



**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF SCHOOL COUNCILS (COSC)
MEETING HELD AT THE MILLGROVE SCHOOL IN SPRUCE GROVE,
ALBERTA ON 20 JANUARY 2011**

ATTENDANCE:

School Councils

École Broxton Park School
École Meridian Heights School
Millgrove School
Parkland Village School
Spruce Grove Composite High School
Wabamun School
High Park School
Forest Green School

Board of Trustees

Chair Gilchrist
Trustee Kilduff

Administration

Tim Monds, Superintendent
Kelly Wilkins, Deputy Superintendent

Recording Secretary

Brenda Scott, Executive Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of Chair, Connie McKenna, the meeting was called to order by Sherry Greenbank at 7:15 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Jennifer Rasmussen that the Agenda be approved as presented.
CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF 18 DECEMBER 2010

Moved by Sherry Greenbank, that the Minutes of 18 November 2010 be approved as presented.
CARRIED

4. COSC Presence on PSD Website – Paula Whebby

Paula Whebby, Parkland School Division Web Producer, provided information on Parkland School Division's public website. She gave a brief background on how the public website was built. She answered questions from school councils. Presently, school councils have a spot on the webpage that includes information on COSC. She is presently working with schools developing their own websites so that they will all be set up in the same way. Each school site will have a link to school councils and to COSC. When a school council has an event that is open to all parents, such as parent workshops, they can submit it to Paula for posting in news and announcements on the main webpage. If it is an event just for their school, it can be advertised on their own website.

Paula gave a demonstration on what the new school websites will look like. Seven schools will be launched by end of February with all schools launched by the end of June.

COSC needs to determine what their needs are, how they would like their page presented and who will be their technical expert. As in the school environment, COSC will need to adhere to established guidelines and keep their website current.

5. PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS RE: SYSTEM REVIEW – Chair Gilchrist

Chair Gilchrist provided information on the System Review and the scheduled Open Houses to be held January 24-26, 2011 at three PSD schools. At the Open House stakeholders will be given the opportunity to see the information on demographics, attendance, facilities and then give feedback to PSD. Once feedback has been received then options will be determined and a second public consultation will take place. The Board will then make any necessary decisions or changes. He stressed that this Open house is to present information not solutions. Information will be presented on the website after the 26 January and people will be able to respond on line.

Chair Gilchrist took the opportunity to share a letter that he was sending to all school councils in reference to the recent news article on Tripartite discussions. The letter summarized the purpose of these discussions provided information on how it could possibly affect students in PSD. Mr. Gilchrist asked that information and comments be forwarded to him in order for the Board to coordinate a response regarding the Tripartite discussions.

6. BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT– Dorcas Kilduff

Trustee Kilduff provided information on a change to the format of the Board Meetings. The Board has added a new item to the agenda called Recess Period. The Chair will call a ten minute recess that will allow the public the opportunity to ask questions of Trustees. Members of the public will register their questions upon entering the Board Room. Questions concerning issues covered under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Legislation will not be addressed.

Trustee Kilduff reported that the Board has been busy with the System Review.

7. PARENT WORKSHOPS

Blueberry School Council hosted a Parent Seminar on 10 January 2011. The topic was Internet Safety and Security. Approximately 35 parents attended and it was well received.

Forest Green will be hosting a parent workshop on Educational Technology on March 1, 2011 at 7:00 pm. Information will be shared on how technology is evolving in schools to create enhanced learning environments, while also creating opportunities for parents to take part in their own child's education.

Connie asked if there were any future parent workshops being organized by School Councils.

Kelly Wilkins mentioned a parent workshop being held at Woodhaven Middle School on January 31, 2011 and École Meridian Heights on February 1 starting at 6:45 pm. Dr. Gabor Mate will be holding a workshop "Hold On To Your Kids."

Connie asked if there were any School Councils interested in hosting a COSC meeting. Connie thanked Millgrove School Council and Principal for hosting the evening meeting.

- 8. KEEPHILLS HIGHWAY SIGNAGE UPDATE** –Connie McKenna
Connie gave an update on the Keephills signage. They have a resolution on the agenda for the next Alberta School Council Association meeting. Connie gave a brief background on the issue. Keephills school council has asked other school councils to be sure to attend the meeting and support the resolution. Discussion ensued.

Rhonda Schumn moved that the motion be amended to read “as recommended by the school division” as opposed to “discretion of the school division”.

CARRIED

- 8a **ALBERTA SCHOOL COUNCIL ASSOCIATION**– Rhonda Schumm
Rhonda provided information on the upcoming AGM to be held April 15-17, 2011 in Edmonton. Further information can be found on their website.
Connie also provided information on nominations for Awards of Distinction available on the ASCA website as well.

- 9.** The next meeting will be held March 17, 2011.

Topic for future meeting

- reschedule the April 21, 2011 meeting as it is a PD day.
- Discuss Keephills resolution.

Connie provided a new phone number

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.