



Winston Churchill School Council Meeting **Minutes**

September 25, 2024

7:00pm

WCHS Learning Commons

1. Welcome, Land Acknowledgement, and Introductions
 - 11 Parents, 3 staff
2. Additions to Agenda
 - Pictures updated in the hallway of the teams
 - o Kids in leadership have done it in the past
 - o Staff can take
3. Approval of Agenda
 - Shannon T moves to adopt & Linsey seconds
4. Approval of Minutes from June 26, 2024
 - Janine moves to adopt & Lana seconds
5. Business arising from the minutes
 - We need new minutes and a way to store
6. School Vision, Mission, and Values – Connection to School Council – Tracy Wong
 - Welcome to new parents
 - A community of learners working to make our world a better place
 - Build relationships – core of Churchill, strong relationship with adults in the building
 - Value diversity
 - Pursue growth – aim to be a little bit better everyday
 - Work hard, be kind
 - School council redid operating procedures 5 to 6 years ago
 - Hand out provided
 - Promotes school through community
7. Priorities and Goals of School Council – Brainstorming
 - 2023/2024-Buidling Community and Connection (Churchill Family Wellness Nights)
 - Last year’s purpose was to create connection with families
 - 3 Family Wellness nights
 - a. Sports nights
 - b. Arts, macro may, needle point
 - c. Potluck

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- Family's felt comfortable coming
 - Good for Grade 9s to get families in
 - The math club was a great event for the club to put on
 - The kids presented and were prideful that night
 - Having the kid's clubs put on the Wellness
 - Suggestion to do an activity base
 - Focus for this year should still be focus on families
 - Suggestion of a movie night
 - If you could do a drive in with a projector
 - Cooking night, come to cook a meal or freezer meal to take home
 - Interfaith food bank has a community cook/programs
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- Photo Wall - Pictures updated in the hallway of the teams
 - Kids in leadership have done it in the past
 - Staff can take this back and speak about it and bring suggestions to next meeting, mention to leadership
 - Need to get ink for the large format printer
 - Mindful of where the photos are getting from, as they are from a professional photographer/company and each kid gets the photos, but the digital file is not at the school.
 - Does the photographer give a release to post/display
 - Could the photographer donate the prints for the pictures?
 - Staff will look into that

8. School Council Learning Sessions – Brainstorming (format, content)

- Wide range of topics
- Do you want them attached to school council or separate?
 - How to deal with teenager?
- Posting them on Teams, such as sensitive topics
- RAP program presentation was great, that could be virtual
 - That could maybe video taped and put on website
 - Off campus work apprenticeship, work experience,
 - Can gain credits for that
- The High School Streams
 - In the spring time this could be presented
 - Format was the same night as council, starts at 6:30pm, then light school council meeting.

Question: why are grade 9s are excluded from clubs?

- They don't participate in the High School Football, starts grade 10
- the difference is grade 9 is part of Lethbridge School Association, but most schools in the province are 10 to 12 grades, so they are part of LSWA while in grade 9.

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- summer school is not available until the summer of grade 10, they don't want kids too young earning credits yet. The courses are designed for age
- Grade 9's are in their own division
 - Any other learning topics, you can email Tracy

9. Election of School Council Positions for 2024/2025

- Chairperson – Marlaina made a motion to nominate Kira was nominated to be the Chair by Marlaina. Kira K accepts the nomination. 2nd call out, 3rd call out. Shannon T seconds, all in favor
- Vice-Chairperson – Janine P. volunteers, 2nd call, 3rd call out. Marlaina seconds, all in favor
- Secretary – Lindsey G. (not present) put name forward, 2nd call out, 3rd call out, Linsey M. seconds, all in favor

10. Division School Council – DSC Reps (Oct 7)

- Cynthia Y volunteers

11. Trustee Report – Allison Purcell

- Not present tonight

12. School Report

- School direction and focus
 - Early in year, these are some of the thoughts
 - How can admin decisions create a learning community
 - How can our learning culture
 - How can students and staff support happy, healthier and engaged learners
 - How to bring parents into the learning and High School experience
 - 18 staff on leadership committee

Question: how is the no cell phones going:

Answer: Going well, grade level to explain this is a mandated law

Kids are talking to one another, engaging face to face

They are being respectful

Question: how about other school

Answer: going well

Learning about cell phone use, depression and anxiety rates are higher. More info is about accessing adult content, it's very common that kids are engaging in that now

What type of learning do parents want to learn about?

- there is an add put out from the New Zealand government, talking about online usage
 - Important for parents, there are a lot of younger kids using gaming apps, where kids are communicating with each other, some of which is sexual in nature.

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- What kids are reading: young adults want a certain type of romance novel, but they are highly sexualized, really adult. But the covers are teen orientated.
- Kids are learning about relationships via tik toks, reels and memes.
 - o They don't know the difference between what is real and what is being presented on social media.
- Worrying about kids not knowing the difference between healthy and unhealthy relationships, we could bring that into a parents learning night.
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- JJ O – Parent Communication
 - Connecting with parents to get ideas about what parents want to learn about.
 - Chair the women and leadership committee, school council is an example of women in leadership
- Update on school start-up
 - Numbers, class size, mobile device guidelines update on implementation
 - 252 grade 9
 - 279 grade 10
 - 220 grade 11
 - 267 grade 12
 - 97% capacity, 1023 kids
 - Division is going to apply for 2 modules
 - Some class sizes are small depending on the class ranges from 25 to 45
 - a. The range never used to be like that
 - Mobile devices are going well

Question: what is the capacity of the other High Schools

Answer:

- LCI is at 1550, capacity is 1700? (not 100% sure)
- Chinook is around 1200, that is their capacity, they got 3 module last year

Question: what can parents do to help get modules approved?

Answer: it's up to the government

Question: what classes would be in the modules?

Answer: learning support classroom, it's not big enough for students and staff, they need to split classes, they don't have a place that the class can go to. Money is good for infrastructure, but there still needs to be funding for staffing, it could take up to 4 years to get modules.

In Alberta, student funding is the lowest across Canada. The 3-year rolling average is the current funding model which is a challenge for growing schools.

Schools are growing as a community, there are families coming from BC, Manitoba, and other Alberta communities. The funding model is not supportive of growth.

Growth is not based on immigration; the ESL classes are less full.

Southland Welding is awesome, meeting in July electricians, HVAC, Ashton at Southland, when industries and committees come together they can make a lot happen. They have done a mock up of garage and lay out of Southland, they said they could have it done by December. Slowed down now, they have to get the city to approve. The current goal is to start the digging in January. They are willing to donate the work. They brought a videographer to document the whole thing to try to fundraise for the ongoing funding for the Welding program.

- Feedback on Churchill Family BBQ
 - Went to an informal, no sit down
 - Looking for feedback:
 - a. It was cold, which wasn't ideal
 - b. Liked the informal setting, but hard to hear in the cafeteria
 - c. Maybe have Staff give parents a tour, didn't feel inviting to walk around. a little more structure or guidance
 - d. Singing was lovely
 - e. There wasn't a sign or board to explain what you could do, the names of the singers.
 - f. Maybe need to do it earlier
 - g. Need to book the gym
 - h. It was the same night as Wilson and Patterson
 - i. Last year you were outside for the chaos, but then the Advisor would come and grab folks.
 - j. A takeaway of the instagram pages, more marketing and materials

Question: how to order Winston swag

Answer; order at the Website, to the school store and its delivered to the homes

- Feedback on new Timetable
 - Kids are happier with the timetable, start time, they are not rushed in the morning
 - Kids are telling staff that they love the timetables.
 - Happy to not have a double class
 - Like that the consistency, but it would be ok if it was a bit more variable and split.

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- a. Staff talked about that, but there are working kids, wrap kids, kids who are half days.
 - b. As the semester goes if you get feedback share with Staff
- Staff Learning – year to date and looking forward
 - Professional Learning, went out on the reserve with horses
 - Engaged with indigenous ways of knowing,
 - As people of learning, it was a good reminder that your energy at school can affect the people around you
 - Would love to continue that partnership
 - Had Admin symposium
 - All admin got together for learning
 - Round table on challenging topics
 - Presentation about the Sexual assault center, there was a lot of learning from that, like safety in staff, 74% happen in schools, they spend the most time in school, and it's happening online more, not necessary in the school
 - a. Would like to talk more about healthy relationship
 - Talked about learning outcomes vs task learning
 - a. Looking at aligning the curriculum with assessments, what is the project really asking for the kids to do and is it part of the curriculum, what is the teacher really assessing the kids based on the outcomes.
 - b. What are we communicating to parents on report cards and power school, what is helpful.

Question: where is the credits tracking?

Answer: ask the Advisor. the Advisors should be keeping track of the credits. You either get the credit or you don't, pass is 50%, it doesn't change with the grade.

13. Adjournment – 8:28pm

14. Next Meeting – Wednesday, October 23, 2024