

Janet Johnstone School Council General Meeting Minutes
Sept 10th, 2024

Hybrid meeting was conducted in-person at Janet Johnstone and on Microsoft Teams

<i>Executive Present (2023/24)</i>	
Chairperson	Lyanne Vlodarchyk
Vice-Chairperson	VACANT
Secretary	Shae Osle
Key Communicator	Robin Feagan
Volunteer Coordinator	Jocelyn Gelinas, Laura Bailey
Teacher Representative	Kelly Galvin
Principal	Andre Marquis

In Attendance:	Online Attendance:
Monica Gunn	
Andrea Alcorn	
Jenesia Kennedy	
Chelsea McKishnie	
Amanda Bradbury	
Neil Bradbury	
Dawn McGill	
Sarah Chetoui	
Sarah Rogers	
Nancy Yung	
Alyssa Hallum	

Meeting Commenced: 6:34pm

Online was down and not working, we apologize about the technical difficulties and the inability to attend via Microsoft Teams.

Welcome, Introductions, & Review of School Mission & Motto

Our school community strives for excellence in learning within an inclusive environment. We are "Better Together".

Approval of Minutes

Approved by: Laura and Alyssa.

Grade 2 Teacher Presentation:

Ms. Puffer, Mrs. Rowbotham, Mrs. Wideman

Grade 2 students will have the opportunity to go to “Stampede School” at Campus Calgary / Open Minds this year in January for a full week of immersive field study based learning. Their week may include farm animals, rich culture of the First Nations, culture through artists, cowboys and poets, riding the stampede trolley etc.

A question that will guide our learning this year in grade two is “How has the history of our community shaped our sense of belonging”. The kids will think about that question all year and this is the main focus when we go to stampede school as well as building around that question. This experience ties into all the disciplines as well (science, social, math, PE/Wellness, English/LA etc).

The cost after the CBE subsidy comes out to be around \$1250/class x the 3 classes we have brings the total to approximately \$3,750 total, including bussing. The grade 2 teachers are asking the school council for approximately half (\$1,860) to lessen the burden on the financial ask of parents; approximate parent portion of field trip fee would be around \$30/student.

Q: What if a parent/student cannot afford to attend? No student is **ever** left behind, the school figures it out, the council is willing to help. Everyone goes.

School council approved unanimously the funding for the \$1,860 ask.

Grade 2's are desperate for volunteers year round but especially for this week long, all day experience.

Principal's Report – Andre:

Welcome back, Krista Schmitt as our new principal for Janet Johnstone on September 23rd! Mrs. Schmitt used to be our vice principal a few years ago. Mrs. Schmitt will be here for “Meet the Teacher night” as well!

Thanks to the parents for being involved.

We currently have 476 students and we are waiting for 5 more from the Welcome Center that will be beginning soon. This year based on the CBE predictions, we were expecting to have 499 students and allocated resources for such. September 30th is the official count day. Less students = less money for resources (staff, materials etc).

Staffing Update:

Ms. K. Galvin, Acting Assistant Principal and Resource

Ms. P. Luu, Kinder PM & Grade 3/4 Support.

Ms. E. Cameron, Learning Leader

Ms. M. Rowbotham, Learning Leader

Ms. J. Glaz, Grade 1 English/Regular program

Ms. A. Nixon, Grade 4 English/Regular program

Ms. D. Mastin, Grade 3/4 French Immersion

Ms. D. Davey, Reception

Ms. A. Adnan, Lead Lunch Supervisor

Ms. E. Towler, Educational Assistant

Belonging is the theme for this year as well as **Respect**

Andre compliments our school website and says there is lots of valuable information on our site. Our calendar is currently updated until May and will be updated continuously throughout the year as needed.

The province of Alberta has implemented a device use policy that prohibits the use of personal mobile devices etc. This policy is called “away for the day” and is applicable Kinder to grade 9 and CBE schools are **not** responsible for lost devices if they are sent anyways.

The office has an open door policy and welcomes and encourages any and all feedback.

Executive Positions:

Chair – Lyanne Vlodarchyk

Vice Chair – Vacant (2 year term)

Secretary – Shae Osle

Key Communicator – Robin Feagan

The key communicator goes to the COSC (Council of School Councils) every 2-3 months.

Volunteer Coordinators – Jocelyn Gelinis and Laura Bailey

Rescheduling of November Meeting - Lyanne:

Tuesday November 5th or Tuesday November 19th. Voted for November 5th meeting.

Open Forum:

Q: Are parents allowed and able to attend **all** meetings or just the AGM meetings? A: Parents are invited and encouraged to attend any and all meetings that they are able to.

A question was asked about if we can use the school's calendar to remind parents for fundraiser deadlines etc.

Q: Can they (parents) come to meetings and ask about things going on in the school, get and give suggestions and offer ideas to the school? A: Absolutely! Please come and ask and suggest away. These meetings are for **ALL**!

Q: Can agendas return? A: They were stopped because of the costs and the trade-off was for visual journals (scrapbooks) instead.

Q: About the staffing: did we resource for 480 or 500? A: We resourced for 500 spread across every grade/the whole school. Pending September 30th, the closer we are to the 500 projection, the less impact it will have on the school. Students need to be entered in the system BY September 30th to be counted towards funding. Any students enrolled after September 30th are **not** funded for from the government to the school.

Q: Are we at risk of losing a teacher? A: No. The contracts will remain the same. We would reduce the budget in other ways such as lessening copying, requesting more volunteers etc. Shuffling students etc is very unlikely to happen.

SIDE NOTE: If you have a Calgary Public Library card you get \$5 or 50 prints per month per card (children and adults). If parents can help, it would be so appreciative!

Adjournment and Next Meeting

Adjourned at 7:24pm by Lyanne. Seconded by Monica and Chelsea.

Next meeting – Tuesday, October 8th