

**Dalhousie School Council Minutes
School Update**

We would like to acknowledge the traditional territories and oral practices of the Blackfoot Nations, which includes the Siksika, the Piikani and the Kainai. We also acknowledge the Tsuut'ina and Stoney Nakoda First Nations, the Métis Nation (Region 3), and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta.

Call to order 6:32pm

Adopt Agenda

Amanda Tomlinson and Jackie Bilsky

October 4, 2023

Welcome to Karla Pineda Preece

It's my pleasure to welcome Karla Pineda Preece to Dalhousie as Assistant Principal. Karla will say a few words of introduction.

Enrolment and Staffing

Our students are counted the last instructional day of September every year. This determines our funding for the current year. We staff our school in the spring based on projections, which are usually quite accurate guesses about how many students will attend the following year. The September count is the official count and our funding is adjusted based on that number. This year our count was 468 Students.

	Spring Projection	September 28
K	80	87
Grades 1 - 3	261	250
Grades 4 - 5	129	131
Total	470	468

We will receive our actual funding amounts in mid-October and will make a decision regarding additional staff before the end of October. At this point, we are confident we will have funding for an additional Education Assistant or a part-time Teacher. We will determine how that position will support students at that time.

School Assessments – Numeracy and Literacy

The grade 2 and 3 students took part in some literacy and numeracy assessments. The grade 2 students participated in the LeNs assessment (Letter Name-Sound), CC3 (Castles and Colhearts), and a numeracy assessment. The grade 3 students participated in the CC3 and numeracy assessments. These

assessments have supported us in identifying students who are struggling in the areas of reading and numeracy. For the past two years we have been provided money from Alberta Education to hire an intervention teacher to support students. We are still waiting to hear if we are fortunate enough to receive this funding again this year.

The LeNS assessment is designed to make sure that the child has the foundational phonics skills to develop into an independent reader. As such, it assesses a student's ability to sound out single letters and letter combinations (e.g., n, d, e, ch, ay, oa, oy

The CC3 is designed to identify the nature of a child's reading difficulties. As such, it assesses a student's ability to recall familiar and irregular words (e.g., take, hand, island, cough), and their ability to sound out non-words (e.g., norf, framp, gurve) that were created especially for this assessment and are meant to be fictitious and without meaning

The Numeracy assessment focus on A wide range of skills is associated with a child's number sense. Such skills include counting, number comparison, number writing, number ordering, and basic arithmetic.

Student Code of Conduct

I thought you might find it informative to hear a bit about the guidelines for student conduct that we use when we work with students. Our overarching belief and guiding principle is that all students can learn. Our work as educators is to create conditions for students in which they will make positive and healthy choices. Like any of us, they don't always do this. We have a number of guiding documents that support our work with students so that everyone can learn in a welcoming, caring respectful and safe environment. I have linked to some of the documents here:

[AR6005 - Student Code of Conduct](#)

[AR6031 - Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning and Work Environments](#)

[AR6006 - Progressive Student Discipline](#)

[Bullying Prevention](#)

[Alberta Education Act](#)

The phrase "welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging..." appears prominently in these documents. We are attempting to achieve this so that students can focus on learning, and staff on supporting them. When students' behaviour is not consistent with a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment, working with parents or guardians we take action to ensure that they are learning from their experience so that they can make better choices in the future. Our focus is on support and learning, not on punishment. Appropriate consequences are essential, however. If students do not respond to the action we have taken, we have to adjust our response to ensure that students do learn and make better choices.

I would like to point out some of the highlights of the Student Code of Conduct:

- Definitions - including a definition of bullying

- Students must respect the Albert Human Rights Act and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms
- Examples of acceptable behaviour e.g., demonstrating respect for self, others and the school environment
- Examples of unacceptable behaviour e.g., conduct that does not contribute to a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment.
- A statement about bullying – Section 16 states that the principal must assess, and where warranted investigate and respond to all reports of bullying.
- Parents have an active role in assisting their child in complying with the Student Code of Conduct.

I encourage you to have a look at these documents to understand your child's and your rights and responsibilities with relation to student conduct.

Dalhousie Happenings and Events

October 9: Thanksgiving Day- NO SCHOOL

October 20: Professional Development Day – NO SCHOOL for students

October 23 - 26: Grades 1 – 3 Swimming, thank you to the parent association for funding the busses.
Later in the year, Grades 4 and 5 will go skiing.

October 31: Halloween – Costumes and parade, if they choose to wear a costume, they must come to school wearing their costumes. Please guide your children to wear costumes that are not scary for 5-year-olds.

November 8: Remembrance Day Assembly

November 9: Indigenous Professional Development Day – NO SCHOOL for students

November 10 – 14: Fall Break

November 23 – 24: Student Learning Conferences (15-minute conferences)

Farewell Sra. Forsyth

Sra. Forsyth will say a few words of farewell.

Question - Is there a reason for the fall break?

Answer – The break is for all of CBE, the board has chosen this break.

Adjournment 7:02pm

Dalhousie Parent Society Meeting Minutes

October 4, 2023

Call to order 7:05pm

Adopt Agenda

Amanda Tomlinson and Lindsay Labrecque

Adopt Previous Minutes

Hadi H and Amanada Tomlinson

Co-Chair Report

Just wanted to do a quick introduction – my partner in crime Lori Walker-Krause and I are your new Co-Chairs for this 2023-2024 school year. My name is Charleen Nickel and this is my 11th and final year with Dalhousie school as I have an older son who is now in High School. I have been a part of Parent Council since 2014 in various roles such as Casino Lead and Treasurer - and I am very excited to see what this school year will bring. Lori was unable to make this evening's meeting, however she will introduce herself next meeting.

We would like to extend our thanks and gratitude to Ginger DeBoni and Lindsay Kirkby for all their hard work and dedication in these positions for the past 2 years. We would also like to thank Lacey for continuing to be our Fundraising Lead. Please also help us welcome Corrine Kinzell as our new secretary and Amanda Tomlinson as our new Treasurer. Ginger has now taken over the Lead for Casino – and will be giving us an update later on. I would also like to welcome those parents that have now also joined forces with Lindsay Labrecque and Sara Foster with the Playground Committee.

We are still actively searching for 2 Directors for our parent council that will be willing to be trained in upcoming positions next year. We will be in need of at least one Co-Chair and the Secretary.

Can we all please take a moment to thank Melissa for her dedication and hard work for our students and schools over the past 5 plus years. You will be missed Melissa. We all wish you the very best for your new school!

There is a LOT going on this year – and we are going to need all your support to get it done! From our Casino to our Playground finale in Spring. Please contact us if you are able to join us with volunteering.

Financial Review

Casino account is currently sitting at:

\$81,667.54.

We earned 0.67% in interest this month.

Operating account is Currently at:

\$151,784.75

We earned 0.88% in interest this month.

This month we added \$5,821.00 in Etransfers, cash or cheques for the apple fundraiser- we deducted \$5,226.49 to Davidson Orchards for the apple fundraiser. Which earned the school \$591.51.

We also deducted \$571.20 on staff appreciation.

HH totals for the end of the month haven't been posted yet so there will be an additional

September 27, we made \$627.86

Casino Update

Our next Casino is fast approaching! The dates are Sunday October 22nd and Monday October 23rd. **We are in desperate need of more volunteers or we are at risk of losing this Casino.**

The Casino is a massive fundraiser for the school. We can raise at least \$65,000 (hopefully more) for the school. This is a significant amount of money to bring in, especially as we are desperately trying to fundraise for a new playground. If you are at all able to cover a shift for Dalhousie, you will be making a big difference for every single Dalhousie student.

Shifts still needing to be filled:

Sunday October 22nd:

7 pm to 3:30 am Cashier

7 pm to 3:30 am Spare/backup

Monday October 23rd:

7 pm -3:30 am Banker

11-3:30 am Countroom (TWO spots still need filling!!)

7 to 3:30 am Spare/Backup (TWO spots still need filling!)

To sign up, please visit our website www.dalhousieparentsociety.com

This is a great opportunity to get to know other Dalhousie Parents. No experience necessary, and you don't need your police check completed to sign up. Please consider signing up today so we don't lose this Casino date.

Question - Are there any shifts left that are not overnight?

Answer – No

Question – Is there a blurb on the website with job descriptions?

Answer – Yes, follow the link to the SignUp Genius link.

Playground Update

Dalhousie Playground

Parks Account Balance to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Total Amount \$63,753.96● \$ 33,753.96 in donations● \$ 30,000 – Community Grant
General Update:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Park n' Play will be doing up renderings in five different colour pallets – we will be putting out a vote and the one with the most votes will be the winning colour we move forward with● Playground 50/50 is up and running, please send to everyone you know.● We've had multiple parents come forward that would like to help or have in-kind donations or other things to help get the last funding needed. Thank you all! We will be coordinating a time to get together.● Our total confirmed funding to date is \$278,152.56; we have approx.. \$156,124.54 in pending funds including the upcoming casino nights, leaving us with only \$70,000 needed to reach our goal!!! Please share the 50/50, the donation link through the parks foundation for anyone who would like or maybe needs a tax receipt for year end and the word about the playground.
In Progress:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Getting up-coming grant list ready and organized for applications● Working out playground committee needs and meeting time● Colour pallet choices & voting

Question - The University playground used the rubber surfacing and its already showing aging. What is the warranty on the playground?

Answer – Will confirm the warranty.

Fun Lunch Update

Fun lunch is off to a great start this year! In September, we raised \$1592.65. Upcoming orders are Fat Burger on October 11 and Subway and Booster Juice on October 17. With the upcoming Purdy's

fundraiser, Lacey will be holding a contest of whoever sells the most will receive a free fun lunch on December 20. We still need volunteers for a few dates, please sign up if you can and have clearance to volunteer.

Fiesta

We would like to have people come forward to form a committee – maybe we could hold a Fiesta evening with unveiling of the new playground?

Comment - Jackie, Heather H and Simran all join committee

Question - Have you ever done a read-a-thon?

Answer – We have done them in the past and they went well.

Vote on Budget

All in favour.

Old Business

New Business

Next Regular Meetings – First Wednesday of every month at 6:30pm. Next meeting is November 1.

Adjournment 7:35pm