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Springbank Middle School (SMS)

November School Council Meeting (November 1st, 2023)

MINUTES

**Attendees:**

* Dinah King
* Jean Bangle
* Jennifer Tanguay
* Catherine McKay
* Mark Jaffray
* Glen Brooker
* Stacey Pothier
* Stephanie Rosenbaum
* Caley Remington
* Judi Hunter

**Call to Order/Approvals:**

Meeting called to Order -1:10pm

Approval of Agenda - No objections.

Approval of Meeting Minutes - JT – motion to approve/CR – second MOTION PASSED

**Trustee’s Report - Judi Hunter:**

**October Newsletter, Trustee Hunter Ward 5**

Schools are well underway with successful start-ups. I had the opportunity to attend the Welcome back celebrations at Elbow Valley Elementary, Springbank Middle School and Westbrook School. The weather was spectacular, and it was wonderful to watch the children playing and parents conversing. Thank you to the schools for hosting and providing food.

Rocky View Communications team have deservedly won a Canadian Association of Communicators in Education (CACE) award for the Space for Students advocacy campaign. This national award recognizes and honours exemplary work in all aspects of school public relations, communications, marketing, and engagement.

The Airdrie Community Engagement has begun. The engagement will inform parents of the serious space issues in the City of Airdrie and give possible scenarios to alleviate the overcrowding in schools. Options will include, changing a middle school to a high school, making boundary changes, and making grade configuration changes. Parent will have the opportunity to weigh in through the School Engage platform as well as community consultations.

Planning is in process for similar processes in Cochrane and Chestermere.

The Alberta government is consulting with stakeholders to gather input for revising the social studies curriculum. Public input will be sought in 2024.

[**Alberta says $12.4M will create nearly 2,000 apprenticeship positions**](http://link.newsletter.meltwater.com/ls/click?upn=JtZYFTfDMkv2CTPgpGBiYFamvANXDH-2BE7SIamd8pg4E9xYsBPJbr-2B3JruRgRic0V8SRkNC0BYTON-2BskfSsj8cYRAXwCOxHv1Rhgov6DIKyw-3DkoLM_-2Fb3jW5VA3cSc-2BTMSnADQ-2BdG3RjEAMLrylpMyJUxrWeMR5MdnLpZS7igmTI83VcdkRxISex96Z9so1nqhNflCcSQrx6qfJqlDdeQBv-2FdULBlKrg1vXnPd6DyrFP2CzxeVUs4J-2FYZ6BpMVgEl86rOEHHyhlOlQJv-2Bp-2FSf-2FCmdqLxwNEnJ1pPsZHQ0ZrYkiC5ofbVuqcWtIVbgnHajgHPktC4dYpwRrDZl8oZcxpTISm3s4Zygq5fXSMVXK5eKQ2T8DilZKv1VXXUlE3C7EYo1UsaB1c9YA9g2-2FlOZZBjwedgofSgLZ-2FSdz4Bbg51-2BIHTxsV8kUx97EG9T-2BGssxoUl41zkgEgVnz-2Fdot-2Bf2C37BmgX4vJWYv0O-2Ff8aagiclGKx4)

The Alberta government is spending $12.4 million that it claims will create nearly 2,000 new apprenticeship positions to be spread over five different institutions across the province. The new positions are slated to go to students at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology in Edmonton, Southern Alberta Institute of Technology in Calgary, Red Deer Polytechnic, Lethbridge College, and Keyano College in Fort McMurray. In an interview with Postmedia, Advanced Education Minister Rajan Sawhney said the announcement reflects a growing need from employers.

[**Classroom Champions receives $3.6M to expand educational programs for Western Canadian students**](http://link.newsletter.meltwater.com/ls/click?upn=JtZYFTfDMkv2CTPgpGBiYLej2A4Wy22IGhzFmzhiGE4IW5WyMAkJxYKESWMoYUEHPpXQMwXIj8M5C95P2teJ5mj-2FwsJEWbucnvLQ02YAS83zAyjeFRFvf4w14E0Gtopa8bSsnRJzHStNBHqJUBoJ0ef-2Fb9nOb3f4vY7Mmt-2B1E1KCvQfTO9exX5Db31rM92zxzc-2FkCvrKhw4tWLWI1D5VBZ6wbc0HTT91TmkpzGYxeaAWiLrARWENGiif7N5-2BPA678I460MhAbkELg7DjzUpuyZ3MhFIpKlct1fdU0f8-2FWZfrcimOFNMxG5CAiA2Xy3at1PTgSP4FFW8u72SnQWfZtOuYmuogpJIHGqYiYGxQpA-2FUUB38RCReGmVmtmGw653Vt-2BS6KzAcQCp04JmHOcidrwowZCxK0QN6jqLmfs1L4IdiLn-2BtrjX6R1LIfz6LkCGEOG5WyufKxDIweZIF-2BYBoGOmEf7FgMA6c549aSYhRtcEm8ENgJsoZhhx69bWhryPoJ63ynNCa8iMIEDXFQtzQmIq7Ja8vkrUaIfqT7We4EhPE9bLeL3PxxEXypredjDR37QHUGiUYIj-2FEnT3FGIdNvBztI5Y0SV73UVtC2RftW5zdyIN5UiBGLB43usoj2RMtAAE8pYNcsi4QO5SuaGEIvaEwoPhh16HCmcC-2F-2FbJMcg-2BUEVDOM9eEq91Lwd6Q0w-2FZBjnZQA9iGcxhYNhhTHtZVMa0pV1eFD-2F-2F-2FSrTEjMea2yQzqv4vEAjVED74-2BTjgUXz4bCpQpHlw6hQvEXoRNzcAfZec5ayy4DEjHjXzqddLNI-3DokLI_-2Fb3jW5VA3cSc-2BTMSnADQ-2BdG3RjEAMLrylpMyJUxrWeMR5MdnLpZS7igmTI83VcdkRxISex96Z9so1nqhNflCcSQrx6qfJqlDdeQBv-2FdULBlKrg1vXnPd6DyrFP2CzxeVUs4J-2FYZ6BpMVgEl86rOEHHyhlOlQJv-2Bp-2FSf-2FCmdqLxwNEnJ1pPsZHQ0ZrYkiC5ofbVuqcWtIVbgnHajgHPktC-2BjJjjp-2B82T6lTJWNeR59MFr6LuCKeUuueUpTVQSnBVNHUIgubz5OpdxfyXKGnuPW-2BSN7RRRIWBrldkxSE4EuY-2FftOpHkqs-2FGpTBqohF4qI7M3XpMNO4iUpQI9smdyb6KEo7KTMAc7O-2BUVI48hFQOaJhIpzG4idPovPOllDJGarn)

A mentorship program that connects Olympic athletes with children at schools across the country is set to receive a major funding boost aimed at bridging educational gaps and empowering young minds. Classroom Champions, a leading educational non-profit, has secured $3.6 million in funding from 23 Western Canadian corporations they're calling the Energizing Community Collective. Steve Mesler is the CEO and co-founder of Classroom Champions, which now works with millions of students across North America by facilitating video lessons and interactive chats with athletes.

Alberta’s population continues to surge growing by 184, 000 last year. This will impact our already overcrowded schools. Link below

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/alberta-population-growth-statscan-report-1.6979657>

The new Langdon Junior/Senior high school will open September 2025. Parents of Langdon are presently engaged in dialogue about the school grade configuration and attendance boundaries.

September 30 was Truth and Reconciliation Day, all Rocky View participated in activities related to this day.

Caretaking is presenting a problem for many schools. Rocky View Schools received additional funding during COVID for caretaking. The funding has ceased so caretaking has been reduced and schools are adjusting to the new “normal”.

Springbank Community Associate in conjunction with Springbank High School is holding a raffle to support the Springbank High School Physical Education program. Please be expected students at your door selling raffle tickets.

Bussing times for Elbow Valley, Bragg Creek and Redwood for students going to the Springbank Schools due to construction on Stoney Trail and 22 X.

Gravel trucks were being detoured along RR 33 and RR 31 while RR40 waw being paved. All trucks should be using RR 40.

Newsletter out: Citizenship course…discussed at conference that Jean was at. Being implemented in QC right now. Might be good idea. PEI teachers can’t cope. See report.

**Administration Report - Glen Brooker & Stacey Pothier:**

Friday calendar happened on Halloween. A few tweaks this year re flow of traffic and quiet places, as well as allowing them to be outside. Kids not allowed to go to lockers this year.

Drama club doing well this year. Very student run.

Chess club and Newspaper club starting up (Newspaper club will do test run happening on 15 Nov – GB will review on 17th, then one issue every 2 weeks).

GB thinks clubs are good – encourages and supports.

Internet safety programmes coming in tomorrow – Grade 8’s supporting.

Discussion around levels of communications re incidents at school and what’s necessary – not all of the students/families need to be alerted to all events all the time.

Budgets – numbers of students are down so budget down. We can fundraise and we are accessing that. But we’ve had to cut some budgets too.

Caretaking – we don’t have anyone downstairs yet – the advertisement has gone out, and we do bring some people in – still short 6 hours cleaning downstairs though. Stairwells getting dusty – JH suggests dusty stairwells need attention. Suggest we speak with “Richard” who is our 4 hour a day guy and also does 4 hours at EVS. “Ken” is between 3 schools. Anthony also helps.

CR suggested gifts to caretakers (as parents not School Council). JH suggests toilet flushing training for kids … considerate and respectful to support caretakers! Gift to caretakers: 3 baskets (a sign-up genus was proposed where people donate money)

**CR made a MOTION** to organise a group gift for 3 caretakers in amount of $185 each in form of gift cards – money collected outside of school funds via sign up genius in $10 increment. SR seconded, MOTION PASSED.

No FI teacher in grade 6. The school is struggling to find someone. Still running plan a, plan b will kick into gear if no one is found.

**Co-chair’s Report – Sandra Kachuik & Caley Remington:**

In January a book sale proposed – Chantal from learning commons will help, asking kids to bring books, $1 a book.

Community skate on10 November at SPFAS - can donate items for “brown bags” charity.

Coming up in March – talking about adopting a school. Collecting clothes/toys to donate, then setting stuff outside at chosen schools on tarps and let them come out and collect donations. Send suggestions re which schools to donate to, to Manhar.

“MD Motivator” a tik tok’r. His target audience is middle school. He’s from Toronto and he focuses on talking to kids about mental health …. Joint presentation with other schools? Could Councils put in some money – JH suggests include Banded Peak Kids. Not sure re details of costs. CR looking for “green light” to engage. Talk would be Jan/Feb. GB says sounds like good idea, CR is going to go and get budget together

**Reports from Representative Positions**

* 1. Band: fundraiser shirts and poinsettias. 3 concerts 9th Nov (Remembrance Day in gym), 23rd November G6’s and concert on Dec 6th at 7pm G7 & 8.
  2. Athletics Report:

1) We had about 30 grade 7 & 8 students that participated in the South Central Zones Cross-country run on Oct. 11.  We finish fifth overall out of 13 schools in 3J with a combine score of 12 points.

2) The Jr. A Girls Volleyball Team competed in four invitational tournaments in the month of October.  These were the tournaments and how they finished:

Croxford Turkey Trot - First Overall

Strathmore Invitational - First Overall

Volleydome Tournament - Second Place

Oilfields Invitational - First Overall

The girls are ranked first going into the Divisional Playoffs for the 3A Tier this Wednesday, Nov. 1.  They are 6-0 in regular league play. Playoffs are at the Volleydome.

3)  The Jr. A Boys also finished first at the Croxford Turkey Trot Tournament.  The Boys are in 7th place currently as they get ready for the Divisional Playoffs on Thursday, November 2 at the Volleydome.

4) The Grade 6 Volleyball Tournament is this Friday, November 3.  We have entered 3 girls teams and 2 boys teams into the tournament.  Girls will be playing at Mitford School (Cochrane) and the boys are at Cochrane High School.  Tournaments start at 3:00 pm.

5) Any students in Grade 7 & 8 interested in playing on the Jr. B Volleyball team will need to  sign up on the forum wall.  First practices will start next week for both girls and boys.  First tournament is scheduled for November 17.

6) Jr. A Basketball Tryouts for Grade 7 & 8's will start up in late November, early December.

* 1. Canadian Parents for French: Homework sessions have been happening with HS students every weds after school, positive feedback. Shall we continue? Suggested that we should continue but not a big turnout. JH doesn’t want to commit to continue just yet but she’ll chat to HS kids. Re fundraising, we may be doing cheese fundraiser again.
  2. Fundraising: see Chair report above.
  3. Fun Lunches: N/A
  4. Spirit Day: N/A
  5. Grants: We’ve submitted the tech grant – to supply Mac Books for the tech programme $15k. Cate also just submitted an application to “Dejardins” for $3k for the Outdoor Leadership Camp. Looking at re-working another grant for tech to submit to Totem Org., and Cate also looking at couple of grants for continued support to outdoor leadership and some more for new year.
  6. Learning Commons: need another volunteer – earlier candidate fell through.

**Open Floor:** JH says that HS has raffle for PE equipment – their gym desperately needs refurbishment. Tickets online at www.springbankcommmunityassocation.com

**Next Meetings**

Dec 6 at 1 PM  
Jan 10 at 7 PM  
Feb 7 at 1 PM  
March 6 at 1 PM  
April 3 at 1 PM  
May 1 at 7 PM - AGM  
June 5 at 1 PM

**Adjournment**

2:38pm.