



Minutes

Tuscany School Council Meeting
Annual General Meeting
Thursday, June 11, 2020 at 7:00pm
- Via Zoom -

Call to Order & Welcome

Meeting called to order at 7:04pm.

Approval of Meeting Agenda

Motion to approve by Roxanne. Seconded by Deanna.

Approval of February 20, 2020 Minutes

Motion to approve by Vicky. Seconded by Roxanne.

2019-20 Council Reports

Treasurer - Heila

Please see attached year end budget. We are moving into the 2020-21 school year with over \$12,900 in the bank. We need to vote on welcome week for next year. See below for voting details.

Fundraising – Shaz & Michelle

- This year we held three fundraising campaigns. In October we ran our first BC Apple fundraiser with 196 boxes sold and brought in a profit of \$1,514.50. We also hosted our Lifetouch family photo evening which brought in \$140. In November, we held our annual Sobey's Gift Card campaign, selling \$24,225 in gift cards and bringing in a profit of \$1,393.65. In March, we held our annual Read-a-thon, with a profit of \$1,951.30. We were very pleased with the year on a whole, especially the Read-a-thon, given that the children were no longer at school by the end of the campaign.

Special Events - Marty

- We hosted Welcome Week coffees and breakfast, which included fruit, scones, yogurt and hot chocolate for the kids. We held a Halloween Howler dance with 155 families in attendance and gave away 20 prizes. We were fortunate to have brought in \$700 at that event to carry into our upcoming events. We were planning to host our second semi-formal spring dance when the Covid-19 pandemic hit. If our 2020-21 is back to a traditional school year, we plan to host Welcome Week festivities, Halloween and Spring dances and the annual year-end BBQ in June 2021.

Spirit Wear - Shaun

- We held two spirit wear clothing campaigns this year, both offering English and French options. The campaigns were both extremely successful, with each selling close to 100 items.
- For the 2020-2021 school year, we are hopeful that we can run two campaigns again and anticipate Spirit Wear being in high demand when school resumes.
- If school does not run in the fall, we would like to look at options for selling (and distributing) Spirit Wear regardless.

Fun Lunch - Vicky

- We had a very successful year. We worked with most of the same vendors as last year. Early in September, we met with the Fun Lunch committees from TMC and Eric Harvie to sync our menu prices as best we can. Healthy Hunger updated their website over the summer and we only ran into one small, but brief glitch while setting up our menu.
- Our largest order for Fun Lunches was for Papa John's at 311 student orders and our largest order for Treat Days was for Tim Horton's at 296 student orders. The average number of all orders for the year was 295 on a given date.

- Fun Lunch is not a fundraiser, but small monetary increments are added to items to round up the price and to cover ordering extra items to have on hand. This allowed for Fun Lunch to make a profit of \$259.15 for the school year. Treat Days are a fundraiser with \$1.00 added to each item bringing in a profit of \$790.97. Our total combined profit for our shortened school year is over \$1050.

- Due to Covid-19 our remaining Fun Lunches and Treat Days were cancelled. For March and April dates, the vendors cancelled and refunded orders. For April 30th and onward the dates were automatically cancelled, and parents are credited the amount to next year's orders. Big thank you to the Fun Lunch volunteers. Next year the Fun lunch program may look different depending on COVID restrictions.

Fun Snack - Leanne

- We held six fun snacks for AM and PM kindergarten in both the Community and French programs. This year we themed the snacks, whenever possible, to make them more "fun". Due to Covid-19, we had some funds left over and so will be distributing one last treat (Kernels popcorn) to the kids with their items when they pick up from the school.

Teacher Appreciation - Vicky

- Teacher Appreciation had a great year. From September to February, we provided teachers with Kleenex for their classroom, hand soap and toiletries for the staff washrooms and Keurig coffee pods for the kitchen. With the help of our parent community, we organized two Potluck dinners during Conferences and a delicious spread of holiday baking. For Pink Shirt day in February we wrote up heart-shaped cards with special messages from our children and placed them in their mailboxes with a small box of chocolates. We finished off the year with gift cards for everyone on staff, lovingly decorated and placed in their mailboxes for when they are in the school to prep for September. We were given a budget of \$500.00 and have now used the full amount. Thank you to the appreciation team for everything!

Communications – Susan (Written)

- A Council newsletter was produced and communicated to parents on a monthly basis, through the Tuscany School Website. A copy of this was also emailed to parents. Generally the newsletter highlighted special events, school council activities (fun lunches, fundraising activities) and volunteer opportunities.

- A monthly update was provided to Tuscany community through the Tuscany Sun magazine.

- The hope is to continue with similar methods and level of communication for the 2020-21 school year and to increase our use of the Facebook council page even more next year.

Kiss 'n Drop - Chelsea

- Tuscany School Council is very proud of our Kiss 'n Drop program. It allows parents to drive up to the side of the school and have a volunteer open their back door for their children to hop out quickly and with assistance when needed, ensuring the safety of the students and keeping the flow of traffic going in the morning. On average, we filled two to three volunteer slots per week this year. We had up to five volunteer slots filled at the beginning of the school year, which helped educate new parents on how the program works. The program was adopted quite well and seemed to operate smoothly even without volunteers. In the colder winter months, we had to fill a few more volunteer slots when parking before and after school became an issue. Our "No Parking Anytime" sandwich boards had to remain out until 10 minutes after pickup to remind parents the side of the school is a no parking zone. This was further emphasized by the presence of school administration and City of Calgary Parking Authority when parking in the staff parking lot also became an issue. As per previous years, the reserved parking spot and offer for reserved VIP seating at school performances were definite draws for new and existing volunteers.

- For the 2020-21 school year, we are hoping to continue to increase both the number of slots filled per week, as well as the number of volunteers with our increased parent population. Our goal is to have many of the spots filled the first few weeks of school to train new volunteers as well as parents who use the program. The example set at the beginning of the school year goes a long way to how well the program runs for the remainder of the year.

Will see what effect any COVID restrictions have on the Kiss 'n Drop program.

Naturalization - Morgan

- This year's naturalization efforts focused on making improvements to some neglected areas. The area around the outdoor classroom needed some help, so we started with digging in some gravel pathways to focus foot traffic and then top dressed the grass area with fresh topsoil. We then over-seeded with Sheep's Fescue, which is the same grass that grows in the naturalized areas. With a little help from a wet Spring, the fescue should help fill in the gaps

and fight away the weeds. We used this same process to fill in some holes in the schoolyard and hopefully bring some grass back.

- The planter box next to the teacher's parking lot has been largely devoid of plants, so we planted some seed mix and plant plugs purchased from Wild About Flowers. The seed mix contains local species such as Brown Eyed Susan, Wild Bergamot and Blue Flax. Some of these plants are quick to establish and will show up this summer, while others may wait until next year. If successful, this should pave the way to adding some other wildflower areas to brighten up the schoolground.

- Green Drop is still planning to come thru and aerate this spring.

Grade 4 Farewell - Nadya

- A memory book is planned for each student in the Community Grade 4 program. Due to COVID-19, memory books will now be distributed in September. Tara Hart is assembling.

- Due to COVID-19, a field trip was unable to occur. A Farewell Drive-by is being planned for the last day of school, where Grade 4 families, are able to drive by the school and wave to the teachers and staff, who will be standing physically distanced along the sidewalk. This event will be happening June 26th between 10 and 11 am.

- For the 2020-21 school year (pending COVID-19 restrictions) we will work with the staff to plan a day that celebrates the students' time at Tuscany School, while blending with the curriculum being taught next year. We will work with the Grade 5 French Immersion Farewell team on this event.

CBE Liaison – Sasha (Written update)

- Provided the parent population with updates from the Council of School Councils (COSC) meetings at our monthly council meetings. Intend to continue sharing this important information as we move into the 2020-21 school year.

Secretary - Jennifer

- Took diligent minutes at each council meeting and ensured that the edited version was ready for sharing to the parent community a minimum of a week prior to the next meeting each month.

Chair - Michelle

- We have had a great year with a fantastic team of volunteers. I am honoured to be able to work with a group of people as dedicated, enthusiastic, and creative as our Tuscany parents. Thank you also to the parent community and kids for supporting all of our initiatives. You are what makes this so much fun!

- We love being able to be this involved with our children's school experiences and having a positive impact on our school environment. The last few months of the school year didn't look like we had anticipated, but collectively we can feel the community coming together to help our children continue their education with the guidance of our wonderful teachers and appreciate your continued support in our new educational platform.

- We look forward to starting a fresh new year in September back in person as permitted!

Principal's Report

Grateful for the strength of this community as we adapted the school year. Care for the people around you, has been evident thru all of this. Thank you.

Minister spoke yesterday – we will continue to learn every day. August 1st will be the day that we will hear more about the coming school year. Continue to watch and learn to become smarter and wiser. We have a task force in place working on the processes that will need to be in place for the fall. Will have breakout spaces still available as we maintain physical distancing.

Provincial budget – has had a tremendous impact on how we move forward. We have lost the Tuscany EDC program with the cuts to PUF funding – two sites will remain in a campus program. Losing 3 staff members as a result Miss Crystal, Anna and Karen Hawk – SLP. Program will continue to end of this school year.

We are receiving EES (Enhanced Educational Support) Program – 2 classes: 1 from Brentwood (teacher + 2 EA's) and 1 from Cambrian Heights (teacher + 2 EA's). Combined CSSI classroom, skilled classes, task. Students are ages 6-11 and 9 students per classroom.

Loss of classroom funding is having an impact to all schools. This classroom funding allowed us to have different educational supports. Hesitant to talk about class size as we will continue to work with children. Average number of

children per classroom will be about 25 on average. This is about an increase of 5 children per classroom. Tuscany will be losing staff as a result. We provided a volunteer option, and no one volunteered, so changes were based on seniority – surplus staff Kyria Pires, Rashmi Baldwin, Jada Belin and Karen Arcure.

French Immersion will be adding a grade and therefore adding a teacher for grade 5. Hoping to hold on to Marie Joelle. Jessica Smith has been standing in for Janet Muellenbrook (who has returned) but will stay through June.

Beginning the process of looking at multi aging. With 2 grade 4 classes there would be 33-34/class; grade 3 similar and we don't want to have that class sizes. Want to do closer to 25 average across the board.

For French immersion, kindergarten registration is at 49 right now. Anticipate we will be around 60 which will result in 2 Kindergarten French Immersion classes (1 teacher). Community – Kindergarten 30 right now – anticipate 40 by fall – so one full time teacher.

Grade 1 – 2 classes for grade 1 as well as 1 class of grade 1/2 in French immersion. Multi Aging thru Grade 2/3; 3/4 and 4/5 – for all French Immersion.

Cindy will include research on multi aging information in the newsletter sent out to parents. We are not splitting grades, we are multi aging for best educational outcomes. We know that children will enter back to school with some kind of learning gap from the home learning. We want to meet them where they are at....no pressure.

Question- how do you choose which children will go into the multi age classroom? Who are the children that would be resilient and flexible and able to handle going into a multi-age room. Those who are less stressed and able to go with flow. Keri and Colleen are familiar to the children and the children with them.

Community Program will have the following classroom split:

K x 2 classes AM/PM

2 x Grade 1

2 x Grade 2 rooms

1 x Grade 2/3 room

2 x Grade 3 rooms

1 x Grade 3/4 room

2 x Grade 4 rooms

Design groups to meet student needs. Teacher assignments will be coming in August via teacher letter.

Elections

Executive Committee positions open for election for two-year terms:

Vice Chair – Position not filled.

Treasurer - Motion by Deanna for Amit Saduera for two-year term. Seconded by Maureen. Motion passed.

Fun Snack – Melanie Graham has shown interest, would be interested in sharing the position. POST Karen Trenholm-Boyle expressed interest in chairing Fun Snack to be voted on in September.

Grade 4 Farewell - Motion by Kelsey for Roxanne Walterson for one-year term. Seconded by Maureen. Motion passed.

Grade 5 farewell - Kyna O’Gallagher has shown interest. Would need to be voted on in September.

THANK YOU so, so, so, much to our departing Executive members!!!

New Business

Vote on 2020-21 School Year Expenditures – K-4 Folders, Welcome Week, Terry Fox Run (Events TBD).

Folders \$326.48 and Terry Fox \$300 and Welcome Week \$900. Motioned by Roxanne and seconded by Chelsea.

Next Meeting

Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 7:00pm.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.



Minutes

Tuscany School Enhancement Society (TSES)

Annual General Meeting

June 11, 2020 at 7:30pm

- Via Zoom -

Call to Order & Welcome

Meeting called to order at 8:35pm.

Approval of Meeting Agenda

Motion to approve by Roxanne. Seconded by Vicky.

Approval of February 20, 2020 Minutes

Motion to approve by Roxanne. Seconded by Deanna.

2019-20 Reports

Budget - Deanna

Please see attached spreadsheets.

Casino - Kelsey

Our last casino took place on October 8 & 9, 2019 at Elbow River Casino and brought in a revenue of \$67, 260.60. Our next casino is slotted for Q4 of 2021 at Elbow River Casino, however this will likely be pushed into 2022 due to delays from the Covid-19 closures this Spring. We continue to spend our casino revenue as per AGLC regulations.

Elections

Executive Committee positions open for election for two-year terms:

Treasure – Motioned by Roxanne for Deanna Haugen for a one-year term. Seconded by Chelsea. Motion passed.

Vice President – Motioned by Roxanne for Chelsea Broos for a two-year term. Seconded by Deanna. Motion passed.

Casino Chair – Motioned by Kelsey for Carrie O’Conner for a two-year term. Seconded by Deanna. Motion passed.

Chair – Motioned by Roxanne for Michelle Piper Berman for a two-year term. Seconded by Deanna. Motion passed.

THANK YOU so very much to our departing Directors!!!

Next Meeting

Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 6:30pm.

Thank you for joining us! We hope that you all have a wonderful summer break!!!

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:54pm.

In Attendance: Michelle PB, Jennifer D, Deanna H, Chelsea B, Vicky A, Shaun H, Morgan K, Marty K, Nadya S, Leanne P, Kelsey S, Carrie O’C, Roxanne W, Melanie G, Maureen A, Amit S, Blair B, Heila L, Angela D, Roshana K

Cindy W, Grant J, Colleen G, Keri G