



C.W. Sears School Council Minutes for March 24th, 2021

In attendance:

Natalee Barrett
Jenn Gauthier
Sam Stefanizyn

Emily Coykendall
Stacey Hawkins
Trina Lazorko

Corina Doyle
Riley Muller
Leanne Kyle

Megan Appleby

Thanks to everyone that attended and shared their comments!

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM Virtually
2. Review of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes
Motion to approve minutes by Corina Doyle
Seconded by Trina Lazorko
4. Principal Report
 1. **Sears Society Fundraising request-** Able to buy new floor hockey equipment, soccer balls, basket balls and playground balls. The Sears Society has taken over the Spring Plant fundraiser. The money raised will go toward replacing chromebooks.
 2. **Speech SLP-** Fiona Fead will be providing service and supervision for Katie (SLP assistant) Students in ELP, K-2 are currently on the case load.
 3. **Literacy Focus-** For the last 2 weeks of March, the goal is to read with every child every day in guided reading groups to see if this improves reading levels. .
 4. **Early Learning Program-** The district has opened up the Early Learning Program for community children. Parents can register. The cost will be \$295.00/ monthly for community children.
 5. **Breakfast on us-** The second breakfast on us coupons have been sent home.
 6. **Online payments-** Approx 90% of the school has signed up.
 7. **Upcoming Dates**
 - March 24- Hot Lunch
 - March 15-26 Virtual Book Fair
 - March 21- Rock your socks, downs syndrome awareness day
 - March 27- April 5th- Spring Break
 - April 20th- 3rd quarter report cards go home
 - April 23- Staff Collaboration Day
5. Trustee Report- Please see attached
6. Teacher Rep Report- Leanne Kyle.
 - Kindergarten- 5 senses unit, sight word, turtle talking, patterns
 - Grade 1- Working on their building unit. Built leprechaun traps and houses
 - Grade 2- Measurement with non standard measurement tools
 - Grade 3- Decorating Ukrainian Easter Eggs with Ms. Korobko
 - Grade 4- Making First Nation Dioramas.
7. Sears Society Fundraising Reports

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We recently held a Chromebook raffle that just wrapped up March 23rd. Using Google forms to keep track of tickets sold and payments made by EFT, it kept this fundraiser fairly easy for us to run. I want to thank Aimee Boise for helping with the chromebook pick up, and Leann Strilchuk for keeping track of payments and ticket sales, and printing out tickets for our draw....with STACEY HAWKINS being our big winner! Congratulations Stacey! We hope your kids make great use of their new chromebook! Currently, we have the Spring Plant sale from DeVry with ordering open until the end of April. Information came home with the kids this week. Sales will take place online. Pick up date will be May 15th. We will be holding our AGM in May (date yet to be determined) but we are wanting to give parents some notice...our Society needs new faces! Our current executive and members have been volunteering with the Society for many years; few are moving to Tofield School and some of the executives will be stepping down, but will be acting within the society to help the new executive learn. If we do not have parent volunteers, we run the risk of losing the fundraising society, which is a huge loss for the kids! We will be sending out a letter to the CW Sears parents discussing the future of Sears Student Support Society shortly. As always, Sears Student Support Society is looking for new members. If you are interested, please contact searssociety@gmail.com. Thank you for all your support!

Nova Fritz, President

Sears Student Support Society

8. New Business

10. Open Discussion

11. Adjournment- 7:21PM

NEXT MEETING IS APRIL 28, 2021

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Board of Trustees Meeting Highlights Battle River School Division — Feb. 2021

Bringing back Early Learning programs

Due to budget constraints and funding changes for the 2020-2021 school year, Battle River School Division made the difficult decision last spring to stop offering an Early Learning Program for 4-year-olds.

However, after a year's absence, it has become clear that this program is critically important to the developmental, literacy and social needs of our school division's youngest learners.

As a result, Assistant Superintendent Shan Jorgenson-Adam brought forward a recommendation to the Board of Trustees that the program be re-instated for the 2021-2022 school year.

"The students of our school division will be well-served by bringing this program back," Ms. Jorgenson-Adam told the Board of Trustees at their meeting on February 25.

The program will limit class sizes to about 15 students who are four years of age, and will include a mix of students receiving service through the PUF program, students with mild and moderate learning needs and other community children.

The program will be offered at multiple locations, including CW Sears School in Tofield, as well as in Camrose.

As this program is not funded by the government, fees will be \$295 per month.

Taking care of each other

As we move further through this most challenging of school years, feedback from school division staff indicates that stress levels are climbing, for both students and employees.

Staff have been doing outstanding work in supporting students. In addition, the BRSD Wellness team has been doing outstanding work in providing support to staff members and encouraging staff members to support each other. This empathy and acknowledgement of challenging times is critically important to all staff.

Both individually, through the Alberta School Boards Association and in conversations with government, school divisions across the province have been focused on finding ways to help ensure the mental health of students / families and staff is a priority.

Budget information coming soon

On the same day the BRSD Board last met, the Alberta Government released an overview of their budget plans for the 2021-2022 year. Specifics for school division funding will be available at the end of March. BRSD remains hopeful that the funding allocation will meet student needs.



**Every Student, Every Day,
A Success**

The Board of Trustees

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