

# F.R. Haythorne (FRH) Junior High School

## School Council Meeting

Wednesday, April 17, 2024

### Attendance:

Lana Lastiwka - Principle	Cynthia Cassidy- Parent	Sivanthy Suntharalingam- Parent	Brad Smilanich - Assistant Principal	Melanie Jimmy- Support Staff
Mark Wever - Assistant Principal	Rejeita Kumar- Chair, Parent	Charmyn Thompson - Secretary, Parent	Adrienne Svelzle- Parent	Guy Martin - Parent

- 1) Call to order/introductions - 6:02 p.m.
- 2) Land and People Acknowledgement
- 3) Approve Minutes from last meeting (January 17, 2024):
  - a) Approved - Charmyn Thompson
  - b) Seconded - Cynthia Cassidy
- 4) Approve agenda:

Charmyn added 7 (a) to agenda, regarding parent council grant use update

  - a) Approved - Rejeita Kumar
  - b) Seconded - Charmyn Thompson

## 5) Trustee Report

Read by Mark Wever for Trina Boymook, Board of Trustees Member

March 21 Board meeting

- o The Board approved a 3-year capital plan. Number 1 and 2 are requests for replacement schools in Fort Saskatchewan. Number 3 is a new school for Cambrian Crossing.

- o The Board reallocated surplus dollars that have become available of \$1.1M.

windows Computer Evergreening - \$694,058

Chromebook Evergreening - \$325,000

Next Step Entrance at Salisbury Composite High - \$80,000

- o Senior Administration closed the loop on the engagement held in 2022 and will not be proposing any changes to the junior high boundaries for Brentwood and Summerwood.

- o The Board approved the appointment of the Returning Office as we prepare for the October 2025 Trustee election.

Budget was tabled February 29, we didn't receive the funding manual until March 29.

This is late and will impact our budget schedule. We will not be able to approve allocations to schools until May 2 this year. Finance is confirming numbers and interpretations, so don't have a lot of details to share at this time. At this point there is no evidence that the budget addresses inflation. There is also no increase to the complexity grant. We are anticipating a tight budget for next year. The Board has

already had a number of budget meetings and have a number of more scheduled. We are certainly keeping budget survey results and assurance reviews at top of mind as we work through the budget.

The Board will be approving student transportation fees at the upcoming April 18 Board

meeting, which is proposing decreases in fees and eliminate fees being charged those that attending a school or program of choice if meeting the mileage threshold.

The transition plan consultation for senior high French Immersion and Lakeland Junior High attendance area will begin next month. May 1 a survey will be sent out to affected

parents, students and staff with further engagements planned for the fall. The Board tentatively will be making a decision at its November Board meeting.

The Board had a two-day retreat on April 8 and 9. The retreat focused on budget and setting priorities for the Board's 2024-25 workplan.

## 6) Administration Report

### Lana Lastiwka, Principal:

- Hawk Film festival tickets are still on sale for April 18th at the Agora in Sherwood Park.
  - Huge shout out to Mr. Drozda for organizing and supporting this event
- Lana returned in time for FRH's open house on April 16th.
- Leadership students were great ambassadors of the school
- Great energy as incoming students for the 2024-25 school year toured the school and met the teachers, in anticipation of choosing option classes for their first year of junior high

**Mark Weaver, Assistant Principal:**

- Parent council had unused grant money from the past two previous years that is eligible for use until the end of this school year, then it is no longer available. Current year's grant money of \$500 can be rolled over to the 2024-25 school year.
- Grade 9 students attending Salisbury Composite High School next year attended its open house and option registration.
- As of today (April 17th), option selection is now open for grades 7,8 and 9 until April 30th, 2024.
- Reduced grade 7 enrollment expected for upcoming school year, and FRH has accepted new students for grades 8 and 9.

**Brad Smilanich, Assistant Principal:**

- **Athletics**
  - Provincials are being held at Millenium Place
  - 4 teams of handball with league play starting shortly
  - Jr. and Sr. badminton wrapping up
  - Track and field meet is scheduled for May 23, 2024

**7) Staff Reports**

**Melanie Jimmy, Family-School Liaison Worker:**

- June 21, 2024 the school will recognize Indigenous Day with traditional bannock and stew
- Cookies AND BANNOCK was served in the foods room during FRH's Open House

**Rejeita Kumar, Chair**

**Charmyn Thompson, Secretary**

- **School Council grant money expenditure**
  - Parent Council Chair and Secretary- Rejeita Kumar and Charmyn Thompson- will be using grant money to attend the annual conference and 95th Anniversary celebration of Alberta School

Councils' Association at the Delta Marriott Edmonton South on April 26th and 27th.

- There will be \$500 of school council grant money to carry over for the 2024-25 school year.
- Thank you to Mark Weaver for working with Rejeita and our COSC (Council of School Councils for the Elk Island Public School district) contact, Emma Small.

**Additional Discussion:**

Parent concern for class scheduling and use of the early bus. The same class is repeatedly cut short, affecting attendance.

Cynthia Cassidy followed up on a previous discussion regarding donations to support families in need in our school. The Red Cross has recommended a written clause of acceptance of items to avoid liability on an application.

April 24, 2024 Bev Facey is hosting a presentation on Anxiety in the evening, for approximately 1.5- 2 hours.

**9) COSC Review**

Good afternoon COSC members,

Below is a brief overview of what took place at the last COSC meeting on April 3, 2024.

**KEY AGENDA TOPICS**

- **ASCA AGM Discussion**
- **Potential implications of policies to preserve choice**
- **ATA Report**
- **Caregiver Education Series**
- **ASCA update**

- COSC Sharing: Educational composting initiatives at your school
- Board-sponsored Registration Attendees

### ASCA AGM DISCUSSION

Because of a lack of time, COSC Chair Kendra Roemer has organized a virtual chat about the advocacy resolutions for the 2024 Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) Annual General Meeting (AGM). The meeting will take place on Microsoft Teams from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, April 9. [Join the meeting](#)

### POTENTIAL IMPLICATIONS OF POLICIES TO PRESERVE CHOICE

EIPS Superintendent Sandra Stoddard discussed the potential implications for EIPS regarding the provincial government's [policies to preserve choice](#). For resources on this topic, see the following:

- [Notifications to Parents \(Education Act, Section 58.1\)](#)
- [Board Policy 19: Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning and Working Environments](#)
- [AP 205: Controversial Issues and Resources](#)
- [AP 206: Human Sexuality Program](#)
- [AP 311: Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environments for Students](#)
- [Alberta Education: Health and Life Skills](#)
- [ASCA: Information on SOGI](#)

### ATA REPORT

ATA Local No. 28 President Deneen Zielke presented the ATA Report. The Local will have a booth at the [Great Canadian Trade Fair and Sale](#). They'll have prizes for children and information for the public, highlighting the importance of public education and current trends noted in ATA surveys. If you're interested in volunteering at the booth, contact [Deneen Zielke](#).

### CAREGIVER EDUCATION SERIES: April

Alberta Health Services hosts a series of virtual caregiver information sessions focused on

ways to support students' mental health. The sessions are free and geared toward parents, caregivers, teachers and community members who want to learn more about challenges impacting children and adolescents. Session topics include anxiety, depression and technology, while teaching leadership skills, communication, resiliency and more. [Learn more](#)

### ASCA UPDATE

[ASCA](#) is the provincial organization for families on school council. Below may be of interest to COSC members:

- ASCA has released [two surveys](#) on possible 2024 changes to legislation impacting education. COSC members are encouraged to share these surveys with their school communities. QR codes are available. The deadline to complete the surveys is noon on April 8.
  - For those seeking clarity on the current role of a school board trustee, see [Board Policy 3: Role of the Trustee](#). All other Board Policies can be found on the [EIPS website](#).
- The [ASCA Conference and AGM](#) will be held April 26-28, 2024.
  - The Board of Directors election will happen at the AGM on April 28. The [call for nominations](#) is open until 5 p.m. on April 12.
  - Don't forget to fill out the [Credential Voting Form](#), even if your registration is being sponsored by the Board. A [Proxy Voting Form](#) is also available for school councils who won't be able to attend the AGM. The deadline to complete the forms is April 18. If you're looking for an attendee who can be your proxy, contact [Emma Small](#).
  - [Meeting documents](#) are available for the AGM, including an [AGM Meeting Preparation and Planning step-by-step guide](#).

### COSC SHARING: Educational composting initiatives at your school

COSC members discussed educational composting initiatives at their schools. These initiatives tie composting to curricular connections, such as using food scraps from culinary classes to make nutrient-rich soil for a horticulture program. COSC member Amanda Shand shared the experiences of École Parc Élémentaire, saying the school started small with composting bins in every classroom and has since received support from the City of Fort Saskatchewan. To learn more, contact [Amanda Shand](#).

## BOARD-SPONSORED REGISTRATION ATTENDEES

The Board-sponsored registration for the ASCA Conference and AGM is full for 2024. The nine attendees are:

- Amy Prenc-Perry, Clover Bar Junior High
- Andrea Brown, École Campbelltown
- April Childs, Lakeland Ridge
- Christan Rasmussen, Westboro Elementary
- Jordana Feist, James Mowat Elementary
- Kendra Roemer, Mills Haven Elementary
- Kim Scott, Sherwood Heights Junior High
- Krystal Gibson, Salisbury Composite High
- Tawnia McQueen, Wes Hosford Elementary

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES

- April 9: [RAP Information Session](#)
- April 12: [On the Trampoline Divisional Event with David A. Robertson](#)
- April 13: [Young Authors' Conference](#)
- April 14-20: [National Volunteer Week](#)
- April 15-19: [Education Week](#)
- April 22: [Earth Day](#)
- April 23: [World Book Day](#)
- April 24: Administrative Professionals' Day
- May 1: Early Dismissal
- May 3: Professional Learning Day (schools closed to students)



You can also join [COSC on Facebook](#) to share information and ask questions with other school councils.

Additional information from the April 3, 2024 meeting is available at [www.eips.ca](http://www.eips.ca). The next meeting takes place on May 1, 2024. It's our last one of the 2023-24 school year! We look forward to seeing you there.

Kind Regards,

Emma Small

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10) Meeting Adjourned at 6:26 p.m..

Next meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2024 at 6 p.m. in the school library.

All parents are encouraged to attend to form a collective voice in student education!