

Leduc Composite High School

School Council Minutes

November 4, 2020, 6:30 pm (<https://meet.google.com/eyw-gzpx-uhc>)
upon arrival, please mute your mike and sign in (name and email) via chat

Attendees

Parents: Shauna Balehowsky, Shannon Caul, Nathaniel Charley, Allen Guinoo, Audrey Jackson, Dawn Lesage, Sara K, Sommer King, Wendy McFarlane, Emily Meetsma, Ruth Omoghan, Lisa Smith, Debbie Weir

Staff: Brad Clarke, Shelley Hamilton, Kristen Suderman

1. Called to order: 6:34 pm
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Motion to Adopt a Revised the Agenda (with Student Services and Related Reports as Item 5a - 5c and Final Exam Discussion as 8c).
Motedioned by: Dawn Seconded by: Audrey Carried: Yes
4. Adoption of Minutes of September 30, 2020
Motedioned by: Lisa Seconded by: Audrey Carried: Yes
5. Reports by Student Services (Kristen)
 - a. Student Services: Q2 starts Nov 5. Timetable changes--same procedure as Sept 2020. Some post-secondary events coming up (MacEwan, Red Deer College, Medicine Hat College). Further question from a parent re: timetable changes.
 - b. Student Council: Not running at this time. High school SCs are supposed to have student reps, so Admin will reach out to some student leaders and see if they are interested in attending. Parents are welcome to invite their children.
 - c. Leduc Community Drug Action Coalition: Trying to determine alcohol/drug abstinence initiatives that will work during COVID. Erin Black, new addictions counsellor, to do online vaping presentation. Leduc overnight shelter now running.
6. Business Arising from Previous Minutes: Note the Special Events terms of reference from the PA procedures attached to agenda. No Vocational Showcase this year.
7. Correspondence:
 - a. ASCA: Survey regarding re-entry due Nov. 6. Gathering resolutions for 2021 AGM.
8. Reports
 - a. Black Gold: Sept 23 highlights available online. Fall Trustee newsletter attached to agenda. Leduc trustees both assigned to LCHS. Informal update via email from Sarah, who was not able to attend tonight: Board still looking for input on core values, even though had to cancel in person meeting. Thanks so much to staff, students, and parents for working together to navigate this year's challenges!

- b. Principal's Report (Brad): Staff baby announcements. Upcoming events (Remembrance day, academic awards). Facility updates (gym A and science lab completed; gym b in progress). COVID funding helping to cover pandemic-related costs, such as extra welding jackets and choir masks.
 - c. School Grad Council (Shelley). Staff have decided to wait until January to start making decisions with students (will look for student leaders in December). As happened last year, we will celebrate this year's grads this year. No matter the event, need student committee and student input on decorations and recessional. Grad photos still in late Jan. Jubilee is booked years in advance, so for May 29, 2021.
 - d. Banquet and AFTERgrad Committees: We should ask LRC to hold May 29 in case we can run a banquet-type event as before. Have had some parents come forward already willing to help. Committee to start meeting in new year.
9. Other Business:
- a. Review Black Gold Proposed 2021-2022 Calendar and associated survey re: staggered entry and Nov, Christmas, and Spring breaks. We discussed our personal preferences for the questions, as well as the impacts on high school students in general. Emily will distribute a summary of the discussion via email and then consolidate any further responses and submit the questionnaire.
 - b. Review of Yearly Schedule that identifies standard business and School Council regular activities. The past two years SC has also focused on learning about supports for students and advocating to keep them. School Council is a table where many voices concerned about education come together (parents, staff, trustees, ASCA, etc.). So valuable to have a parent perspective! Great that people share their family's experiences, not selfishly, but as a starting place for providing perspective on how policies and decisions impact real people (e.g., the honest and humble tone during our discussion on the calendar).
 - c. Final Exam Discussion: Alberta has made Nov. exams optional. What do we recommend if exams for the rest of the school year are optional? Yes, exams can be stressful and hard on students, but it's important for students to get practice writing exams because universities still assess via exams. Students need to learn/practice exam-taking strategies and stress reduction. Could reduce weight of exams, but offering exams that "don't count" means that students won't try and teachers develop and mark exams for nothing. We don't want our stance to negatively impact our students regarding university entrance and wonder about how this decision will impact students coming into Alberta or Alberta students going elsewhere. We don't know what's going on behind the scenes as post-secondaries, as it will be a new process for them as well. Final decision on exams will be made by BG central office.
10. Next Meeting: December 2, 2020, 6:30 pm.
11. Adjournment : 8:01pm

Minutes recorded by Emily Meetsma