



“Learning Today for Living Tomorrow”

ELJHS School Council

Tuesday, May 17, 2021
6:30 p.m. ([Google Meet](#))

AGENDA

6:30 CALL TO ORDER

6:30 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

(Members may request an item be added to the agenda at this time.)

In Attendance

- Jayson Lovell
- James Matthie
- Shawn Wagar
- Angela Richter
- Lorna Muise
- Chad Peavoy
- Cheryl Van Ewyk
- Elisabeth Devries

6:35 REPORTS

- Farewell Update (Mrs. McDonald)
 - JUNE 2
 - 4:00 Doors Open
 - 4:00-5:20 LifeTouch Photo Shoots (optional-fees apply) in LIBRARY
 - 5:30- Class picture in courtyard (all grade nines)
 - 6:00-7:00 Farewell Ceremony (family and guests)
 - 7:00-7:45 Photo Opportunities in the foyer, gym, and professional shots with LifeTouch (optional- fees apply for LifeTouch)
 - 7:45 -8:30 Catered Dinner LETOS (ELJHS grade nines only)
 - 8:30-10:00 Dance (ELJHS grade nines only)
 - Ticket Information:
 - Each grade nine student will receive 2 guest tickets for the Farewell Ceremony.

- A 3rd ticket is available for purchase online or at the office for \$7.00
- A waiting list for additional tickets is available here. These tickets will be released on Thursday May 26.
- All tickets will be sent home on WEDNESDAY June 1 with the student.

- Lunch Program (Mr. Wagar)
 - Very successful. Lots of vendors from in town. Lots of variety and meals almost every day. Great venue for the school. 11:00- 11:30 Vendors come in, 3 staff deliver the food to the classes. Excellent relations in the community. Hoping to have it every day next year. We also give away a lot of lunches to kids who have no lunches,
 - Parent 1- Child doesn't get it a lot but speaks very positively about the meals she does get.
 - Parent 2- order 3/4 time and child really loves it
 - Parent 3- How do you determine who gets the lunches. Ans: Shawn runs the canteen. Through SSW we know who has the needs but we also give out other food, subs, soups... we don't turn kids away if they need food. Winter is busier than niver weather times. If we thought there was abuse of the system, we would call home and see if we can help out.

- 2022-2023 Fees (Mr. Matthie)
 - Price of food and wood up a lot. Increase in fees. Our fees cover less than 50% of the costs of classes. Increase from 25 to 30
 - Most of the rest will stay the same
 - Technology fee- we were approved prior but we didn't charge the recommendation of the council. Asking council for input for a \$20 tech access fee next year.
 - Q: Is it assigned to everyone or just kids without a chromebook.
 - All students. Access for wifi, printing, 3d printer, software etc...
 - Q: What is the division doing for evergreening?
 - The division \$400000 for tech
 - Going to smartboards, projectors and chromebooks
 - Q: What %age of kids bring their own device?
 - 75-90% bring devices but many forget, not charged
 - Q: Is there a way to softly ask if parents are struggling financially who might be flying under the radar that may struggle with increased fees?
 - We sent out the school update for May. The first link is for parents to fill in a survey for their students. We could add a question about "Do you struggle to pay school fees?" We look at previous rates of payment. Typically 75-80% of fees are paid. It is possible to defer fees, [AP 506](#).
 - Maybe put it out when parents apply for Tools for Schools?
 - How can we help reach out to those parents? Are they doing their taxes properly? Tax rebates? How can we help families? What other resources are available in Lacombe.

- Q: Is it possible to have the tech fee at \$10 this year? Can you use Hot Lunch income to help cover the other \$10 or is that 2 different pots of money??
 - Those are 2 pots of money. Maybe in the first year \$10 is the right amount.

Conclude by putting forth a motion that the tech fee is set at \$10 for next year.

- Staff Appreciation (Mr. Lovell)
 - Shout out to volunteers who brought treats for staff. With the challenges of COVID, showing appreciation is important. Lots of people stepped up and brought treats for the staff.

NEW BUSINESS

- School Council Annual Report (Mr. Lovell)
 - List the three (3) main successes of this year's school council.
 - Staff appreciation
 - Grant- [resources](#) (digital and hard copies) for parents surrounding student mental health and family
 - List up to three (3) potential objectives (unfinished work) for next year's school council.
 - Jo(e) Social media to parents. What did parents think? Should we bring them back?
 - P1- understood and appreciated the message. Less about the ech and more about the how and the why to communicate with kids. Opened my eyes and help me.
 - P2 - a lot of resources online for parents as well. I wonder if we should have an element about online safety touched on at each meeting? Ongoing focus. 5-10min overview with resources and links. P3- I love this. A message to students and a companion message for parents, like a 10 minute infomercial.
 - JM- We're building our ACE plan and one thing is to rebrand our Friday wellness day to Club days for more belonging. On Monday, they do things with their families. We are developing a citizenship program and having digital citizenship that can be taught and maybe shared with parents. How do you see it shared with parents? Monthly? Council?
 - P2: Guest speaker series with Joe Whitbread? Doing a series, 10 min, tailored to be allowed to be shared with parents and sessions.
 - P3- targeting younger students and older (K-6 and 7-9). I like both options. Shared online and in Council. Talked to Joe about building something for the schools previously. There are avenues to support that work. They have been generous to us in the past.
 - This sounds like something worth pursuing. Jayson will start talks with getting this up and going.

- JM- The council feedback and suggestions. They have guided our school. It's why we have houses/familie/lunch programs, fee schedules and more. We are so thankful for your discussion and input.
 - Q- Are you looking at tutorials? My kids seem to always pick the same one but they don't seem to have much choice. Do you look at what kids are taking?
 - Was a parent pulse question. Each year we do look at the cohort and look at what they will offer for each cohort. Not all kids don't need extra help and may not be interested in enrichment so the library or study hall is a good fit. Please have student talk to James to give suggestions for tutorials.
 - I love that you ask at the beginning of the year, might be nice to ask at the end as well after we have gone through the year picking??
- Q: How is the sub situation at the school?
 - We have been short more than ever. Admin is picking up and filling. Staff wellness- doing better than this time last year. Taking time to get back to where we were. #1 teacher concern is student attendance and difficulty when there are so many kids away.
 - How do we support your wellness (Admin)? We try to take good care of each other. Jayson- please put some thought into this and how can the council support you?
 - P1- My friend subs at the school and she says that the Jr High is the most positive places to sub. Kudos. Staff say they are doing well.
- List up to three (3) areas in which in-service activities would benefit next year's school council.

7:05 TRUSTEE REPORT – Mrs. Lowry and/or Mr. Buchanan
No trustee in the meeting. Busy with Blackfalds meeting

7:15 ADJOURNMENT

7:30 NEW PARENT Q&A