

# Chinook High School-School Council Minutes

Sept 8, 2021

## Attendees:

Administrators and staff: Bill Forrester, Cam Hall, Tara Cunningham, Duane Piper

Parents: Lisa Althouse, Corrine Steele, Lacey de Kok, Edna, Raila Duda, Vanessa Steel, Laurel Bach-Knapp, Merlyn Berg, Shannon Pratt, Brian & Katrina Palsky, Tisha Elford

1. **Call To Order** – 7:04pm
2. **Welcome & Introductions:** School Council is a forum where members fill an advisory role. It is a vehicle for meaningful parental involvement at the school level.
  - a. **Election**
    - i. Chair: Lacey de Kok
    - ii. Vice Chair: Raila Duda
    - iii. Treasurer: n/a
    - iv. Secretary: Lisa Althouse (alternate: Laurel Bach-Knapp)
    - v. Division Council Reps: Shannon Pratt, Tisha Elford, Edna
3. **Committees**
  - a. **Student Leadership:** Chinook moved away from a traditional Student Council toward a Student Leadership group. It is part of the timetable, but students can be involved even if they're not in the "class". This group of student leaders helps with trying to build the school community through activities, art and more.
  - b. **District School Council:** Meetings for 2021-2022 haven't started yet, so no report was made.
  - c. **Grad Committee (Tara):** Grad Gala has tentatively been booked with the U of L & LA Chefs for the first Friday evening in May 2022, with the hope that we will be able to celebrate without restrictions. Convocation is tentatively booked for the Chinook gym for the last Tuesday of June 2022. Grad planning will start later this month with designing hoodies, choosing songs, etc. Staff remain flexible and ready to pivot if plans need to change.
4. **Administrative Reports**
  - a. **Bill:** before the start of the year, staff gathered and worked on the WHY for this year. Building the community as we come out of covid is very important and will guide the year's activities. The school year with students kicked off with Welcome Back Week where, for the first time, the Grade 9 group had the whole first day by themselves to experience a taste of high school before the other grades joined. It went fantastic and is something that will likely continue. Currently, Chinook sits at approx. 1160 students. This translates to some larger class sizes, but they are trying to keep them at 35 students max where they can.
  - b. **Cam:** Athletics is back! Football, Volleyball, Cross Country and Golf have all started for the year. Typically there are 67 coaches (head coaches, assistant coaches and teacher reps) for all activities through the year. This year it is difficult to fill all those positions (only 41 are filled as of now). A large portion is often filled by community members with staff helping too. Discussions around an intramural/extracurricular program. Currently the pain points are gym time and coaching.
  - c. **Tara:** The Wellness Team has hit the ground running this year. The team consists of 8 staff members that are already in deep working with students as we navigate this school year start and covid.
  - d. **Duane:** What is the vision for Chinook and how can we work together to get there? This year staff have a huge focus on the why and the development of the community after how disjointed the last 18 months have been. Connection is a vital component to this and the advisor program

at Chinook is a beautiful part of connection. Currently the Advisor Program is being evaluated and staff are working to make it the best it can be. Advisors are the link between student/school/parent and those relationships are incredibly important as students go through their high school years.

#### **5. Other Business**

- a. Edna (bussing concerns):** For the most part parents didn't notice any significant changes when Southland took over bussing from the city last spring. However, there seems to be a lot of issues this fall, particularly with lateness. Bill spoke to the issue and offered some insight. The first few weeks of the year are typically a challenge as routes get settled. Southland is still looking for staff to fill some shortages. Both the Division and Southland are working hard together to iron out a few technology issues.
- b. Covid Protocol Changes (Masking):** masking is required by students in common areas (hallways, learning common, cafeteria if not eating). Masks can be taken off if students are seated in their normal desk. If students are moving around the classroom or participating in group work, masks will be required. Masks are not required during physical activity.

**Meeting Adjourned: 8:20pm**

Minutes prepared by Lisa Althouse