

**SPRUCE VIEW SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**November 14, 2023**

1. **Call to Order** A meeting of the SVS Parent Advisory Council was held on November 14, 2023 in Spruce View. It began at 6:37 and was presided over by Carly Hansen with Suzie Sveinson as secretary. Members in attendance included Suzie Sveinson, Jenn McIlwain, Reba Buhler, Carrie Klassen, Claire Funk, Linda Wagers, Rick Dunnigan, Kim Cyr, Rayanne Czajkowski, Katie Hillman, Carly Hansen, Sherease Corcoran, Karen Mackenzie, Bent Ramsay, Warren Thompson and Kevin Velthius Kroeze (17 attendees)
2. **Approval of Agenda** Reba moved the agenda to be accepted with the addition of item 4.6 Brent Ramsay's Report. Warren seconded the motion. **Carried**
3. **Approval of Minutes** Karen moved the minutes to be accepted. Reba seconded. **Carried**
4. **Reports**

**4.1. Trustee's Report ( Linda Wagers )**

\*We are still working through our Strategic Planning with Peter Wright (The Planning Group) and continue to utilize what we have discussed and will be building up for our upcoming meeting again with him.

\*Risk mitigation is still high on our priority list. 80% of our problems are a result of human error  
Currently our division is still working on further educating all individuals on computer usage safety.

\*Grade 12 students actually have access and usage with their CESD email account for one year past graduation. They are highly encouraged to start using their own personal email prior to grad.

\*PATs and diploma exams will only be written on a computer this year.

\*Attendance is still a major concern throughout the division.... We continue to monitor and encourage families to be aware of absences that can be avoided. We have a target to hit 90% or higher attendance by 2026-7. SVS had a presentation last year by Dean Nielson from the Central Office, but please feel free to contact CESD or myself, if you have any questions.

Trustees have our Fall (ASBA- Alta School Boards Assoc) General Meeting in Edmonton next week. Again this year, we are meeting some of our local MLAs to discuss education issues.

\*Parents Matter next meeting is Jan 17 @ 6:30 online.

Agri-Trade gave tickets for 29 Spruce View School/60+ to whole division. Thanks to Agri-Trade for their support of our CESD students!

My question to Parent Council: How is our SOCIAL MEDIA working? Are you using it? Do you know about it? Our Communications Officer is working hard to continue to improve communications between CESD and parents. Any suggestions?

We just completed a new double sided info page from the Division to be added to this report.

**4.2. Principal's Report ( Claire Funk )** Presentation by Jackson Walsh regarding Dual credit program.  
**Dual Credits - Courses**

The Provincial Dual Credit Strategy assists school jurisdictions, post-secondary institutions, businesses and industry or community partners in expanding or creating dual credit opportunities that:

- Engage students in their learning through pathways that open their possible futures
- Motivate students to finish high school
- Inspire students to learn, work and live in the local community
- Give students the confidence to transition from high school to post-secondary and/or the workplace

Every PAC meeting Claire will invite high school students to showcase their Dual Credit course(s) they are taking and share their experiences, and have a conversation with the parents at our PAC meetings.

The courses are free, however a textbook, and shop materials may be needed and costs around \$100. Also, if students are participating in the Tech 1000/Welding Courses they need to buy their own PPE (Personal Protection Equipment) which could be steel toed boots, hard hat, goggles, and gloves.

The courses are called Dual Credit as the student has the opportunity to earn up to 5 high school credits to go towards graduation, but also 3 to 5 credits in college credits towards the program they have completed a course in. The courses are on-line and on-site depending on which course a student is taking. At this time the on-site is the TECH 1000, Welding Courses, and pre-employment courses, the others are on-line.

Yes, these are college courses - this gives students to opportunity to experience what college looks like, and feels like. They are writing papers, completing assignments that college students would be completing. However, the Dual Credit opportunity enables students to complete assignments, essays, etc. in a supportive environment. The team through Career Connections works with our students to make sure they are not falling behind, will answer questions they may have, provide accommodations for those students with Learning Disabilities, etc. and be the go between with the instructor and school.

This model provides a bridge between high school and college. Mrs. Leinweber (the high school teacher) and Mrs. Schweer work with the students.

We have 10 seats open to students at Spruce View this term. We have filled 7 of them.

There is a vetting system in place, and before students are accepted, things like attendance, school marks, student interests and conversations with staff/teachers at the school level, and

with parents/guardians in conjunction with the instructor and Career Connections team make a final decision on acceptance.

The courses take more time than what is allotted in the school week. Students could have up to an additional 8 - 10 hours of week outside of school time. We have done our best this year to schedule in a block of time each day or every second day for students to work on dual credit courses.

#### Marketing - Dual Credit Course

We had a Grade 10 student share his experiences with his journey completing a Marketing course through the Olds College this semester.

He explained that it definitely is more work than just high school courses. He has needed assistance with learning how to format his essay. Mr. Weseen has been a big help there, and he now feels confident and capable to continue to complete assignments that need formatting. Again, Jackson has learned a valuable skill on how to cite a paper before even entering a post-secondary institution. What a bonus! He has learned a lot about the 4 pillars of marketing too.

Jackson feels having this opportunity while he is in high school helps him to realize that he is truly interested in a degree in marketing and he is looking forward to continuing this focus. The student shared that he is excited about where this will lead him into the future. He is happy that he may not have to be in college /university for as long as it normally would take as he will have a couple courses under his belt before he goes. Jackson also has saved money in tuition due to it being basically free through Dual Credit.

#### **4.3. Community Representative Report ( Kevin Velthius Kroeze )**

Tech time is doing well, Thank you to all the students that are participating.

FCSS is offering Red Deer Rebels game tickets on December 02 to students.

Santagram program- Seniors can be nominated

Floor Hockey in gym every Tuesdays 11:40 to 12:00, Grade 5 to 8

Youth Program coming out in December

Playgroup is looking for a parent to open the hall January and February

Welcome Packages for new residents will be coming out

#### **4.4. Parents Matter Report ( Warren Thompson )** Survey will be sent soon

#### **4.5. Snack Program ( Kim Brown )** none

#### **4.6. Brent Ramsay ( Crosswalk Update)**

- After the previous update to the PAC in the spring the County conducted video monitoring of the crosswalks
- The results showed significant crossing numbers and difficulty for residents and kids crossing with current crosswalks

- Council approved a \$50,000 budget to add flashing crossing beacons and concrete islands to direct pedestrian traffic along with upgraded crosswalk line paint
- The bids came back more than double the budget. Mostly due to inflation in concrete costs but also due to a change in engineering scope
- Council approved the flashing beacons but delayed the remaining work
- The remaining work has been added to the 2024 budget. That budget will be debated by Council on November 28<sup>th</sup>.
- If the project remains in the budget it would be tendered over the winter and likely completed in the spring
- I can provide further update once the budget is passed

**5. Correspondence**

**Received** None

**Sent** None

**6. New Business** None

**7. Business arising from the Minutes** None

**8. Date of Next Meeting** December 12, 2023

**9. Adjournment of Meeting** 7:31