

Monday, November 24, 2025

ÉSCH/CHHS School Council Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Mike Kukurudza, Joni Hunter, Quinn Skelton, Jeneal Vargo, Erin Vossler, Gwendoline Dirk, Becky Poirier, Karen Saffran, Cara Bourgeois, Troy Hale, and Audrey Goodwin.

1. Welcome and Call to Order by Karen at 18:33.

- Land Acknowledgment
- Roundtable self-introduction of Principal, council members, parents/guardians, and school board trustees.

2. Review of Agenda, Previous meeting minutes

- Attendees reviewed the agenda.
 - Karen called for approval of the agenda, Erin approved, Joni seconded, all were in favour.
- Attendees reviewed the minutes from 2025.09.29.
 - Karen called for approval of the minutes, Janeal approved, Becky seconded, all were in favour.

3. Reports

- Principal's Report

Upcoming events

Junior High Musical - Beetlejuice

- December 3-6, tickets \$18.
- More information on Facebook and Edsby.

Junior High Blue Day

- December 19, 1/2 day of school, x-mas activities.

Holiday Food Drive

- Homeroom classes will compete to collect the most non-perishable food items. Set up during CHAT classes. Way to give back to families in need.

New Tradition

- Holiday Breakfast - December 19.
- Junior High Students will be served 8:00-8:30 am.
- High School Students 8:30 - 9:00 am.

Junior High Dance

- Friday November 28, 7:00 - 10:00 pm.

Government Data Collection

- Provincial government tasked schools to provide data regarding classroom complexity.
- This was a huge undertaking, two vice-principals and CSTs worked full time for two weeks to compile and submit data regarding student coding and FMNI numbers.
- It is unclear how the data will be interpreted or broken down.
- Data was submitted on time.
- Administration is hoping for additional supports. The school currently has 8 EAs for 1300 students.
- Tools created by the government for data entry were inefficient.
- VP's were working OT to get data submitted.

-Dec 2nd Trustees will sit down with schools and kids for engagement sessions.

Friday PMS

- School goals, assessment.
- Grading criteria, knowledge transfer from experienced teachers to newer staff.

- Strategies on dealing with challenges, lessons learned and how to support students.

Strike Effects

- Final exams eliminated in January to regain teaching time.
- Exams still possible during class time.
- Diploma exams are outside our control.
- Opportunities for projects instead of exams.
- Focusing on a triangle of evidence. Kids are encouraged to speak to teachers, determine if there are other ways to assess students' needs.
- Administrators and teachers want to work with kids to demonstrate understanding.
- January 27th last day classes, 28th turn around day, 29th first day 2nd semester.

Discipline

- Great student body, minimal discipline required.
- Few students require supports.
- Vaping
 - Lots of improvements.
 - No fights.
- Kids being kids, happy.
- If there are issues, please contact Mike.
- Washroom issue seems to be solved with collaboration with MHPS who found the offending TikTok account.

Athletics

- Volleyball Girls won city and Zone championships, and are off to provincials.
 - Send off before provincials, pep rally when they return.
 - Some girls have signed with post secondary institutions.

Parent Teacher Interviews Feedback

- Scheduling was good on Edsby but availability was slim.
- Trustee's Report

Gwendoline Dirk

- Pleased to be here and happy to know parents better.

Quinn Skelton

- Learning as best they can by visiting all the different schools, meeting people and learning their roles.

- Executive Reports
- Chair (deferred report to discussion)
- Becky (Wellness Champion)
 - Participated in theatre group garage sale setup and take down.
 - Great parent volunteers and great fundraiser.
 - Grade 12 parent meeting for graduation prep.
 - Voiced concern about the current economy.
 - Affects family wanting to join academies.
 - Q: Is support available and how to let parents know?
 - Book keepers can help families based on need.
 - Mike keeps funds aside so support is available for kids.

- Payment plans are also an option.

4. Discussion

- Did anyone attend the ASCA Virtual Engagement session?
 - None were available to attend.
 - There will be an ASCA conference in the spring.
 - Virtual because government funding was cut.
 - Usually last weekend in April.
 - Could be good use of council funds.
- Dec 11th Division Council of Councils Meeting
 - All chairs from each school get together to learn from each other.
 - Open to everyone but only one vote per school.

Meeting Attendance

- As a school council, we are supposed to have teacher and student representatives.
 - Perhaps Becky's son.
 - Students from the student council.
- Mike suggests we pose questions to kids for them to answer during class time.
- Make it an agenda item.

5. Business/Topics

- Parent Engagement Initiatives
 - Ideas to get more parents/guardians/students involved in council
 - Special Topics/speakers
 - Interest in how AI is used in education, and how the schools are handling it.

- Discussing the importance of preparing students for future careers, including those that don't yet exist, and encouraging them to think about how they can contribute to solving societal problems.
- Have a \$500 grant for parent engagement, could be spent on a speaker.
 - Last year's grant was spent on ASCA conference and career cards.
- Wellness evening suggested by Joni.
 - Chance for parents and students to reconnect.
 - Occupational Therapist to work with students perhaps.
- Next step is to find some speakers or professionals.
 - ASCA is a good source.
 - Signage in different languages in the school.
 - Grant must be used by the end of June or we lose it.
 - Can learn in Calgary, lots of trained people and talks.
 - Can email CHHS.Chair@sd76.ab.ca ideas to Karen.
 - Video from kids in January.
- Does CHHS do casinos or bingos?
 - Parent council is not a fundraising association.
 - Only one organization per school can fundraise with a casino.
 - Educational Foundation.
 - Fundraising is run through book keeping at Central office.
 - One license per site.

6. Adjourn

- Meeting was adjourned by Karen Saffran at 19:44.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2026. In person at ÉSCH/CHHS cafeteria and virtual option available.