



**SouthPointe School Parent Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, November, 20, 2019**

Order	Item	Discussion lead
1	1.1 Call the Meeting to Order <b>Meeting started at 6:04pm</b> 1.2 Additions and Acceptance of Agenda 1.3 Introductions	Jamie Nelson
2	Principal Updates ➤ <b>Family Fun Night.</b> A family fun night will be hosted by the school, to take place on Nov 26, 2019 from 6:00 to 8:00pm. Activities will incorporate; literacy, numeracy, science, and technology. Drop in style format. Members from the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta (APEGA) will be present at the event. All students and families are welcome to attend.  ➤ <b>Modular classrooms.</b> 3 modulares are being installed, and are at the painting, heating and inspection phases of construction. Classroom technology will also be installed in the modular classrooms. Tentative date for moving classes into modular spaces is early January.  ➤ <b>Holiday celebration concerts</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Dec 3 kindergarten concert 6:00 - 7:00pm</li> <li>○ Dec 5 Grade 1-6 concert. Showtimes at 1:00 pm and 6:30 pm.</li> <li>○ Ticket information to go home this week</li> </ul> ➤ <b>Report Cards.</b> Grade 1-6 report cards will be available Dec 13 through Powerschool parent portal. Junior high marks will be available through Powerschool parent portal.  ➤ <b>Provincial Budget.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The recently released provincial education budget will have an impact on SPS. Administration and teachers are working to minimize the burden on students.</li> <li>○ There will be no staff layoffs at SPS or within EIPS.</li> </ul>	Carol Brown

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ EIPS has requested any schools with greater than a 1% surplus to return some funds to be redistributed. SPS had a greater than 1% carryover from last year, and will be required to give back approximately \$25,000 to EIPS.</li> <li>○ Pre-planning last year will mitigate the impacts of the budget this school year, however there may be changes seen next year due to budget restraints.</li> <li>○ Parents are encouraged to direct any concerns about the provincial education budget to their local MLA.</li> <li>○ Meeting participants offered to help at the school more often to help ease the burden on teachers. Mrs. Brown reinforced that parents are welcome to help at the school as often as they are able to, and should contact their child’s teacher directly to arrange dates to volunteer.</li> </ul> <p>➤ <b>Unplanned fire drill/evacuation</b> on November 20. Fire alarm sounded, due to problem with sensor. School was evacuated and fire department responded. All students and staff were safe, and drill went as planned, demonstrating a successful response to an unplanned event.</p> <p>➤ <b>Results review</b> will be on hold until spring as per Elk Island Public School (EIPS). This deferral was put in effect so results can be discussed when more information is known on how the provincial budget will impact students.</p> <p>➤ <b>Principal’s Fee Discussion.</b> At the January 2020 School council meeting, Carol Brown plans to present information about the upcoming school year fees. There will be an opportunity for input from parents and the school council members.</p>	
3	<p>Elk Island Trustee Updates</p> <p><u><b>Pac Report November 2019</b></u></p> <p><u><b>The Budget</b></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· When the Division prepared its budget in the spring, it was drafted based upon several assumptions about a reduced allocation from the provincial government. As it turns out, we weren’t able to anticipate the full scope of the changes.</li> <li>· Despite prudent planning, EIPS is facing a \$5.5 million deficit for the current school year.</li> </ul>	Heather Wall

- The deficit occurred because of a number of factors:
  - While we anticipated the Classroom Improvement Fund (CIF) would be discontinued, we did not expect that both the Class-Size Reduction funding and the School Fee Reduction grant would be discontinued.
  - Collectively, the cuts total more than \$9 million. Even with the province's one-time transition grant and enrollment growth funding provided by Alberta Education—totalling \$4.8 million—the loss in revenue has a significant impact on the Division.
  - Additionally, there was a dramatic increase of \$1.5 million to our insurance rates, due in large part to increased incidents of fires and floods in the province. This increase wasn't expected nor does the province cover the cost.
  
- Because EIPS had already made several very prudent budget assumptions, the Division is in a much better position than others to bridge the gap in funding—absorbing those costs on a one-time basis only.
  
- The Board of Trustees met on Thursday, October 31 and agreed on a measured approach in order to minimize impacts for students during the current school year. Using money found in the current budget—including unallocated reserves—we will be able to fulfill our commitments for the 2019-20 school year.
  
- The funding formula for education will change next year, but since the total amount for the province will remain the same (at \$8.2 billion for all of Alberta), we don't anticipate an increase in the Division's allotment.
  
- The Board will be meeting soon to start preparing for the 2020-21 budget, knowing the funding allocation will remain the same for at least the next three years.
  
- The Board and senior leaders will have to re-examine the ways in which we deliver programming and services to students in subsequent school years. With increased enrolment and evolving student needs, the Division will have difficult choices to make for subsequent budgets.

**PATs and Diplomas**

- PATs Overall:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Students in Gr 6 &amp; 9 who completed the PATs outperformed the province in all subjects in the Acceptable Standard and almost all subjects in Standard of Excellence</li> <li>○ 85% of Gr 6 &amp; 9 students achieved acceptable standard and 29 % standard of Excellence</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Diplomas Overall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 85% achieved acceptable standard and 21% Standard of Excellence</li> </ul> </li> <li>· Very proud of students' achievements</li> </ul> <p><b>Results Review:</b> deferred to the spring for several reasons</p>	
4	<p>School Council Update</p> <p>4.1) Teacher Appreciation</p> <p>A- December Budget to be presented, with donation letter for Tim Hortons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Budget for funding up to \$140.30 presented to FASS and approved for teacher appreciation. Event tentatively set for Dec 12 and will include coffee, hot chocolate and muffins. School council co-chairs to see if local businesses will donate some of the items.</li> </ul> <p>B- Ideas for next TA?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Suggestion for Valentine's Day theme with chocolates/candies</li> </ul> <p>4.2) Paint Night/Silent Auction Update</p> <p>A- We have reached the minimum for signs, though we should continue to spread the word.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 12 people have signed up and 15 signs have been paid for</li> <li>➤ Deadline to register is this Friday, Nov 22, but there is the possibility for late registration</li> <li>➤ Suggestion to promote the event as a social event (night out with silent auction) for those parents who are not interested in painting a sign.</li> <li>➤ Jodie R. to put a blast out on FASS and SPS parent facebook page</li> </ul> <p>B- Silent Auction, Do we need more donations? What can we do to support the night of the event?</p>	Jamie Nelson

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Some silent auction items already acquired, other local businesses to be asked this week. Council to compile a list of businesses asked and confirmed donations.</li> <li>➤ Silent auction will be from 7-9 with auction closing at 9pm. Cash or cheque only for payment of silent auction wins.</li> </ul> <p>4.3) Family Dance &amp; 50/50 A-Feb 21- budget to come.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Date set for February 21, 2020</li> <li>➤ Discussion among those present about eliminating entry fees for dance. Suggestion to have a donation bucket at the door instead of admission fees, to be inclusive of all families. With successful family dances the past two years, selling tickets is less important to ensure attendance numbers.</li> <li>➤ Candace D. has been storing the decorations from the two previous year's dances</li> <li>➤ Further discussion about dance to take place at the next meeting. Dance sub-committee to be set up.</li> </ul>	
5	<p>Meeting Wrap up and Adjournment</p> <p>5.1 Future agenda items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Family dance</li> </ul> <p>5.2 Next Meeting date/time</p> <p>Tentative date: January 15, 2020 at 6:00pm</p>	Jamie Nelson
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