



Whitecourt Central School

PCSS School Council Meeting – 19:00hrs November 19, 2019

AGENDA

	Agenda Item	Attachments
1	Call to Order, Introductions	
2	Adoption of Agenda	
3	Reports a. Trustee b. Principal c. Teachers d. Mental Health e. Treasurer	a. Trustee Report b. Principal Report c. Teachers Report d. Mental Health Report e. Treasurer Report
4	Committee Reports a. Milk Program b. Hot Lunch c. Soup – New coordinator required.	
5	School Council Activities	
6	Parent Questions and Suggestions	
7	Next Meeting: January 14 at 7:00pm	
8	Adjournment	



Whitecourt Central School

PCSS School Council Meeting – 19:00hrs November 19, 2019

MINUTES

	Agenda Item	Minutes	Attachments
1	Call to Order	6:59pm	Attendance Sheet
2	Adoption of Agenda	Jenny approved agenda.	
3	Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Trustee b. Principal c. Teachers d. Mental Health e. Treasurer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Trustee Report: per attached Spent 2 days in Edmonton w/ Minister of Education and Deputy Minister of Education. Focus of the Trustees and School Boards trying to stay focused on children. Budget numbers are actually lower due to removal of Grants, and no scaling for increased student population. Loss in the Millions for Northern Gateway Public School Division. On top of this reduction to funding there has been a significant raise to insurance rates for property/buildings (this does not include the increase to vehicle fleet, bussing etc). Spring 2020 Budget will be much more difficult for schools and the School Board. Class size cap was removed by this government, so number of children in each classroom will increase. Choice in Education Survey being currently circulated by the Ministry of Education – please research the background issues on Public Education and public funding. b. Principal Report: per attached Thank you for the work put into the Halloween Haunted House. See attachments of the survey results from Student Learning Opportunities; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trustee Report - Principal Report, Survey Reports: Student Learning Opportunities - Teachers Report



Whitecourt Central School

		<p>Please contact Mrs. McKeever if you have any suggestions or concerns regarding the survey results: the administration of Whitecourt Central School are eager to improve the results and addressing the areas that scored lower. A new school newsletter is going to be generated by students. During upcoming Parent-Teacher Interviews Mrs. Moir will be available in the school to help parents with PowerSchool. Christmas Concerts will be December 17 and 18 at 1pm. Same concert both days, pick the date that works best for your family. The concerts will be live-streamed for those who are not able to attend in-person. In the next year, the contract for school photos will be coming up for renewal, Central School will be discussing this with other schools to ensure consistency so that families are able to get multi-order discount. Student attendance is monitored throughout the year; if a child misses 10% of days, there will be a notification to parent/caregivers. If this increases to 15% or 20% there is increasing communication from the school and potentially a discussion to address the absences.</p> <p>c. Teachers Report: per attached</p> <p>Central School continues to partner with the Whitecourt Wolverines; each player will be interviewed by a grade 5 interviewer. Wolverines players are in classes every second Thursday for an hour to help with reading etc. Grade 5 kids get to play against the Wolverines for an outdoor game in January. Christmas Concert preparations are underway, children are practicing their performances and preparing sets/artwork etc. There has been a donation of Tim Hortons Gift Cards from one of our school families, to be used for recognizing teachers or staff. Children have access to nomination cards for a teacher or staff, once/month there will be a staff recognized. Term 1 awards are on December 5.</p> <p>d. Treasurer Report: verbal update \$14253.70 balance</p>	
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4	<p>Committee Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Milk Program b. Hot Lunch c. Soup – New coordinator required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Milk Program; next count will be December 12 at 9:00am, this will be for orders for Jan-Mar b. Hot Lunch: Edo on Thursday November 21. No hot lunch in December. c. Soup: Tammy is coordinating with Petra to get the recipes and information from the previous coordinator Petra. 	
5	<p>School Council Activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Soup will be provided for teachers during November 27 Parent-Teacher interviews. Richelle and Tammy will be making this (thank you!) Buns will be ordered from IGA the day before by Tammy. Angie will bring a dessert. - Holiday gift shop on December 5 and 6; parent volunteers are required for this. This will run all day both days. Nicole to look into how to run a survey to populate volunteer times. - School-wide Breakfast to be scheduled for first week back after Christmas: Thursday January 9. Jenny moved to support this. Jenny will donate pancakes and syrup. Richelle will donate Juice. Linda will help (please remind). Richelle will serve, Shereen will serve. Move to spend up to \$2000 for this breakfast. 	
6	<p>Parent Questions or Suggestions</p>		
7	<p>Next Meeting: January 14 at 7:00pm</p>		
8	<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>7:56pm</p>	

Trustee Report

November 2019

Trustees: Barb Madigan and Linda Wigton

Alberta School Boards are grappling with very challenging budget realities. Schools will continue to focus on students, I.e. teaching and learning will remain the top priority in our classrooms. This report contains preliminary figures which may be subject to change.

The Minister may be correct in saying that the education budget has the same number of dollars involved in it HOWEVER the above grants were “re-purposed”. This internal transfer of education dollars has resulted in a \$3.1 million dollar loss of instructional revenues to NGPS.

\$1.97 in the loss of Class Size Initiative funding

\$270k in the loss of the School Fee Grant

\$614k in the loss of Classroom Improvement Grant

\$160k in the reduction in Tier 2 and 3 CEU funding

While part of the \$3.1 million in cuts has been returned through a \$1.6 million dollar one-time “transitional” grant, there is a very real concern related to the loss of these dollars in Budget 2020 this Spring.

The Fall budget was always advertised as being a “maintain” budget. It wasn’t. What does that mean for the Spring budget that has been touted as being a difficult budget. The fall budget was released once the school year became operational. Cutting staff, as this budget demands, is extremely difficult and not realistic.

While Class Size initiative Funding may not have achieved the Alberta Learning Commission targets, it is difficult to understand how cancelling Class Size Initiative funding (\$1.97 million in NGPS = 20 teaching positions) will assist in reaching the targets if indeed this is still important to the government.

NGPS has been able to achieve all class size targets in Grades 4-6 (1:23), 7-9 (1:25), 10-12 (1:27). We have been close in K-3 but have never been able to achieve the 1:17 proposed guideline, largely because the number is unrealistically low based on community distribution and facility size.

Albertans are being asked to fill out a survey on Choice in Education. Trustees caution when filling out this survey to be clear regarding "public education" vs private which is now funded at 70% and home schooling at 25%.

We encourage parents to stay current and engaged in what is happening in the education environment in Alberta.

\$725,000 increase to Insurance rates (275% increase) with a 1.2 million cost to the Division currently.

Whitecourt School transfer sites are performing well. Thank you to the hard work of our school staff who bring their expertise to make this happen so smoothly.



**Principal Report
School Council Meeting
Nov 19, 2019**

1. **Thank you**
2. **Accountability Pillar Survey -**
 1. Program of Studies
 2. Education Quality
3. **Results Review-** We present our Results Review to the Board on Nov 25th.
4. **Professional Development Day-** Nov 8th – Quality Learning Environment, Collaborative Response Model meetings, writing outcomes
5. **Parent Teacher Interviews/Book Fair - Nov 27th and 28th**
6. **Christmas Concert – December 17th and 18^h – 1 pm**
7. **Pembina visits Breakfast Program - Nov 18**
8. **School Photos -**
 1. Edge Imaging
 2. Smart Photography - Pat Hardy
 3. Lifetouch - Percy
9. **Parent Questions - attendance**



School Council - November 19, 2018
Teacher Report

1. Thank You - A huge thank you to the parents who set up and ran the Haunted House. This remains to be one of the students favorite activities.
2. Whitecourt Wolverines
 - a. Junior Reporters - selected grade 5 students have become junior reporters for the Wolverines throughout the hockey season. Our first two videos were shared on our Facebook page. Additional videos will be shared throughout the season
 - b. Volunteering - we are fortunate to have 2 players volunteering in our school every second Thursday from 10:45-11:45. Classes have signed up for a variety of activities
3. Christmas Preparation - December becomes a very busy month at the school as we prepare for Christmas Concerts and the holiday season.
4. Staff recognition at assemblies
 - a. Family sponsored idea
 - b. Students have the opportunity to give thanks using a form found in the library
 - c. Will be presented at our monthly assemblies

Upcoming Dates

- Hat Day - November 22
- Parent/Teacher Interviews and Book Fair - November 27 and 28 from 5-8pm
- November Recognition Assembly - November 29 at 9:30am
- Term 1 Awards - December 4 at 9:30am
- Holiday Gift Shop - December 5 and 6
- Christmas Concerts - December 17 and 18 at 1:00pm. Same concert both days
- December Recognition Assembly - December 20 at 9:30am



Whitecourt Central School

EPIC Society Meeting – (follows PCSS meeting) November 19, 2019

AGENDA

	Agenda Item	Attachments
1	Call to Order	
2	Adoption of Agenda	
3	EPIC Fundraisers	
4	Next Meeting: January 14 following PCSS	
5	Adjournment	



Whitecourt Central School

EPIC Society Meeting – (follows PCSS meeting) November 14, 2019

MINUTES

	Agenda Item	Minutes	Attachments
1	Call to Order	7:56pm	Attendance Sheet
2	Adoption of Agenda	Jenny	
5	EPIC Fundraisers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Raffle for 2 GT Snow Racers With donation of \$1, you get one entry for the Snow Racer. November 26, 27 & 28 sell tickets. Then winner will be on the November 29th assembly.- Valentines Bake Sale	
6	Next Meeting: January 14		
7	Adjournment	8:01pm	