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Springbank Middle School (SMS)

March School Council Meeting Minutes

From Meeting - Wednesday, March 6th, 2024

MINUTES

Attendees:

Stephanie R

Glen B

Jean B

Judi H

Jennifer T (on Zoom)

Dinah K (on Zoom)

Michelle

Mark

Sandra K

Tammy N

1.

* 1. Meeting to Order 1:02pm
  2. Approval of Agenda: Motion: Michelle Second: Mark
  3. Approval of Meeting Minutes: Motion: Stephanie Second: Mark

1. Trustee’s Report - Judi Hunter

**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)](https://www.itworldcanada.com/article/info-tech-report-outlines-5-genai-initiatives-cios-must-key-in-on/558378)

[Google launches Bard GenAI in Canada, rebrands it to Gemini | IT World Canada News](https://www.itworldcanada.com/article/google-launches-bard-genai-in-canada-rebrands-it-to-gemini/558425?utm_campaign=2024-02-14+ITW+TD&utm_content=Google+launches+Bard+GenAI+in+Canada%2C+rebrands+it+to+Gemini&utm_medium=email&utm_source=sendx)

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.

1. Administration Report - Glen Brooker & Stacey Poither

* school numbers are down
* French numbers/class sizes are “funky” might be as many as 37 kids in class which is a problem. Conversations are being had; GB says it’s a priority to offer French.
* Professional Learning – on March 11th our PBIS people are coming regarding how we work with kids and celebrate students - Division Wide, working on consistent language around how we deal with behaviour and conflict.
* Looking at PAT results in G7 & 9 - how do we teach it better and/or assess it better.
* Transition management to Grade 9 is poor - GB is aware. GB looking at how we can smooth it.
* Working more on comprehension and reading - he wants more implementation around it, we’ll have the literacy structure set up here by end of June. GB wants to have more structure – “we’re doing everything we need to be doing but our goal is to implement more structure from next September”.

1. Co-chair’s Report – Sandra Kachuik & Caley Remington

* Book sale logistics, week of 11th March drop off books in STEM room, and sale will be in there too. $2 per book. Friday 8th drop off and Tuesday 12th drop off, set up Weds (and sale Weds lunchtime, Thurs, Friday).
* MD Motivator coming March 19th - working out timing details for the 2 groups. About a 45 min sessions plus a Q&A.

1. Reports from Representative Positions
   1. **Band** – G5’s - drumming and starting recorders. G6’s are going on May 22 to Red Deer to compete in music festival. G7 march 20th - 22nd going on a camp and working on Festival performance for May 15th. Still looking for a chaperone (male) for G7 trip. G8 have 2 festivals coming up - Edmonton, they’re working towards Provincial festival in May, getting organised for that. Fundraiser for bedding plants coming up after easter. Sign-up genus coming out for that.
   2. **Athletics Report** - Here is the athletics report

The Jr. A Girls Basketball Team wrapped up their season on Friday, January 26 at the  Divisionals Playoffs.  The girls were ranked second after the two league tournaments and had a record of 4 wins and 0 losses, going into playoffs.  They finished Divisionals with the silver medal and second place in the 3A Division.

The Jr. A Boys Basketball Team had their Divisional playoffs on Thursday, January 25.  The boys won their first game of the day and then were eliminated after they lost their second game.

The Jr. B Basketball Teams will be starting this week with practices to get ready for their three tournaments in March (1, 8, & 15).  We will be entering two girls teams and two boys teams into the tournaments.

Grade 6 Basketball Tournament is scheduled for Friday, March 22.  We will very likely start practices during the first week of March.  If any parent is interested in helping out with the boys program/team, they can contact me for further information.

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* 1. Canadian Parents for French - Tortiere - G8’s going up to High School to help them make it. Did some pilot programmes at beginning of the year at Elementary. Discussion around value in the FLA exams or the Delph exams
  2. Fundraising – N/A
  3. Fun Lunches – Grades 7 and 8 are being left in office to be collected - month on month profits are around $2k made. Struggle with Volunteers though.
  4. Spirit Day - care awards next week otherwise nothing to report.
  5. Grants - no updates - concrete approved re beautification project. Discussion around building a Gaga Ball arena.

6. Open Floor

Vandalism happened in boy’s bathroom downstairs in building (Grade 5/6 bathroom) … GB is trying to figure out who’s doing it.

7. Next Meetings

April 10 at 1 PM  
May 1 at 7 PM - AGM  
June 5 at 1 PM

8. Adjournment 2:31pm