bin that attaches to picnic tables for Parks Canada

-Plan for engagement meeting was on Oct 22 in Chestermere and the final decision will be made Jan 23, 2025.

-under 3000 responses for the future calendar year. November break had split results so no decision yet. 186 school days with 9 professional days. Sept 2, 2025 will be the first day back after summer break, with Dec 22-Jan 2 winter break and April 3-13 spring break and the last day will be June 26th 2026. There will be further conversations about the professional learning days

-Advocacy priorities are space and support for students

-there has been 2.2% growth and more than half has been in Airdrie

-October 2025 new trustee elections will be held. There will be 1 additional trustee in Cochrane and Wards 2&4 will be combining. Still maintain 8 trustees but there still might be a few challenges.

-a new superintendent will be hired as well

-board meeting is scheduled to track and look at the class sizes

-update to the best practices guide

-Cochrane accommodation plan was reviewed and because they have received more modulars they have decided to not make any other changes at this time

-received 27 modulars and 1 washroom modular

-an additional 4 million dollars was approved and discussions were made on how to use the funds:

- Additional support for students with complex needs
- IT infrastructure
- Support schools with more students
- One time funding was discussed but hard to decide where the money will go
- Want to plan for the future year and fall

-Provincially there was a meeting on October 31 to discuss the Education Amendment Act.

- Parental consent will be needed for non-routine health measures for students under 15 years old.
- Preferred names and pronouns can be requested
- Opt in or out will be required for sexuality and gender identity instruction
- Council decided to leave out opinions on the new Act as they do not want to try and represent all parents on the matter.

Principal Report- Erhayat Ozcan

-Remembrance Day celebrations will be lead by Mr.Hilard and Mme. Russell. Grade 6 will be at 10:15 to 10:25 and Grade 7&8 at 11:00. Asked parents with any history/family member to contact Mme. Russell

-Parent teacher interviews will be Nov20&21st. One day will be 15 minute group meetings and the other traditional 10 minute windows

-Lunch Box talks has 2 parents lined up for November. This gets the parents involved and prepares students for the future and gives them ideas of what they might want to do. Parents in specific professions talk about the pros and cons of what they do and estimated salary, etc.

-Staff update: Now fully staffed and one teacher on leave is coming back in a few weeks.

Council Report- Melanie Gaze

-Current bylaws are generic and want to review and update at another meeting

-Mr.Hilard talked about funding for band:

- Goal is to get program back to pre-pandemic
- Multiple activities/competitions would like to attend, including Gr 6 festival in Cochrane, Gr 7 Airdrie Rotary Festival, and Gr 8 Alberta Provincial Festival of bands in Red Deer.
- Discussed missing out last year to the deadline for the Gr 8 festival and do not need to do all 3 this year. Gr 8 would be the first priority to try and get funded since in a time crunch. There are 42 students currently in Gr 8 band and they would need 1 bus and 2 teacher volunteers. Cost \$1769.59
- There would be no refunds for the Red Deer Festival
- What are the possibilities for next year with the school moving to grades 7,8,9?
- Tabled the discussion so other teachers can get in requests for funding as well, meeting to take place end of November/Beginning of December

Financial update for the Halloween Howler:

- Profit from the event was \$10397.00
- Raised \$9806.00 in the envelopes, sales \$1099.00 and \$700.00 in donations
- \$1208.00 in expenses
- Total current funds are \$12,075.74 (from last year \$1678.74 + this years profit \$10,397)
- 38 door prizes were given out
- Donuts leftover so froze and will resell at the snack shack
- Lots of donations such as Subway, Old Towne, Genesis, A&W, Pizza Hut, Boston Pizza, Dairy Queen, DJ Automotive, A Fine Balance, Save On Foods, COOP, Safeway and Fortis.
- Questions/possibilities for next year? Take home containers for donuts? DJ was good but maybe too loud? Breaks during dance to announce prizes? Rise tickets during the dance?

-Take a look at the staff appreciation signup sheet to make sure everything is covered.

-Paul Davis presentation to take place November 15th

-Christmas decorating to take place Dec 10th & 11th

November 5th, 2024

Next Meeting

-January 14th @6:30

Meeting Adjourned @ 8pm