

Morinville Public School Council
Minutes
Morinville Public School **April 14, 2025**
10020 101 Ave, Morinville, Alberta T8R 1L5

Morinville Public School Council acknowledges that we are on Treaty 6 territory, a traditional meeting ground, gathering place, and travelling route to the Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Metis, Dene and Nakota Sioux. We acknowledge all of the many First Nations, Metis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries.

Attendees: Nicole Rouault, Laura Kavich, Megan Knahs, Kendra Thompson, Michelle Keller, Stacey Buga, Letisha McMillan Camp, Courtney Derouin, Aimee Blanchette, Kristen Moltzan

1. Meeting called to order: Chair Courtney Derouin calls to order, 6:06pm

2. Adoption of Agenda:

Motion by Michelle Keller to adopt agenda as PRESENTED. Carried unanimously

3. Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Megan Knahs to adopt minutes as PRESENTED. Carried unanimously.

4. Principal Report

- Please do preregistration or registration for kids.
 - If you know of anyone looking to register for Kindergarten, please spread the word. They can call and have a tour. One of the administrators will take them around
 - School will be reaching out to every Kinder family to see what programming they want for their child.
 - STEM programming- initial interest survey, had enough interest. Had only 10 families confirm. Needed 18 families to run the program so will not be going forward this year. \$350/month cost attached to it.
 - Military families- wait to register
- Sturgeon Night of Music
 - April 28
 - If you have a student in choir, they will be participating
 - Please reach out to Ms. Erdman for information
- Sturgeon Creative Arts Festival at Sturgeon Composite High School
 - Can go check out art from all across the Division.

- Used to be combined with Sturgeon Night of Music- separated now into two events to accommodate families attending
- Teachers should have notified parents if your student was selected to display a piece of artwork

5. Vice Principal Report

- Kristen Moltzan
- Nothing more to add to Principal Report

6. Teachers Report

- N/A

7. Trustee Report

- Presented by Stacey Buga
- Excited to be back in schools.
- Looking forward to the creative arts festival.
- Welcome back to the valuable support staff o CUPE 4625. We are grateful to have them in our schools
- Meeting with student advisory committee tomorrow
 - i 2 students from all of the junior high and high schools to get feedback on policies (ex. Cellphone policies) as well as teachers and administrators to see how things have worked out
- We will be holding an evening with business and community partners on April 15, 2025 to look at ways we can collaborate to offer students meaningful learning experiences and support the growth of local industry. If anyone has business connections who may be interested in attending, please let school administration or myself know
- We are very excited to announce that Sturgeon Public School's #2 capital priority – Replacement of Morinville Public School - has been granted funding to begin design and planning. Watch for community engagement in the future. We have also been granted pre-planning funding for our #1 capital project in Gibbons where we began engagement late 2024. This funding comes from the new School Accelerator Program
 - i Exciting news!
 - ii Government has now changed the timelines for how they carry forward with projects: used to hear in March and wait to hear until the next April. Now say it's fluid.
 - iii A lot of schools want modulars- the faster we get a new building, the sooner they can utilize the modulars for other schools
 - iv Steps are usually preplanning and then planning and design. We already have planning and design dollars because we had community engagement (value scoping which would be the preplanning) a couple of years ago.
 - v MPS is one of the few shovel ready division spaces (can build without disrupting old school). Hoping this puts us as a frontrunner for the building timeline
 - vi Once we get budget done, admin team will be full force figuring out how to move things ahead.

- vii Time Capsule
 - viii Start with architect, next go to stakeholders
- 7 nominees for first year teacher award
 - i Congratulations to all Sturgeon's nominees for the Alberta School Board Association Edwin Parr Award for first year teachers – Super shout out to Damon Davies and Maya Baumle, our TWO outstanding nominees from Four Winds this year! Ella Stanley at Sturgeon Heights has been chosen to represent our division at the ASBA Zone 2/3 (Northern Alberta), and if chosen there, she will continue to the provincial level
- The Inspire Program run by Jessica Martel Memorial Foundation at Four Winds has also been nominated for awards at Alberta School Board Association and Public School Boards Association of Alberta
 - i Run at 4 winds
 - ii Boys program as well as girls program
 - iii Support students who need a little extra help with engagement (usually students with lots of absenteeism)
 - iv 3rd year with us
- Alberta Education has released Budget 2025, but we have yet to receive our funding manual. Hopefully, we will have a better picture of next years funding by the next school council meeting. The final budget must be submitted to the government by May 31
 - i Bridge funding
 - 1 This was the money coming out of COVID
 - 2 Extra \$5.8 million- this is being cut: \$1.4 million cut yearly over 4 years
 - 3 On year 3
 - ii Government likes to give grants out mid year- unsure of when
 - 1 Hard to hire staff if we don't know funding will be there to keep them
 - 2 Division is doing the best that we can
 - 3 Enrollment numbers is critical
- Transportation
 - i Changed again
 - ii Anticipated slight increase in bus fees
 - iii Increased walk radius to 1.6km for K-6 students
 - iv Back end work is significant
 - v Have been in touch with Town of Morinville to discuss congregated stops and coordinate potential shared bussing with neighbouring schools and communities
- Budget will be voted on May 28 Public Board Meeting
- Please let Principal or Trustee know if there are any concerns or things you feel strongly about that you don't want to see lost
- Nominations are open for School Trustee
 - i Check under board
 - ii Trustee elections 2025
 - iii Information regarding Trustee roles is on there

- iv Stacey is happy to chat with anyone interested

8. Chair Report

- Courtney
- ASCA symposium- online
 - i April 26
 - ii MPS School Council is registered
 - iii 2 sessions: 11am and 1pm. Sessions include:
 - 1 Building resilience
 - 2 Anxiety in kids
 - 3 PFA information
 - iv Don't have to attend the whole day
 - v Registration fee was \$100 and anyone from our school council may attend (every parent in the school)
 - vi AGM is going to be run the same way (Sunday April 27)
 - 1 Courtney has registered for this and will attend for us and bring our vote forward regarding ASCA resolutions.
 - 2 Free this year
 - 3 Anyone from our school council may attend as well
- Used \$100 of ASCE grant

9. Old Business

- In chair report

10. New Business

Advocacy resolutions:

1. Pilot project electric school buses (ASCA to advocate for approx. 12 electric buses across rural and urban school districts).
 - a. Division is looking more towards hydrogen
 - b. Nature of hydrogen in the vehicles
 - c. Maintenance and upkeep on them is excessive
 - i. Anytime hydrogen vehicle goes down, they have to send it in to a hydrogen shop
 - d. Only one shop in Edmonton that would do maintenance
 - i. Will be lots of down time
 - ii. Cons would outweigh the pros
 - e. Lots of liability and legality surrounding electric vehicles
 - f. Unanimous vote NO**
2. Mandatory funding for specialist teachers in Alberta schools such as gym, music and library.
 - a. Government likes pockets of grant money- gives a big announcement of funding which equates to only minimum funding per school once it is divided amongst the division. Trickle down to not a lot per school.
 - b. What qualifications would these specialists need?

- c. If you increase the per student funding- every school can use this to go towards their needs and meet the needs of their community
 - d. Unanimous vote NO**
- 3. Mandatory public reporting on the state of public schools.
 - a. This is why you have locally elected trustees- their role
 - b. Trustee is accountable to parents that this reporting is happening already
 - c. Checks and balances at a local level
 - d. If you ever have concerns about how a school is running or questions about school reporting on any of the issues included in this resolution, can contact the trustee or administration (principal)
 - e. Unanimous vote NO**
- 4. Mandatory testing
 - a. Discontinue mandatory time testing for Kindergarten to Grade 3
 - i. Unanimous vote YES**
 - b. Amendment to previous ASC Resolution to be that Alberta education develops more flexible assessment tools
 - i. Benchmarks right now are not flexible/adaptable
 - ii. Assessment tools are very rigid on how assessments are being done
 - iii. More age appropriate and a better representation of how students are doing in schools
 - iv. Unanimous vote YES**
 - c. Policy 3 A Amendment:
 - i. Unanimous vote YES**
 - d. Policy 03-7
 - i. Unanimous vote YES**
- 5. Online safety
 - a. Add to section 33: advocate for a committee to be formed to recognize and report to all forms of harm to student
 - i. Concern at the board level- the FOIP and the amount of information about students if a committee is created there could be all sorts of abuses that could arise from that
 - ii. May not be bringing the right people to the right situation every time
 - iii. Need to protect the privacy of students
 - iv. Unanimous vote NO**
 - b. Add to board responsibilities that all boards be mandated to advocate for online safety
 - i. Government should be advocating to include advocacy for online safety in the curriculum
 - ii. Unanimous vote NO**
 - c. Use and storage of student records
 - i. Fund the tech
 - ii. Unanimous vote NO**
- 6. Adjournment:

Motion by Courtney Derouin to adjourn at 7:17pm. Carried unanimously.

Next meeting: May 5 at 6:00pm