

Muriel Martin School Council Meeting
Agenda
January 20, 2025
7:00 pm in-person/virtual (music room)
Meeting link: <https://meet.google.com/sdr-wwnk-qcw>

Attendees:

In-Person: Tamie Whitecotton, Joseline Leroux, Erin Pickard, Jamie McBryan, Sheena Atamanchuk, Annette Klassen, Stephanie Faulkner, Faheem Khan, Jeff Birdsell, Marteen Lindstrom, Nikky Mclean

Online: Amanda Walter, Breanne Batchelor, Dave Tolson, Jessica Griffith, Taylor Schappert

School Council Purpose Statement:

As we work to support and enhance student learning at Muriel Martin, School Council provides an open forum for parents, administration and community members to participate, discuss and reflect on topics that pertain to the school. School Council's advisory role is intended to engage all voices within the school community, and advise the principal and school board, through its trustee representative, on all matters relating to the school.

Land Acknowledgement

Acknowledgment of Treaty 6 Territory and the Metis Lands. The School Administration, Staff, School Council and attending caregivers acknowledge that we are meeting on Treaty 6 territory and on the homelands of the Metis Nation. We acknowledge all Indigenous peoples who have walked these lands for centuries. We acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past. We also recognize and are committed to learning more about how colonial acts and policies are still prevalent and continue to negatively impact Indigenous peoples. We dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

Called to Order: 7:02 pm

1. Approval of minutes from last meeting (December 9, 2024) – passed without dissent

2. Trustee Report - Kim Armstrong

Encourages families to read the Education Plan that was presented

Dec 18, 2024: 2025-2026 calendar was approved. Feedback was heard, school will start after the September long weekend. Retain the full day staff meetings that was implemented this year.

Policy review continues

Passed a number of bylaws in regards of upcoming municipal election: naming City of St. Albert as the returning officer to include school board trustees on the ballot in the next election – standard practice but is voted on prior to election (October) Trustee is a paid/elected position.

Full day ECS fee approved for 2025-2026: \$325 per month (remains the same)

Stakeholders: a new (4) year plan will be starting in 2026. Upcoming Partnership Workshop held at the St. Albert Alliance Church, February 13. Schools will be sending representatives.

Advocating for a new High School in the North East (Erin Ridge) or K-9 in the North West amenities area.

Funding model is being released from Albert Education. Advocating for maintenance and cost of living increases to be included.

An administrative regulation went out to all school administration: class size report to the Board and Division. The Board monitors the class sizes within the school (Alberta Government has removed this policy)

3. Review of Stakeholder Policy Updates - submissions due Jan 30, 2025 Paul McLoud or chairs

Flags: if School Division has a policy to have certain flags who pays for it or who replaces it?

Marteen: if it is a school division initiative the division pays and maintains.

4. Administration update

- Education Plan: Marteen

Found on the website under information

Presented to the Board of Trustees, Monday Jan 13. Plans are submitted in November, this is a (4) year plan.

Focus on Equity: Growth, Connections and Wellness.

Academic Growth: deconstructing existing academic systems (teach/test). Focus on small group instruction, find different ways for students to show/demonstrate their knowledge. Assessment to start the year making the best of the mandated assessment, using that information to target instruction and interventions to meet students at where they are.

Reading assessments for students new to the school.

Literacy support teachers: FI and English teachers dedicated time. Started with grade 2s as they ended grade 1 with this targeted support.

Next mandated assessment is in May 2025, for students who have been identified as at risk by Albert Ed.

Professional Development for staff is focused on literacy.

Students who are struggling benefit from a systematic approach, resources include: English: Jolly Phonics, FI: Graphone

Vertical Spaces: building working classrooms. Getting kids up and moving while learning

Connection and Wellness: individual learning plans, individual program plans – creating a common practice regarding these plans.

New timetable with wellness break and an afternoon recess to the schedule. Daily Physical Activity (DPA) soft skills: how do we interact with others, social skills, conversations.

Restorative practice: rethinking punishment/consequences. Using classroom circle, building circle and creating a classroom community, how can I repair harm and restore relationships.

Creation of clubs and groups offered during recess/breaks. Provides a structured space for students

Inclusive Practice: supports within classroom, universal practice – everyone can benefit from the supports. Teachers have committed to trying (3) supports and provide feedback.

How students, families and staff see themselves in their school community

Survey Data: A few areas of Concern

With students: only 69% of students responded that they felt like they belonged in the school.

School focus groups, giving students a voice. More student lead initiatives: clubs, assemblies, grade specific assemblies, leadership opportunities.

With Staff: 42% of staff was unsatisfied with the supports and resources provided to reach students. Separated this by teachers/support staff. Group meetings and providing professional development to our support staff. Changed support staff schedule, no longer (1) person providing the support there is

a team approach (morning/afternoon) time is given during PD days for these teams to meet and collaborate

For Universal Supports: is this something fundraising can help support, some of the more expensive, bigger items (stand up desks, speciality chairs)

Book Fair idea: add fidget toys to teacher wishlist and have families contribute

Teachers could provide a wishlist

- Report Cards

Please see attachment regarding reading Report Cards

January 31 released at 4 pm on Powerschool

Report Cards are outcome based, over the entire year, provides a snapshot of achievement Evidence of Learning (in many different forms) observations, products and conversations teachers use their professional judgement.

Comments from teachers: cannot speak on everything, focus on something students are doing well and something students are working towards and the steps that need to be taken. Teachers are communicating throughout the year, please reach out to teachers with any questions or concerns.

- Month at a glance: Jeff

Dec. 2 – Staff meeting PD: assessment, LA pedagogy and discussion

Dec. 4-19 – 12 Days of Fitmas

Dec. 13 – Skate Day

Dec. 18 – FI movie field trip

Dec. 19 – Reveillon / Pancake breakfast

Jan. 13 – Education plan presentation

Running room practices have begun

Jan. 27-31 Inuit week

Jan. 27 – 7 Sacred Teaching Assembly focusing on Respect

Jan. 29 – James Day, in school Inuit games

Jan. 30 – Kindergarten Open House – 50 families have registered

Jan. 31 – Report cards go out

Feb. 3 – Dino Spirit Day

Feb. 6-7 – Teacher convention

Feb. Black History Month

Feb. 17 - Family Day

Feb. 24 – Running Room Games Qualifier

Feb. 24-28 - wheelchair basketball week

Faheem: Dietary restrictions regarding to Halal (pancake breakfast/reveillon) will be taken into consideration for next year.

Spring Skiing: March 12 grades 4-6 Snow Valley

5. Proposal for S.T.E.M. Evening Event at Muriel Martin School

Event Details:

- **Date & Time:** Thursday February 20, 2025, from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM

● **Number of Sessions:** 4 sessions, each 45 minutes long. Families will sign up for time slots, with up to 25 Family spots available per session.

- Session 1: 5:30pm-6:15pm
- Session 2: 6:15pm-7:00pm
- Session 3: 7:00pm-7:45pm
- Session 4: 7:45pm-8:30pm

● **Target Audience:** Family Night – suitable for all grade levels and their families.

● **Objective:** Inspire a collaborative learning experience that brings families together through hands-on exploration of S.T.E.M. concepts through various activities.

\$500.00 School Council Division allotment, \$1,200.00 total (asking fundraising for support)

Will need volunteers to man a station to help with activities and reset the station after families complete the station.

Add the sign up to Healthy Hunger (no charge to families) Jos and Erin will add it.

Future nights: Fitness night (use it as a playground fundraiser)

May 15 MM Showcase Night

6. Powerschool Cyber Incident:

Email was released from the School Division

Data breach/Hack: the information that was collected is concerning.

Good opportunity to discuss cyber security within families – ICE and Unplugged St. Albert

CyberAlberta – nonprofit organization. Creating a safe environment for all Albertans.

Parent information session – School Chairs will bring this COSC Jan. 30

Suggestion in creating a committee for Cyber Safety/Cyber Awareness – making this bigger than the school level, looking Division wide committee.

FAQs on the Division Website has been updated:

<https://www.spschools.org/division-operations/powerschool/powerschool-cybersecurity-incident>

Powerschool is a mandated site that parents are expected to use. What do parents do with these 3rd party websites that are being expected to be used. How does the division choose their providers – Kim

Armstrong will be bringing this The Board.

The Division's IT manager can see all the information that was accessed (see website above)

The Division IT department will approve any 3rd party sites/apps that schools are allowed to use. They look at what information is collected, where it is stored and who has access to it.

7. Parent Questions/Concerns/Kudos: We welcome parents to add agenda items in advance. You may do so by emailing sc-chair.mm@spschools.org or marteen.lindstrom@spschools.org by no later than January 17, 2025.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:51 pm

Next Meeting: March 3, 2025