

Janet Johnstone School Council General Meeting Minutes

Oct 8th, 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	Lina Dilov
Principal	Krista Schmitt

In Attendance:	Online Attendance:
Carli	Adrian Thibault
Dawn	Nadeesha Samranayake
Amanda	Mark McGill
Robin Feagan	Maryia V
Alyssa Hallam	Zakiyeh
Jenesia Kennedy	Rainbow W
Sarah Rogers	Arsham
Andrea Alcorn	
Jacque Strom	
Monica Gunn	

Meeting Commenced: 6:31pm

Land Acknowledgment:

“I’d like to acknowledge that we are on Treaty 7 territory, the traditional territories of the Blackfoot Nations, including Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai, the Tsuut’ina Nation and Stoney Nakoda First Nations. We acknowledge all the many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries.”

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: Robin.

Principal's Report – Krista Schmitt:

481 students total currently. The decrease we do have this year is due to less Kindergarten children so we are maintaining our staffing. We have had a few staffing changes. Tara MacDonald is in Grade 2 now, Mrs. Robotham has moved to PM Kindergarten and Mrs. Galvin has moved to a different school.

Ever Active program. Active and safe routes to school – we have been accepted. The purpose of this is to collect data on how students are getting to their school and reporting on things they see (such as running stop signs). Looking at starting in or around December.

Grade One Teachers Presentation:

English - Mrs. Glaz, Mrs. Bello, Mrs. Rooney:

Working on math patterns, creating, extending and translating with up to four elements. Focus on math vocabulary. They did a think, pair, share with different words that they were learning for math concepts. They also did student reflections with what the students do well, what they find tricky and what they would like to learn about. Lots of land based learning with not just math, but also connection, respect and taking care of nature and the land. They investigated ladybugs and leaves as well looking for patterns as well. Grade one's read a book called "Trudy's rock story". Through this book they learned about respect of nature and the land as well as using Mother Earth to help them with emotional regulation. The students, again, reflected but this time on why they think Land Based Learning was important. They were asked why, what they like, what else they want to do outside.

French - Mme Becky and Mme Jamie:

French do things a little bit differently to expose more in french. The neurolinguistic approach encompasses oral, reading and writing all in one. "one cannot read what they cannot say". Main focus is on oral/speaking/vocabulary. This is done quickly through songs and helps them with building their vocabulary fluency and pronunciations. Another way they practice French is through games like "headbandz", "Pictionary" and "memory match" type games. Exposure to vocabulary is through reading as well as lots of school books; such as "David at School". Goal is to use their oral French knowledge to sound out words – again goes back "one cannot read what they cannot say". They're going over quickly about the alphabet and sounds before going to compounding.

Vacant Executive Positions:

Vice Chair – Vacant (2 year term):

Open Forum:

Q: about chromebooks and larger classrooms – concern about not enough for each student. Some classes are larger. A: We have charging carts that hold 30 chromebooks. The classrooms that have more than 30 students have chromebooks in their own classrooms so that each class only needs to sign out one charging cart at a time.

Adjournment and Next Meeting

Adjourned at 7:02pm Seconded by Shae.

Next meeting – Tuesday, November 5th at 6:30pm