



School Council

**Minutes of the ÉEVE School Council Meeting
March 12, 2024
1:30pm In-person and Zoom**

SC Executive:

Caley Remington, Chair - regrets
Chelsey Conrad, Co-Chair - present
Judi Hunter, School Board Trustee - present
Jennifer Tanguay, Secretary - present
Sharelle Stitt, Treasurer - present

School Administration Members:

Denise Weaver, Principal - present
Alanna Berger, Assistant Principal - regrets

Attendees:

Janelle Wimperis, Kirsten Inglis, Logan Martin, Robin Somji, Rhonda Richards, Kim Burchby, Katarina Trutina

1. Call to Order

Chelsey called the meeting to order at 1:37pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

Chelsey motioned to accept the agenda and minutes as circulated; no objections; motion carried.

3. Administration Report

Wanted to capture work done last 6 months, SEP needs updating by Friday, wanted to share document with SC before submitting. Team Planning - teams created and meetings held: Grade level specific (French and English), Literacy, Numeracy and Indigenous Ways of Knowing, PBIS. Start of year, worried about numbers, how we were performing. Money set aside from budget, led planning and mentored Katie Gibson, Learning Strategist, our literacy/numeracy lead. My background is in instructional coaching, this was really comfortable for me to launch. Most proud of evidence of 100%

growth in reading scores in both French and English Grade 3&4 using alignment in programming. SEP - all data mapped out. Not one child has gone down from end of last year/beginning of this year to now. June will check again. Evidence the support model put in place is working.

French Culture Week - Folklofolie on Friday took my breath away. Singing, dancing, violin. Thursday maple syrup, kids wanting to buy more 'candy'. FI team did beautiful job sharing with staff. Learning Commons - coming along. Professional Learning day - Elder from Indigenous Learning Branch came out and we sat in a circle.

Meeting tomorrow with FÉEVES, lots of money that needs to be spent, will put forwards statement for iPads purchase; Makerspace will become STEM lab, will put forward quote that was re-drawn; plan for Outdoor Classroom - architect drew up plans years ago which have been found. Drainage on side of hill an issue - aware. FÉEVES \$111K, casino made \$80K last year and happening again this fall.

March already, came in like a lion - school evacuation to SMS went well, waited at top of the hill and noticed lots of kids worried and spoke with them. Problems with storage room sensors caused alarm to go off. Rhonda: shelter in place to assist management of kids with 530 in SMS gym. Parent-teacher interviews next week, triad format, went out last week. Robin: feedback good on format? Denise: yes. I feel lucky to have landed here. Parents so involved, always here, why literacy scores have improved. Makerspace transforming into STEM lab. Designated \$10K for Robotics, new program on the computer science strand, work with FÉEVES for technology. Money needs to be spent in 2 years, can apply for extension but want it spent now and to impact the kids here now.

Rhonda: School Fee (field trips, etc) increases for the 2024-2025 school year need to be approved:

Kindergarten is \$61, will be \$66
Grades 1 to 4 is \$123.50, will be \$128.50
Overnight Trip is \$158.25, will be \$163.00

Chelsey motioned to increase school fees as outlined; no objections; all in favour; motion carried.

4. School Trustee Report

See newsletter below for full report. Presentation on Discovery Trails (online school K-6), growth 10% over 6 months - out of bounds kids. Severe anxiety, sports, medical issues. Informal analysis shows meeting needs very well. Working from home, closely with parents - very comfortable, decreased stress, hope to transition to normal classroom. Utilizing technology in unique ways. Wouldn't think that age appropriate for online learning, but going very well, meeting a unique need. Group field trips, online groups, kids making connections. Bow Valley High School expansion approved 1.5

years ago, now have contractor, will be ready Sept 2026. Significant issues it will present: adding space for 300 students, plus reno on CTS piece which all has to move somewhere else, disruptive until done (1.5 years). \$500K for that new addition, \$100 million for new high school. Consider need/cost in AB. Announcement on construction funding for 3 schools: K-8 Airdrie x 2 and Cochrane. Design funding for schools: HS in Airdrie and K-8 in Chestermere. RVS growing by 1,000 students/year. Last approval was 4 years ago, to get 5 in one year is remarkable. Airdrie: every HS overcapacity, need is extremely high. Board: benefits are self-funded, moving to AB school boards employment benefits service by 2025, 58/61 already belong. Save \$500K/year, money will be used in other ways. Harmony school bumped off the list completely.

March Newsletter, Trustee Hunter Ward 5

Discovery Trails Online Learning School presented to the Board at the February 15 Board meeting. The presentation focused on the opportunities afforded to students by attending the online school. The school has reimagined approaches provide enhanced support for social and emotional well-being. The staff has developed strategies suited to support students by using meeting and chat rooms, working closely with parents, and providing a variety of wrap-around services.

The school caters to the unique needs of students – complex medical, competitive sports, mental health challenges, flexible and adaptable – different time zones or different hours.

The Franco-Sud school board is surveying parents in the Chestermere area to see if enough parents are interested in developing a Francophone school there.

The Bow Valley expansion which will bring the school attendance population to 1200 . Brendan Procé, communications director for Alberta Infrastructure, confirmed the \$55.1 million expansion is on budget and anticipated to be completed in late 2026.

This year's teacher's convention had a focus AI, benefits, and pitfalls. Attached are some links to AI tech information sites.

[Info-Tech report outlines 5 GenAI initiatives CIOs must key in on \(itworldcanada.com\)](#)

[Google launches Bard GenAI in Canada, rebrands it to Gemini | IT World Canada News](#)

The Board approved a change to RVS' benefits model for all staff. Within the next 18 months, RVS will transition from being self-insured to contracting with Alberta School Employee Benefit Plan (ASEBP) to administer employee health, dental, life and disability insurance, long-term disability plans, and employee and family assistance programs.

- ASEBP provides a comprehensive coverage plan similar to the current RVS self-insured plan and will result in a \$500,000 savings annually that can be reinvested into the division.
- ASEBP currently administers benefits for 58 of the 61 Alberta school divisions.
- The transition will be no later than Sept. 1, 2025, but could be as early as Sept. 1, 2024. More information will be provided to staff before the transition.

RVS' newest school, a high school in Langdon, is currently under construction and set to open for students in September 2024. It will be known as Horseshoe Crossing High School

The government will provide an additional \$5 million in support of student nutrition in the 2023/24 school year.

5. Co-Chair Report

Caley sends her regrets. We discussed and are very happy with consistency this year, all the work putting together committee's has paid off.

6. Dance Committee Report (Katarina)

Waiting For Summer Luau Family Dance update. 6-8pm, doors open 5:45pm. Cost \$10/family, easier number to work with than \$12. Theme works for everyone, have stuff at home. Issue: snack concession - no longer getting baked goods donated. Plan: chips, ring pops, Hawaiian-themed candy, water all \$1 to keep it easy. Silent Auction: Calaway Park donated 4 day passes, hoping for Flames/Roughneck/Wranglers donation, principal of the day. Door Prizes: 1/grade, \$100 each, want to see if donations come thru from parents to help off-set costs. Not reaching out to parent community, just among those involved. DJ covered. Volunteers: sending to class reps, looking to parent community to help out.

Fundraising idea: SCA apples from Davidson Orchards. Karen from SC Links reached out to see if we wanted to partner with them, they do all the admin work, we collect \$/orders from our school. \$37/box. Heritage Club would distribute, convenient location to pickup from the school. From the sale of each box, proceeds would be \$1 to SCA, \$4-5 to us. Takes place in September. Robin: great to partner with community. Katarina: 100 boxes = \$500 revenue for minimal work. Chelsey: bring details to next meeting, for motion. Katarina: not sure on dates, orchard hasn't released yet. Judi: end Aug/early Sept. Robin: mid-Sept would be better timing.

7. Treasurer Report

New costs: Dance \$600, Easter Egg Hunt \$200, French Culture Week \$4,500.
Revenue: \$1,700 Healthy Hunger for Feb, \$550 for March to date.
Net: \$3,500 funds available to spend.

Do we have numbers for the dance yet? Katarina: getting numbers for dance, ordering around \$100 decorations online. Who did this last year? Chelsey: Manhar. Sharelle: keep receipts, need to beef up the paper trail. Jenn: helped with baskets last year, we all submitted receipts to Rhonda for reimbursement so maybe can get numbers from her on what was spent last year? Chelsey: cash float needed for concession. Katarina: for concession/expenses will pay, do returns and submit later.

8. Yearbook Committee Report (Robin)

149 books sold to date, need to push sales. Cover contest extended, had 6 submissions, now 2 folders full. 1 in particular from Grade 4 student blew me away, might re-think cover, do back collage.

9. Canadian Parents for French Report (Janelle)

Judi looking into April 9 & 16 to do something after school.

10. Volunteer Coordinator Report (Kirsten)

Mr. Lofthouse needs more volunteers. Kindergarten grad photos, Book Fair sign-up genius out. Have list of parents from beginning of year that wanted to help with Family Dance when time comes. Katarina: I have that list. Chelsey: refer new interest to Katarina directly.

11. Fun Lunch Report (Kim)

Mucho Burrito: feedback good, 2 new dates added. Small kids size. 17% profit (19-34% typical). Could increase price. 1 concern, couldn't customize order, need to reach out to them. For May 16, may drop kids size. Katarina: what about pizza? Kim: already doing 2x, but best other option for nutrition/school reviews perspective, could increase price. 3 people willing to help next year, will stick with core group text/email, easier than sign-up genius. Over \$10K revenue so far.

12. Community Outreach (Katarina)

No report given.

13. FÉEVES

No report given.

14. Open Floor

Sharelle: are there dates for field trips this year? Denise: working on it. MusicFest update: GST imbedded into ticket cost, increased to \$23. Thank you to Steve, Cindy and Rhonda for working on pricing and seating. K&1 right of stage, 2-4 everywhere else. Sharelle: form very critical/confusing. Rhonda: no paper tickets for MusicFest this year, we received fair warning, Ticketmaster must be used. Testing today to fix glitches. 1,700 tickets. Sold out last year. Chelsey: 1 feedback to share from a parent - thank you for no ice blocks this year. Denise: Rocks and Rings happening next week, booked for next year already. Kim: is door decorating happening this year? Logistics, planning, notice - it was a scramble last year. Chelsey: week of April 29-May 3, waste, fire hazard both issues. Love catering/treating staff. Denise: parent-teacher interviews, Tues 19th date for catered supper, 25 people.

15. Future SC Meetings

April 9, 2024 at 1:30pm.

16. Adjournment

Chelsey adjourned the meeting at 2:45pm.