

**Mar 25, 2024**

## **JT Foster School Council Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees:** Robyn Todd, Jason MacDonald, Jill Spencer, Lori Loree, Ben Loree, Sarah Green, Sherri Lundberg, Leanne Habraken, Carla Gimber, Brad Toone, Zoe Krahulic, Kai Woods, Iris Simon, Jeff Anderson (online)

**Opening:** Sherri called the meeting to order at 6:05pm

### **Student Leadership Report to Council**

**Zoe Krahulic, Kai Woods, Iris Simon**

- An Easter event is being planned. It will be something low key. Students are to watch for posters advertising events. There will be a concession.
- The Snowball went well. The feedback from students was positive. JT Foster had low attendance but there was lots of participation from other schools.
- Relay for Life is planned for May 31<sup>st</sup> 1:00pm-9:00pm. Contingency plans are being made for weather. Students who want to participate will be asked to collect at least \$100/per in donations. A fundraising goal of \$10000 will be set. The planning committee is hoping to get more community involvement in the event. The parent council was invited to register a team. QR codes may be distributed around town to increase awareness and participation. It was suggested by council to get Hub Radio involved to promote the event.
- Student leadership asked the school council to donate \$200-\$500 to purchase food and prizes for the event. The Leo's have done the BBQ in the past to feed participants and the Canadian Cancer Society provides the funds to run the event.
- The school council has donated in the past and will consider this year's request.

### **Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes**

- Leanne motioned to approve the meeting minutes. Sarah seconded.

### **Treasurer's Report**

**Robyn Todd**

- No transactions have occurred since last report.
- General Account balance is \$450.07
- The Savings Account balance is \$4492.72
- The Casino Account balance is \$25651.24 (the sports bussing, band funds and Wise Guys Program funds have not yet been paid out)
- Robyn motioned to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Leanne Seconded

Parent Council Bursary: Robyn asked who is responsible to advertise the bursary? The deadline to apply is listed as April 30<sup>th</sup>. In the past it has been May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Jason and Jill will follow up with Jenna and Lee about how the application is accessed and the deadline. It will then be posted to the Grade 12 Google Classroom.

## **Principals Report**

### **Jason MacDonald**

#### **School's Measurable Results Analysis (MRA)**

- Jason presented the MRA. JTF was up in all categories and has gone from the lowest to the highest for some (handout provided with summary).

#### **Behaviour Reports**

- Behaviour reports are down (less disruptive/concerning behaviour being reported)

#### **Cell phones in the classroom/at school**

- To continue the conversation started last meeting Jason provided a summary a University of Calgary Meta Analysis of the effect of cell phones in classrooms. It was found there was a negative effect on student learning with cells phones allowed in the classroom. Jason asked if the council members could share their thoughts on cell phone use in the classroom and also what they have discussed in conversations with other parents. The council agreed the results were not surprising. General consensus was that parents are not in favor of cell phones in the classrooms. Sarah asked if the teachers are on board with removing cell phones. Jason stated that the teachers would have to be the ones to enforce a rule to stop cell phone use in the classroom. It was pointed out that Willow Creek Comp. currently only allows cells phones outside of the classroom. Smart watches maybe an issue if the phones are not allowed. It was stated by Sherri that some kids may appreciate the enforced break from social media and the distractions of having a phone. Leanne stated that not using a phone when required to complete necessary tasks is a skill kids are going to need in the workplace.

Jason stated moving forward on taking cell phones out of the classroom would be phased in. It would start with grade 7-9 and grandfathered to high school as those students transition through the grades. Implementation would begin in the fall 2024.

#### **Grad**

- Grad photos are happening Mar 25-27<sup>th</sup> in the staff room
- Grade date was picked by Jason as the grad committee could not decide. The decision was based on what was best academically for the students. Going forward the school staff will provide two date options to the grad committee and they will be able to choose. The grad is going to be held at the arena this year.

#### **Junior High Days**

- Days off for Jr. High will be aligned with AB Daley. The January semester break for next year is to be announced.

#### **Honour Roll**

- Jason wanted to make an official apology for not recognizing some students who made the honour roll at the assembly. The report that is pulled from Alberta Ed. To make the calculation is confusing and some students that made honour roll were missed. Going forward, calculating who meets the requirement for honour roll will be based on in house classes. Honour roll with

distinction (90%+ average) will also be recognized. Jason feels success for achievement is a motivator and should be recognized whenever possible.

#### **Dress Code**

- Jason and Jill have been working on enforcing compliance with the dress code. Clothing with foul language and/or symbolism related to substances such as marijuana or alcohol will not be allowed. This also supports the work being done to address vaping and substance use the staff are doing. The dress code is found in the administrative procedures document. Robyn stated that revealing clothing should also be addressed. Students should be expected to dress as they would for employment. Jason stated that they have a harder time addressing that issue without crossing into body shaming. Leanne suggested creating a rule that states a certain percentage of the body between the shoulders and the knees must be covered.

### **Trustee Report**

#### **Carla Gimber and Brad Toone**

##### **Alberta School Council Association AGM**

- Jill and Sherri attended the Regional School Council Meeting on Mar 12<sup>th</sup>. The ASCA resolutions were reviewed (summary provided). Seven policies and two administrative procedures were discussed. Parent councils will vote on the resolutions at the Provincial meeting April 28<sup>th</sup> in Edmonton. A JTF school council member can attend and vote. The conference is from April 26-28<sup>th</sup>. Registration closes April 15<sup>th</sup>. There is funding to cover food, hotel, and registration for a person willing to attend. If the council does not have a member wanting to go the council should send a proxy vote (complete the form) that could be sent with the Willow Creek school council chair who is planning to attend.

##### **Division Funding**

- The division 3 year plan for capital and facilities plan was submitted. Instructional funding was approved. The new funding formula provides more flexibility to support areas of greater need.
- The designs for the new JT Foster and AB Daley were approved. Sherri asked about movement of the students during the construction phase. Construction will start in 2025. The division is meeting with the town to discuss options for students during construction.

##### **School Changes**

- The Board has moved to develop a plan to explore consideration of a 4 day school week. Information is available on the division website.
- Granum School is moving to a 4 day school week. The decision was made based on busing needs and attracting students and staff. The school currently has 42 students.

### **School Council AGM**

Cindy Pineo and Sophie Lavolette were not able to attend the meeting but indicated that would fill a position on the executive.

### **Chair**

As there were no other volunteers to fill the Chair position Leanne nominated Sherri Lundberg and she accepted the nomination. Seconded by Sara Green. However, she is only able to maintain the chair position until the end of June.

**Vice Chair**

Leanne nominated Lori Loree for Vice Chair. Lori accepted. Sarah Green seconded.

**Treasurer**

Leanne nominated Sophie Lavolette for Treasurer. Sherri seconded.

**Secretary**

Leanne nominated Cindy Pineo for Secretary and Lori seconded.

**Casino Chair**

Sherri will ask Jen Slettede to Chair the Casino. The next casino is in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2025. The paperwork would have to be submitted in September 2025. Jenna can help with this.

**Meeting adjourned** at 7:53 by Sherri

**Next meeting:** May 7<sup>th</sup> 2024 at 6:00pm