

# Chinook High School-School Council Minutes

## February 8, 2023

### Attendees:

Administrators and staff: Bill Forrester, Duane Piper

Parents: Lisa Althouse, Lacey deKock, Edna Asem, Brian Palsky, Vanessa Steele, Tisha Elford, Raj Paudel, Christa Pike, Shannon Pratt

1. **Call To Order** – 7:00pm
  - a. **Welcome & Introductions**
  - b. **Review Agenda:** Request to have agenda additions submitted to Bonnie in the office no later than one week prior to the meeting.
  - c. **Review minutes from last meeting:** Minutes from previous meetings are posted on the school website.
2. **Committees**
  - a. **Student Leadership:** For Valentine’s Day, the Student Leadership group made a heart with everyone’s name and hung them around the school. More teachers are taking part with the Student Leadership group to help lessen the load due to the group size. The Culture Club is working on celebrating Black History Month.
  - b. **Division School Council (Tisha Elford):**
    - i. The parent learning portion of the meeting was about learning to embrace all the cultures in our division community and ways to support people from other cultures. Embrace differences and be mindful to include those from other cultures who may not be familiar with how we do things in our culture.
    - ii. The division received a \$360,000 grant for mental health programs, which allowed them to hire one educator for digital citizenship and one social worker for a term of 2 years. Digital Wellness team is looking at the positives and negatives of increased digital learning and increased use of digital products to support traditional learning.
    - iii. The Student Wellness forum held in February was very successful.
  - c. **Trustee Report:**
    - i. The board continues working on the priorities report and working on strategies to address the priorities.
    - ii. Lethbridge School Division is fortunate to be in a community that strongly supports programs and services for students. The Division received a few donations that will support breakfast and nutrition programs in Galbraith & Nicholas Sheran Elementary schools.
    - iii. Division is hosting the Town Hall meeting at Victoria Park High School on February 7. This is the first in person town hall since before Covid. Information gathered from the town hall meeting will help the board identify areas that should be priorities as they form the new Education Plan and budget.
    - iv. Chinook was given permission to do an international trip to the British isles in April 2024 with the understanding that future travel advisories and/or vaccination requirements may affect the trip.
    - v. Community Conversations are continuing
      1. February 14 (11:30am-1pm) virtually via Teams
      2. March 7 (1:30-3pm) Lethbridge Fish & Game Association

### 3. Administrative Reports

#### a. Principal Report (Bill):

- i. Second semester is off and running well. Some classes are tight with not much space to move students to other classes (Grade 9 options are especially tight). Student numbers continue to increase. New staff hired from reserves to help lower class sizes. One math/science teacher and one English/Legal Studies teacher have been hired.
- ii. Survey season is here! Student surveys are used to see what students feel is going well and what needs improving as well to get an idea of what students need from their perspective. The Assurance Survey is also out and admin is hoping to facilitate a parent night for parents to come to the school and complete the survey. These surveys help admin create the Education plan for the coming years as well as identify priorities.
- iii. Registration for 2023/2024 school year will begin in mid March for current students and in April for new students coming into grade 9 from middle school. There will be a going into Grade 10 parent information night for parents to learn about the high school model and graduation requirements. There will also be a coming in to Grade 9 parent night for families to get an idea of how high school works!
- iv. Portables are almost ready. School Council members were given a quick tour and had questions answered immediately following the meeting.

#### b. Admin/Teacher Report (Duane):

- i. Fine Arts:
  1. Fall was fantastic and very busy. The Mama Mia show saw over 2000 people attending over the performance times. The bands have had some very successful shows in school and in the community at The Owl. It's great to see students performing out in the community!
  2. Students are planning a student lead concert to raise funds for the program.
  3. There are lots of concerts and performances coming up with choir, dance, drama and band as well as competitions for choir and drama (zones, provincials, etc).
- ii. Grad planning is well under way with the Grad Committee meeting to make decisions about menus, hoodies, etc.
  1. May 12 is the date for the Grad Gala and it will be held at the University again. June 28 is the date for convocation, which will be held in the Chinook gym.
  2. May 23, Chinook is hosting the Division Indigenous Grad for all graduating grade 12 Indigenous Students.
  3. Chinook is hosting a Queer Prom on May 26. Students from rural areas and other high schools are invited to attend.
- iii. Indigenous Education:
  1. Chinook has a land acknowledgement created from the perspective of the school. Each event will have a bit of a different acknowledgment based on how the event fits contextually with embracing the land and culture.

### 4. School Council Budget Update

- i. No changes, no update

### 5. Business

- a. Continuation of discussion about surveys and their importance. Also discussed the Town Hall and the questions the Board presented that evening. Questions were vague, but allowed for great conversation and lots of ideas being brought to the table for the board to consider.

**Meeting Adjourned: 8:00pm**

Minutes prepared by Lisa Althouse