

SCA Elementary School Council Meeting

September 13, 2024, 7:15pm

In Person (Art/Science Room)

OUR MISSION: To invite students, through Christ-centered education. To know Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, in order to pursue a life of godly character in service to others and achieve their academic potential.

Attendance: Jonathan Elzinga, Jaime Peters, Jon Alstad, Erin Tomkins, Lindsey Heerema, Chris Little, Chris Crocq, Kelly Tebay, Nicole Moncour, Alison Thomson, Melissa Seglie, Jen Reirson, Leah Unrau, Laura Volkman, Janet Vader, Kevin Semenjuk, Cathy Allen, Sarah Murphy, Tessa Cahill, Sarah Dyck, Ashley Silvius, Leanne Seelochan, Victoria Molnar

1. Welcome – Lindsey Heerema / Mr. Elzinga

2. Introductions – Everyone

2024/25 Council

Lindsey Heerema (Chair)

Leah Unrau (Vice Chair)

Kevin Semenjuk (Treasurer)

Melissa Seglie (Secretary)

Laura Volkman (Compassion Coordinator)

Sarah Dyck (Key Communicator)

Chris Little (Service Coordinator)

Chris Hammond (School Community Coordinator)

Vacant position (Staff Ambassador)

Staff members: Mr. Elzinga, Mrs. Peters, Mr. Alstad, Mrs. Vader, Mrs. Tomkins

3. Devotional and prayer – Lindsey Heerema

- **Psalm 23 – School Theme**
- What does it mean to lack nothing?
- Does lacking nothing mean that we live with what there is because we according to God, shouldn't want anything more?

- To have a shepherd is to know that we are cared for, we are seen, we are protected
- When we are without, we go to Him. When we are afraid, we go to Him. When we are hungry, hurting, broken or in need of refuge we go to him. It is because we have our Shepherd, that we lack nothing because he will provide.
- Let us be reminded to include the Shepherd
- That we do not act out of our own strength but from an overflow of his power and presence
- Prayer

Reporting

4. Approval of Minutes

Motion: To approve the minutes of May 22, 2024, school council meeting as posted

Motion: Lindsey Heerema

Secunder: Chris Little

All approved: Carried

5. Role of School Council

- School council is important to the growth and success of the school
- Assumes an advisory role which includes providing insight and advice on the School Education Plan, the mission, vision and budget
- Acts as a liaison between parents, Sherwood Park Alliance Church and our school.
- Is in full support of the school and it's mission
- Council members are the voting members
- All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend council meetings

6. Budget/Accounting – Kevin

- \$12,800 in the bank account
- \$6,600 is designated for technology from the Great Day of Giving
- \$1,200 was used for the computer to operate the front door
- Source of revenue is from Chip Day and Hot Lunch

7. EIPS Trustee Report – Trustee Allen

- New budget was approved in May and it is tight, no consideration for inflation
- \$208MM operating budget for EIPS
- New Sherwood Park school will have a groundbreaking ceremony on September 12th

- In mid-October there will be a survey to name the school

Information Items:

8. Principal's Report – Mr. Elzinga

- **School Theme for 2024/25**
 - The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing
- **School Education Plan**
 - Our focus is reading, math, first nations and Christian values
 - More information is available on our website
- **Door Locking**
 - It's working well
 - For the safety of the kids
 - If you need to get into the school during school hours, buzz and the office will let you in
- **Hot Lunch**
 - Will continue and the first one is October 18th
- **Staffing for 2024/25**
 - We have some staff members who have returned after various leaves as well as some new staff members
 - We are happy to have them all
- **Code of Conduct (sent out by EIPS)**
 - Completing and signing means you have read the document; it does not mean that you are in agreement with all points

We will:

 1. Be a school where every child feels safe
 2. Adhere to our Christian principles
 3. Teach the curriculum

9. Assistant Principal's Report – Mr. Alstad

- **Field trips**
 - \$45 per child this year
 - They are very valued and loved by the kids and we will continue with them

- **Terry Fox** – September 20th
 - Please pray for good weather and don't forget your 'Toonie for Terry' for cancer research

Assistant Principal's Report - Mrs. Peters

- **Retreats**
 - Grade 4 will go to Camp Van Es, grade 5 to Birch Bay and grade 6 to Camp Nakamun
 - Great opportunity for connection and community building
 - The Society board helps financially with these retreats
- **Government of Alberta Assessments**
 - For grades 1, 2 and 3
 - Will take place in September, January and June for numeracy and literacy
 - They are conducted 1:1 and we will use substitute teachers for these
 - Parents can request more information if desired
- **Meet the Teacher – September 18th at 7:15pm (gym)**
 - 2 sessions at 8:00 pm and 8:30 pm
 - No childcare, child free evening please

Counsellor's Report - Mrs. Tomkins

- 23 new students at the school
- New student Pizza lunch will be September 18th

FNMI Report – Mrs. Vader

Why we educate:

- Curriculum based
- Collaboratively established by our school administration collaboratively
- Age appropriate is key – grade focused
- September 30th is Truth and Reconciliation Day and there is no school that day so we will recognize at school on September 27th – Orange Shirt Day
- Grade 4 students will learn about residential schools
- We will encourage all classes to do something to recognize the day
- We are in partnership with Shawahnekizhek Academy, a Christian school in Saddle Lake, Alberta
- If you are interested in visiting the school, let Mrs. Vader know

Action Items

10. COSC – Committee of School Councils

- Supports representatives from school councils
- They meet 7x a year minimum on the 1st Monday of each month
- Lindsey Heerema will attend the meetings

11. Grade 1 Literacy Night

- September 24th
- 100+ parents show up
- School council has given \$200 for door prizes
- Will school council agree to provide this amount again?
 - Motion: Lindsey
 - Seconded: Laura
 - All approved

12. Facebook page – Sarah

- Please utilize this
- Invite new parents to the school to join, it is private, and we keep it current
- There is a babysitting list and useful information

13. Council Meeting Dates Proposed

- September 11, 2024
- October 16, 2024
- November 20, 2024
- January 15, 2025
- March 5, 2025
- May 21, 2025
- Dates approved

14. Missions – Mr. Elzinga

- God has blessed us to be a blessing to others
- Mexico partnership, a great place to see God at work
- Leo and Hesse will be visiting October 15-25

- They will do classroom visits, and we have several things planned i.e.: Oilers game, trip to the mountains
- They will attend October 16th council meeting and present to us
- Can a few council members take them to dinner
- Does anyone speak Spanish
- The council will sponsor dinner
- Esmerelda is pregnant – let’s give her a little baby shower – council to determine gifts
- Motion: Lindsey
- Seconded: Leah
- All approved

15. Staff Ambassador Role Open on Council

- Nominate Jen Rierson for the role
- Motion: Lindsey
- Seconded: Kevin
- All approved

16. Bible Memory

The big 5

John 3:16 recited

So in everything do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the law and the prophets. Matthew 7:12

Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind,” This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: “Love your neighbour as yourself.” All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments. Matthew 22:37-40

Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 28:19

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

17. Mr. Elzinga closed in prayer