



**MINUTES OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT  
GREYSTONE CENTENNIAL MIDDLE SCHOOL IN SPRUCE GROVE,  
ALBERTA ON 13 OCTOBER 2009**

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**ATTENDANCE:**

Richard Gilchrist  
Dorcas Kilduff  
Ben Beil  
Tim Monds  
Kelly Wilkins  
Carolyn Cameron  
Scott Johnston  
Kulbir Dhaliwal  
Katy Rogal  
Kari Sirup  
Claudia Scanga  
Michelle Kershaw  
Diane Lander  
Paul McCann  
Carole Ibsen

**ABSENT:**

Irene Goebel  
Kathleen Linder  
Robert Gillard  
Darcy Kolodnicki  
Elsie Kinsey

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order 8:45 am.

Mr. Gilchrist opened the meeting by welcoming participants and asking everyone to briefly introduce themselves. Mrs. Cameron provided an overview of the topic and activities planned for the morning. She shared the journey Greystone staff and students have been on since the school opened with implementing middle years pedagogy, student inquiry and critical thinking into the daily routines supporting student learning. She reviewed the successful school practices information from the National Middle Schools Association which has been central to the work the school has been engaged in along with the partnership Greystone has with Galileo, both of which support critical thinking skills across curricula.

**2. ACTION ITEMS**

**2.1 Critical Thinking**

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Diane Lander provided an overview of the Divisional AISI project focusing upon critical thinking and the specific TC2 model the division is utilizing to support teachers in learning and implementing critical thinking and the critical thinking tools into teaching and learning. Participants were engaged in a brief critical thinking exercise to demonstrate one of the critical thinking tools.

2.2 **Critical Thinking and Student Inquiry at Greystone**

Scott Johnston shared information to make the connection between the AISI project and what is being done in Greystone to imbed critical thinking into student learning. To set the stage for the classroom visits, each of the four teacher presenters provided a brief description of the critical thinking activity they would have students demonstrate within their classrooms.

2.3 **Classroom Visits**

Participants selected which classroom activity they wanted to observe and/or participate in. Each group visited one classroom and participated in the critical thinking activity with students. Following the half hour classroom visits, participants were asked to discuss their classroom experiences in small groups and then share the highlights with the whole group. Scott Johnston facilitated a Four Corners activity involving all participants in a critical thinking exercise.

2.4 **Concluding Activities**

Lonnie Granley, along with three students, shared information on the school wide student advisement activities being organized using the Winter Olympics as the framework for the year's plan. Mrs. Cameron offered concluding remarks, highlighting that the key to success is people and praised both staff and students. She invited participants to lunch in the Food Lab. Mr. Gilchrist thanked Mrs. Cameron and staff for their efforts and the excellent morning.

**3. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

No items brought forth.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m. followed by a lunch