



Joseph M. Demko School Council Agenda
September 26, 2023
St. Albert, Alberta
7:45 pm

virtual meeting link:meet.google.com/zxr-apam-ydq

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Kelly Ternovatsky at 7:48pm.

2. Welcome and Land Acknowledgment - Virtual Attendance and Introductions

Amanda Crouse

Carmen Leibel

Crystal Sawatzky

Denise Gavinchuk

Devonne Skuba

Helen Nowell

Heather Langdale

Johnathan Skuba

Karl Gaugler

Kathy Santrock

Kelly Ternovatsky

Jessica Cardozo

Jill Webb

Kathy Topinka

Melissa Gray

Nick Steinke

Nikki Woodford

Richelle Robinson

Tara Kwasney

Valerie Sanderson

Vanessa Johnston

Vanessa Steinke

3. Approval of the Agenda

- please note - contact Council using sc-chair.jmd@spschools.org

New Business to add:

- Transportation
- School Door Policy

Jessica Cardozo moved to approve, seconded by Valerie Sanderson

4. Approval of the Minutes from the Last Meeting

Jessica Cardozo moved to approve, seconded by Richelle Robinson

5. Teacher Report - Heather Langdale and guest Carmen Leibel with Project Five

- 5 day in school residency: take students through the “5 P’s”
- Kids finish with an in class presentation
- Special assembly with a public figure at the end of the week regarding their personal experience with public speaking
- Hoping to have grade 5, 7 and 8’s participate in the program
- Program to be funded by using JMD fundraising funds

6. Trustee Report - No trustee this meeting. Trustee Sheyanne Levall-Crouse will join us in October as the Board Liaison for Demko School.

7. Administration Report - Mme Nowell

Admin Report Attached.

- 613 Students
- 60 Kindergarten
- 108 Junior High
- 364 student: 1- 6
- 593 Funded Students
- 251 Logos
- 362 in English
- +30 students to LY
- New growth areas: Jensen Lakes, Erin Ridge North, Riverside
- Enrollment expectations fell a bit short of expectation, FTE’s being adjusted accordingly

School Door Policy:

- MInutes of instruction - needed to make changes to accommodate
- Front Door Buzzer - Preventative measure implemented this year to be proactive.
- Parents expressed concerns around this measure
- Facilities are working to resolve issues with doors that don’t properly close

Transportation:

- Government grant this year to only reduce costs to parents hence why fees are less this year
- New bus drivers have been hired and are currently going through training
- Concerns with reliability with bussing and knowing if the bus is in fact coming.
- Parents require clear communication so alternate arrangements can be made if need be.
- Issues with the Chipmunk APP and notifications not being timely.
- Text messages are not accurate and are causing stress for parents.
- Concerns regarding Bus route #138 reliability

8. Chair Report - Kelly Ternovatsky

Chair report attached.

- Concerns regarding Healthy Hunger and gluten free options that are made available.

9. Business Arising from the Minutes

- Meeting Dates for 2023-24 - Kelly
 - Fourth Tuesday of Oct, Nov, Jan, Feb, April, May
- Staff Appreciation Lunch update - Kelly

10. New Business

- Back To School review and feedback - Kelly
 - Staggered start
 - Entry times / supervision
 - Yearbook - when to expect
- School Council Engagement Grant \$500 - start brainstorming ideas
- Yearbook is in development, ETA of Mid October
- Icon vs. Lifetouch for photos this year - Icon has been bought out by Lifetouch

11. Policy Review - [Policy Review main page](#)

- [B-150 Appeals](#)
- [A-160, Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity](#)
- F-660-AR, Service Dogs and Therapy Animals in School (no link available yet)

****Policy to Note**

- [A-150: Discrimination and Harassment](#)
 - [Administration Regulations](#)

12. Adjournment - next meeting October 24, 7:45 pm

Meeting adjourned at 9:29pm

Admin Report

September 2023

- Introduction of Helen, Wendy and Kathy
 - Wendy away for 2 weeks. Kathy Acting Admin

- Student safety, well-being, connecting and growth priorities

- Guide our work in teaching and learning

- Enrolment
 - As of today, enrollment stands at 613 students, 60 Kinders, 189 JH, 364 1-6

 - Logos: 251

 - English: 362

- Increase of 30 students

- Budgeting challenges - fell short of enrolment expectations - new teacher assignments start Oct 1st
 - Weighted moving average
 - Require permission to use surplus
 - Teachers have more assigned time - need to reduce unassigned time to meet objective outlined in collective agreement

- Staffing additions:

- New teachers to the staff include: Shelley MacAllister, Carolyn Leppington, Reuben Gazer, Wendy Schaar-Ney
- New Support Staff include: Haritha Krisnakamair, Kari McGimpsey, Sofia Lavrinenko, Michelle Meier, Jolene Reid (Sept), Lorraine Elwilly

- Start Up:

- Email to families to introduce themselves - once again this year we were working into Operational Days to prepare class lists
- Staggered entry over 2 days (3 for Kinder)
- Meet the Staff night - Sept 7th - Earlier this year - Great success! Staff love the timing. Parent perspective on timing? No ice cream Chips a success!
- Logos students had first praise service

- Photo Day
- JH Volleyball underway

- Student safety & am Supervision

- supervision is outside beginning at 8:35am
- St. Albert bylaw has met with me and come by often
- Overall impressed with speed and care of drivers
- Drop and Go - in newsletters, reminders for new families
- Not to use staff parking lot - exiting requires two crosswalks
- AMA Patroller training in the works - Grade 5 and 6s marking two crosswalks

- New social media for JMD on Facebook and Instagram - no more X - and new website

- Terry Fox Run

- Pizza Prance to gain community involvement and encourage participation
- Bring a Tweekie for Terry
- Kids run on Thursday - JH during PE and K to 6 in the afternoon

- Orange Shirt Day/National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
 - Dallas Arcand presentation and hood dancing
 - Wear Orange Shirts on Friday
 - Classes are undertaking a revisit of the significance of Residential schools, the importance of this national day.

- Literacy/Numeracy Assessments for grades 2 & 3 - Learning Disruption grant: EA hired to administer these assessments for continuity and to allow teachers to work on important class routines at such an important time of the year, using new tool designated by Alberta Education; teachers will still use the Fountas & Pinnel literacy assessments in the upcoming few weeks. An intervention plan will be developed once Alberta Ed communicates who qualifies and what financial resources are available to the school - this will repeat in January with GR 1 students

- Transportation - continues to be a challenge. Several new drivers were hired and now two weeks of training. Division admin are aware of the challenge and they continue to talk to parents and support the transportation department.

- Looking forward:
 - No School Oct 2nd
 - Early Dismissal on Oct 4th
 - PD Day Oct 10th - Working with Bellerose, Cuts, Muriel Martin, Lois Hole and JMD

SOGI Inclusive Classrooms - Also 4 hours of PD with just JMD staff on early dismissals in the new year.

- Building Thinking Classrooms in math - 4 teachers in Div 2 and 3

 - Land Based Learning - Monique Waters has moved to MM but continues her work to support Indigenous Ways of Knowing. With support from Division Office and a grant, she'll be able to take classes out to her property for land based learning.
- JMD looks forward to continuing to support students learning in this way.

- Division running Student Engagement sessions again - work on race, equity, human rights and diversity - Grade 9 - 2 students
- Reverse Trick or Treat - fundraising for the St. Albert Food Bank
- Halloween - Logos program has alternate activities planned for the 31st. Eng students can dress up in the pm
- Early Dismissal Nov 1st
- Parent/School Interviews Nov 1st and 2nd

Chair Report

September 2023

Provincial - Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA)

- Offering Engagement Grant eligible [Workshops](#)
- The ASCA Board of Directors invites you to participate in a [Virtual Engagement](#) opportunity. Saturday, November 18, 2023, 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
- JMD is registered for the Engagement Task Force

District - St. Albert Public Schools

- Council of School Councils (COSC) - new format

Local - JMD

- JMD clothing - anywhere to organize donations, Mr Wong?
- New/excellent condition Book Drive
- Halloween plans

Parent Reminders:

- St. Albert Public Schools Board meetings are open to everyone!
 - Full agenda and link to livestream are available on the website: [St Albert Board Agendas](#)

- Parent Survey - From now until October 16, Albertans can share their thoughts on what they'd like students to learn in social studies curriculum through a survey at <https://www.alberta.ca/curriculum-have-your-say>.
 - Survey results will be used to inform draft curriculum before it's released for further engagement.
- Please join the *J.M. Demko School Parent Community* on Facebook!



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COMMUNITY GROUP
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Community >**