**Fultonvale School Council Minutes**

**November 17th, 2021 @ 7:00pm via Google Meet**

**Attendees:** Liz Buzenus, Amanda Arndt, Jeff Spady, Meghan Barnes, Michelle Stevenson, Janelle Frew, Joanne Emter, Krista Scott, Michelle Uytterhagen, Casey Douglas, Jim Seutter, Mark Wever, Stephanie Hofmeyer

1. **Call to orde**r

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm

1. **Welcome and Introductions**
2. **Treaty 6 Acknowledged**

Michelle Uytterhagen Acknowledged Treaty 6

1. **Additions to and approval of agenda**

Krista requested to add under New Business d. Jr. High Transitions

Motion to approve the amended agenda – Krista Scott

Seconded - Megan Barnes

1. **Approval of minutes from September 15, 2021 and October 13, 2021**

Motion to approve the September 15, 2021 minutes as is – Krista Scott

Seconded – Liz Buzenus

Motion to approve the October 13, 2022 minutes as is – Krista Scott

1. **COSC Report – Michelle Uytterhagen**

The November COSC meeting was held via Zoom on November 3.

Trina Boymook, Board Chair, provided an overview of what has been happening in the month of October. The Board was sworn in on October 28 with Trina being elected as Chair and Colleen Holowaychuk being elected as Vice Chair. During the October 28 Board meeting, the board approved the annual modular request that has been submitted prior to November 1. Administration put forward a recommendation to ask for funds from the province to demolish three modulars at Uncas, to move three modulars from Fultonvale to Southpoint to help with their growing enrolment, and to replace three existing modulars with four new modular units at James Mowatt to address ageing infrastructure and the growing population. EIPS expects a decision from the province for these requests in early 2022. EIPS has received news that it will receive $796,000 to address numeracy and literacy gaps. The board is entering the Assurance Review – renamed from Results Review. Trustees have already met with central departments to talk about successes and challenges faced last year. Next will be trustees meeting with schools. The format will be similar to last year and school council members will be invited to attend their school’s review. On November 14 there will be an engagement session on the Draft Curriculum. Trina will be using the feedback received from parents, EIPS staff and consultants in these engagement sessions. She has put a lot of work into this feedback and is hoping it well received by the province.

Krista Scott and Jacquie Surgenor provided a brief ASCA update. They are going to have a member engagement opportunity in the month of November. It will be circulated via eNews and the link will be available on the ASCA website. Meeting Mondays https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/school-councils/webinars/meeting-mondays and Webinar Wednesdays https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/school-councils/webinars/webinar-wednesdays are continuing this year and are available to all members. See the ASCA website for upcoming sessions.

Jacquie Surgenor provided a brief update on the work being done to help with the initiative for Sherwood Heights Junior High Replacement school site. Jacquie encouraged COSC members to share this information with their School Councils and help support this initiative. The website is www.replacesherwoodheights.ca

The Strathcona County RCMP did a presentation on the relationship between law enforcement and the school community. The RCMP, in partnership with EIPS has reinstated the School Resource Officer Program. They are very active in the high schools and feeder schools to the high schools. To date, the feedback given has been overwhelmingly positive with the Resource Officers in the schools.

Sandra Stoddard, Associate Superintendent, provided a brief update on the COVID 19 situation within EIPS. What has been decided is that all staff, visitors, and volunteers provide proof of vaccination to enter the building. Staff must be fully vaccinated by December 1, 2021. If they are not fully vaccinated, they will have to provide a negative PCR test every 72 hours. Sandra reviewed some COVID 19 protocols. All information can be found in the 2021/2021 Operations Guidelines. https://www.eips.ca/school-operations-2021-22

Sandra also provided COSC members with information on the School Council Grant.

The next COSC meeting is on January 5 at 6:30 via Zoom. All parents are invited to attend.

1. **Student Voice – Mark Wever**

Mark has been working with students from each grade to gather students’ opinions and thoughts on what the school is doing well and what the school can do better at. He wants to incorporate social and emotional wellbeing into these conversations, but students aren’t quite there yet. To date he has met with representatives from Jr. High and Div 2.

He has met with Jr. High students twice so far. Some of the things they were happy with were:

* zones for recess, sanitizer by the door, reminder for masks, happy for school sports.

Some of the things they were concerned about:

* wearing shoes in the hallway that are dirty; masks not being worn in the hallway; privacy about junior high girls changing rooms; trash is being left outside; Band-Aids in the office are not sticky enough; more supervisors in the JR high areas; no microwaves; the gathering space is getting messy during lunch with garbage not being thrown away; the hand sanitizer outside of Mr. Hill’s room is too warm due to its location; wanting different things in the concession; since the Halloween Dance was missed due to COVID, Jr. High’s wanted a difference activity; students not being honest about the seating plan when subs are in and kids going to bathroom multiple times.
* Hats were a large discussion. Kids want to know why they can’t wear hats in school.

Things that the school administration is looking at working on from that meeting:

* Girls Change rooms to remain chained open because the gym door cannot be locked. Once the gym door is fixed, they will open it.
* Concession items will be updated.
* Sanitizer moved to a different location
* Hats will be allowed in school for December as a trial. Eyes and ears must be visible to avoid the use of air buds. If the trial goes well, the “no hat” rule will be taken away.

 He has met with Div 2 once. Some of the things they were happy with were:

* happy with making friends; socializing; outside time; problems are dealt with at the office; sharing playground is going well; good learning environment; teachers are nice and open; they get gym time; celebrating birthdays; school is recognizing the first nations work; fans of the welcome week activities.

Things they were concerned about:

* more gym time; rule for masks on noses; want the opportunity to play on the Div 1 playground; visit lower grades; special activity for them; more hot lunches; milk for cash.

He will be meeting with Div 2 again and is looking forward to meeting with Div 1. Reception to this new initiative has been very positive.

1. **Admin Report – Jeff Spady**

All staff must show proof of vaccination or negative test result every 3 days by December 1.

The volleyball teams had a great league 3 teams finished first in the regular season. The Sr. Girls, Jr. Girls and Jr. Boys won gold and the Jr. Boys won Bronze. The Cross Country Team won the Small School banner.

Events that happened in October and in November are:

* Virtual Book Fair; Hope Mission clothing drive; S/P/T Conferences; Zombie Run and Freddie Firebird Fun Run; Halloween dress up on October 29; Decade/Era Day on November 3; Take Our Kids to Work Day on November 3 and Remembrance Day on November 5

Events coming up:

* bullying Awareness Week focusing on Empathy and Kindness; Hot Lunch (FSAC) - November 18 and December 9; Strathcona County Foodbank Collection until December 10; First Report Card issued November 26; Assurance Review November 26 ; pyjama Day on December 1; Wear Your Best/Worst Holiday Sweater happening every Friday in December; Pizza Day November 24 and December 15; Sharing Virtual Christmas Presentations on December 20

Mark and Jeff are exploring offering an after-school care program next year. Due to our afternoon bell time, it would be easier families. It would not be through the Boys and Girls Club as they require use of the Gym and with our athletics programs, that would not be possible. Jeff asked for feedback and received an overwhelming interest as there are parents who are looking for this. He will report back as they work through the details.

Fultonvale received an extra $8,905 for enrolment from the registration of additional students. They have allocated the funds towards:

* teacher subs for PD
* Home reading books
* Linda’s time
* Teacher resources (Readers/Writers Workshop)

Fultonvale also received $13,854 for Learning Disruption. With this funding Jeff was able to hire Mrs. Leclair for four periods a day from November 22 to March 4. She will be doing small group pull-out work with students in grades 2 and 3 who scored below the 25th percentile in the STAR and/or Numeracy Assessment. He also was able to purchase more home reading books.

School Fees were due on October 29. The Final Exam and PAT Schedule has changed as the district wants all Jr. High’s to write their exams on the same days.

This year Jeff’s will be undergoing an evaluation. A survey will be sent to parents for feedback.

1. **Trustee Report – Jim Seutter**

Jim was re-elected to serve as the South of Wye Road trustee.

Trustees had their first Board Meeting on October 28 and elected Trina Boymook as Chair and Colleen Holowaychuk as Vice-Chair.

During the October 28 meeting, there was a motion to move three modulars to SouthPointe School from Fultonvale. This prompted an agenda request to review the Utilization and Attendance Boundaries for Southeast Strathcona County.

EIPS Received AB ED Learning Gap Funding, $700,000, for grade 2 and 3 so far this year. Grade 1 funding scheduled for later.

Assurance Reviews (formerly Results Review) for Central Office and Schools happen in November via Zoom. Fultonvale’s will take place on November 26.

The Board Retreat is set for December 6 and 7 in Camrose.

The 2022-23 Draft Calendar is under Trustee discussion. The board will be sending out a survey seeking feedback from parent on what they like/dislike about the current Calendar.

1. **New Business**

**a. School Council Grant - Michelle Uytterhagen**

This year, the province has announced that they will be giving every school council in the province a $500 grant to help engage parents. There are strict restrictions around what this money can be used for. It can be used for Professional Development, Engagement Activities, etc. It cannot be given to Fundraising Societies. This money needs to be used before the end of the school year. Michelle asked for feedback from parents on what they would like to see. Some ideas that were thrown out were a numeracy event, something around mental health, maybe a mentorship program for parents where younger grade parents could buddy up with older grade parents. There is an appetite for an in-person event and Jeff said we could if it was within the COVID 19 guidelines.

Michelle U. will look into the grant to see if it can cover material photocopying. Michelle U. tabled this item be brought forward again at the January 2022 meeting for further discussion and to plan out what parents would like to see.

**b. Fultonvale Utilization – Michelle Uytterhagen**

This topic has come up a few times in past school council meetings, but this past board meeting, on October 28 brought some concerns to the forefront. In the October 28 board package, there was data outlining Fultonvale’s past, current, and projected enrolment. Even with the amalgamation of three schools – Colchester, Fultonvale and Ministik, in 10 years Fultonvale’s enrolment is projected to be under 400 students. Currently the enrolment is 477. Michelle U and Krista both have had lengthy conversations about this with Jeff, Jim, and Trina. Michelle U and Krista both have penned emails to the Board to express their wishes for the Board to:

* Do a boundary review east of highway 21 and south of Wye road. There is not a balance as Ardrossan Jr./Sr. is at capacity and Ardrossan Elementary is almost full. Both Fultonvale and Uncas are seeing declining enrolment.
* Investigate where students designated to Fultonvale are going. With Fultonvale being the transfer station, it is easy for students to go to school in Sherwood Park.

Michelle opened the floor for further discussion. Some of the item’s parents were concerned about is Fultonvale’s afternoon bell time and after school care. Parents might be more inclined to send their kids to schools that either have later bell times, offer an after-school program or are within their commute. Jeff agreed that offering an after-school care program could help and him and Mark have talked about advertising to new communities.

Jim also offered some insight into Adroassan as developers are seeking approvals to build more houses. This will put more pressure on Ardroassn Jr./Sr. and Ardrossan Elementary. He will be working on suggestions to bring forward to the Board. Jim also reported that his request to have this topic added to a future board meeting was granted at their last caucus meeting.

Michelle U. tabled this item be brought forward again at the January 2022 meeting for updates.

**c. Staff Appreciation – Michelle Uytterhagen / Krista Scott**

Michelle U. and Krista Scott both presented ideas for staff appreciation.

Krista reported that during COSC, Jacquie Surgenor from Sal provided information on how they do staff Appreciation. At Sal, they have a form that parents can fill out and send it to the school council chair to pass along to the staff member. Parents can submit their name or remain anonymous. When she forwards on the feedback, she always includes the principal. When it’s the principal receiving the kind words, she will include the superintendent. Krista volunteered herself to administrate this initiative. Once up and running, she will provide the link to be shared in the Firewire, school website and Parent Facebook Page.

Michelle U. reported on an idea she came up with for staff appreciation for Christmas. Her idea is 12 Days of Appreciation where she will acknowledge each group/staff classification each day. The idea is that everyone gets a little treat on their day. There will be 9 days of treats and 3 days of potlucks. She will come up with a schedule and run it by the admin team. She will provide the treats and ask for parent volunteers to sign up and bring a potluck item on one of the three days.

**d. Jr. High Transition – Krista Scott**

Krista thought that, in addition to high school information nights, it might be a good idea to have a little more for the grade 9 students transitioning to high school. It can be overwhelming for students and parents. Her idea centred around maybe teaming up with the high schools to offer a panel of staff and students from each high school to answer questions from grade 9 students and families. Jeff said Fultonvale is in a unique situation because our Jr. High is a feeder to all three high schools. Mark said it could be difficult facilitating due to the number of high schools Fultonvale feeds into but could be worth looking into. Michelle U. tabled this item be brought forward again at the January 2022 meeting for further discussion.

1. **Old Business**
2. Community Events
* Triple P Discussion Group: Dealing with Disobedience
December 7, 1 - 3 p.m.

Online Register, visit: strathcona.ca/parentsupport

* Straight Talk About Teens

December 8, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Online Register, visit: strathcona.ca/parentsupport

1. **Next Meeting**

Wednesday, January 19, 2022, at 7:00 pm in the Gathering Space and via Google Meets. To attend in person, attendees must wear a mask and sanitizer will be provided.

1. **Meeting Adjournment**

Meeting Adjourned at 9:00 pm