

**Marion Carson School Council  
General Meeting Minutes  
October 19, 2022, 7:00pm**

Tatiana D, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Enough members were present in person with some executives testing hybrid via TEAMS to constitute a quorum.

Present: Dustin Turner, Huong Ly, Tatiana D., Katherine P., Laura C., Laura S., Nadine P., Rachel G., Kim H., Vanesse L., Daisy Z., Melissa L., Olean S., Selma K., Tosanwumi A., Moinuddin B., Myra C., Amanda A-Y., and Andrew C.

**Agenda: Motion to approve the October 19, 2022 agenda as presented.**

Moved: Melissa  
Second: Laura C.  
Voted and Carried

**Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes from the September 21<sup>st</sup> General Meeting as presented.**

Moved: Tatiana  
Second: Melissa  
Voted and Carried

**Executive Update:**

Introduction of School Council Executive and meeting overview  
Chair: Tatiana Dunfield  
Vice Chair: Katherine Peterson  
Treasurer: Laura Cooper - via TEAMS  
Secretary: Laura Schorn

**Principal's report – Mr. Turner: - SEE ATTACHMENT**

**1. Staffing**

- Budget came in at 510 students as of September 29th, 2022 count
  - Up from projection of 472, and current staffing model of 482.
- If any additional funding, then various scenarios are being considered such as...
  - Increased Music Teacher to 0.9FTE to bring more equity across both programs
  - Increased AM Community English Kindergarten Teacher from 0.4 FTE to 0.5 FTE to be only teacher teaching that classroom (was shared with AP previously)
  - Looking to add 0.4FTE PE Teacher to lead and support Whole School Wellness Initiatives (CBE Education Plan's focus on Wellbeing (whole school impact)
  - Looking to add between a 0.8FTE and 0.9FTE Teacher to reduce class size in specific classrooms
    - Mandarin .5
    - Community .4 (based on class size)
  - 0.5FTE and focus on Literacy/Numeracy Support (remaining .3-.4FTE)

**School Development Plan**

Literacy Goal: Students' achievement in writing will improve in English Language Arts and Chinese Language Arts.

- Instructional Actions:
  - Staff Will:
    - Engage in professional readings, videos and PLC discussions together to deepen knowledge of writing strategies.
    - In PLCs, co-create a grade-level appropriate bank of 3-5 writing strategies (for example, small group and 1:1 conferencing, self-reflection, self-assessment peer review, dynamic graphic organisers, think alouds)
    - Bring student work connected to each of the strategies to PLCs throughout the year to evaluate and analyse the strategies.
  - With Students, Staff Will
    - Model, share, and co-create writing
    - Model and co-create strong sentences and paragraphs from planned ideas.
- Resources
  - “Making Thinking Visible” by Ritchhart, Church, and Morrison.
  - Scheduled PLCs to analyze student writing and determine next steps of instruction.
  - Professional learning opportunities targeted to building staff capacity in effective writing strategies.
  - New K-3 English Language Arts and Literature curriculum.
  - CBE Literacy Framework.
- Outcomes
  - Staff use repertoire of writing strategies/next steps in lesson task design.
  - Staff use the Making Thinking Visible strategies to model revision techniques.
  - Teachers conference with students to provide targeted feedback on effective writing. Students revise to improve their writing and articulate why they did so.

Numeracy Goal: Students' understanding of the relationship between numbers and quantity and how it relates to place value will improve.

- Instructional Actions:
  - Staff Will:
    - Engage in professional readings, videos and PLC discussions together to deepen knowledge of Math strategies (focusing on students' understanding of the relationship between numbers and quantity and how it relates to place value)
    - In PLCs, co-create a grade-level appropriate bank of 3-5 strategies (for example small group and 1:1 conferencing, self-reflection, self-assessment peer review, number talks, think alouds)
    - Bring student work connected to each of the strategies to PLCs throughout the year to evaluate and analyse the strategies.
  - With Students, staff will:
    - Model, share, and co-create the use of math strategies.

- Model and co-create connections to the relationship between numbers and quantity and how it relates to place value will improve.
  - Support students to build foundational skills by building fluency with procedures on a foundation of conceptual understanding so that students, over time, become skillful in using procedures flexibly as they solve problems.
- Resources
  - "Taking Action: Implementing Effective Mathematics Teaching Practice" by DeAnn Huinker and Victoria Bill
  - "Making Thinking Visible" by Ritchhart, Church and Morrison.
  - Mathletics
  - CBE Math Framework
  - New K-3 math Curriculum
- Outcomes
  - Teachers will use either journals, diaries or composition with students to express their understanding of numbers, quantity and place value
  - Teachers will have students access an on-line task twice a month
  - Staff design tasks using PLC documentation at least once every three weeks.
  - Teachers will use Making Thinking Visible Strategies at least once a PLC Cycle

Well-Being for Learning Goal: Students will build resiliency and demonstrate improved confidence in managing stressful situations at school throughout the year.

- Instructional Actions:
  - Staff Will:
    - Engage in professional learning on resilience and perseverance and key factors that impact resilience, including supportive relationships, skills building, and stressor reduction
    - Use an anchor text to plan regular consistent opportunities for ways students can integrate the 7 Sacred Teaching principles in their interpersonal experiences and interactions and share using the Making Thinking Visible strategies.
  - With students, staff will:
    - Introduce the key factors of resilience and character and use reflection tools to explore personalised ways to develop these factors in students' social and school environment.
    - Provide opportunities for students to develop a common understanding of the 7 Sacred Teaching principles and the use of various regulation strategies to build character and understanding of one's belonging and confidence.
- Resources:
  - Student-friendly 7 Sacred Teachings resources to guide instruction.
  - Professional learning resources specific to teacher instruction focusing on resiliency, character, belonging, and confidence.
  - CBE Student Survey
  - OurSCHOOL Survey

- Outcomes:
  - Students have a common understanding of the 7 Sacred Principles and vocabulary.
  - Teachers provide students the opportunity to use Making Thinking Visible Strategies to build character that enhances resilience, belonging and confidence.
  - Staff and students model, build and foster resiliency through the 7 Sacred Teachings Principles.

**Question:** What does PLCs mean?

**Answer:** PLCs mean Professional Learning Community and teachers are grouped by grade team and language

**Question:** Is this how a new curriculum is usually introduced?

**Answer:** New curriculum was introduced by the current government without a lot of time to prepare. However, Many staff (17/22) went to CBE sessions on the new curriculum. Staff continues to receive PD on new curriculum from administration and whole CBE PD on Friday afternoons

**Question:** What has changed?

**Answer:** Lots. Big changes in math with place value, indigenous education has been put throughout and changes in expectation of what students will know at the end of each grade. Parents are welcome to look at the new curriculum on the New Learn Alberta

Website: <https://curriculum.learnalberta.ca/curriculum/en>

**Question:** What motivated the change to a new curriculum?

**Answer:** The curriculum (Program of Studies) needed to be updated. The PC government before the NDP government started the process of developing a new curriculum. When the UCP came to power, they decided not to use the draft curriculum and instead developed their own. This issue is very political.

**Question:** Have the staff been gifted the Seven Sacred Teachings?

**Answer:** The Indigenous Learning team advised administration that they could use the resources online as long as they were not saying the stories were their own.

**Question:** What is gifting?

**Answer:** Gifting is when a story is shared and then teachers can then use the story in their teaching

## Events

- Jacket Racket – collecting until Oct. 31st, 2022
- Alien Inline Skating (K-4) was a huge success
- Hallowe'en dance on afternoon of October 31st (students only)
  - Students are invited to wear costumes
  - Possibility of costume parade in the morning and other festivities still in the planning stages.
  - Classrooms activities connected to curriculum throughout the day
- Speed Skating was a great experience (a few blisters from the skates, and a hiccup with bussing, but everyone's flexibility and positive outlook made for a successful experience
- All events are up on the website homepage. This will be kept up to date throughout the year for parent and staff reference.
- Cheque writing campaign starting soon.
  - Letters expected to go home next week.

- Winter concert will be two sessions

**Question:**How was cheque writing campaign used last year?

**Answer:** There is a letter coming out soon. However, \$19000 was raised and most of the money has been spent. The school is still waiting for a water fountain with bottle filler to be installed. This year for the campaign, the money requested is for the whole school and can not be requested to go to a specific program.

**Question:** Parents are very curious to know how many students are in each grade. How many students per grade?

**Answer:** No classes at 30 and some as low as 21. Highest is 28. Mr. Turner will share more details at the next meeting.

## **School Report – Ms. Ly**

### **Community Kindergarten**

- Observed changes in fall bring in Marion’s Meadow. Worked with grade 4 buddies to create an artwork using leaf stencils and chalk.

### **Mandarin Bilingual Kindergarten**

- Learning about seasonal changes
- Students read the book “Leaf Man” and have made their own animals or people out of leaves

### **Community Grade 1 and Mandarin Bilingual Grade 1**

- Explored Marion’s Meadow to make colours patterns and designs from texture rubbings
- Created artwork of birch trees and leaf artwork
- Students are learning about seasonal changes and how to create colours. Students used grapes to dye flowers purple

### **Community Grade 2/3**

- Students are writing about spooky stories, halloween haiku poetry, researching spiders and making floating magnetic ghosts.

### **Mandarin Bilingual Grade 2**

- Learning about the medicine wheel, monthly theme of respect, creating artwork with indigenous patterns and designs
- Students enjoyed inline skating, especially learning how to make a snake, cross and then the disco party on the last lesson

### **Community & Mandarin Bilingual Grade 3 and 4**

- Students enjoyed inline skating and the presentation on fossils. They are focusing on the theme “All belong” and how it ties to truth and reconciliation

### **Community Grade 5**

- Students enjoyed helping their grade one buddies learn to log on to computers and their trips to the Olympic Oval to learn how to speed skate

### **Community Grade 6**

- Students are learning to connect to the land with a walking trip to Bowmont and are studying the science unit on Trees and Forests. Students also enjoyed speed skating even though there were some blisters.

### **Music**

- Grade 3s and 4s are learning to play the drum in class
- School assembly tomorrow, Thursday October 20th.
- Students will sing an indigenous song at the assembly and others will share their learnings about indigenous culture

## **Committee Reports**

### **Naturalisation - OPEN**

- Is anyone interested?
- Do you like spending time outside? Nothing has been done in two years but could be up to anyone who is willing to help.
- The space is well used and classrooms use it a lot

### **Casino – Vanesse Loke**

- Casino November 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. Sign up please
  - [Sign up here! https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4baaaf2da5f4ce9-marion](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4baaaf2da5f4ce9-marion)
- **Need 6 more volunteers for Nov 9 both day and night shifts by next week or we forfeit and pay a penalty** and will not be able to host another one in the future. Email Vanesse Loke at [vyloke@gmail.com](mailto:vyloke@gmail.com) or [mcschoolcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:mcschoolcouncil@gmail.com)
- If you haven't submitted the volunteer application yet, please fill one out.
- Vanesse will be connecting this weekend with more details to those who've signed up, assuming we are still a go.

### **Fundraising – Rachel Gulam**

- About \$8000 is raised each year from fundraising efforts to pay for different things - items not covered by casinos, dance, meals for teachers, etc.
- Casino is the largest and brings in the most money to the school
- Cheque writing campaign through EducationMatters. Letter will be sent by the school.

### **Special Lunches – Janie Lamb**

- Please use Healthy Hunger to order meals for your child
- Volunteers needed for November and December to distribute meals purchased through Healthy Hunger
- November Mary Brown Chicken
- December Papa Johns

### **Special Events Coordinator: Co-Chairs – Kim Harding, Angela Lee, Melissa Lucas, Tatiana Dunfield**

- More help is welcome - participate, join or do one little thing would be very helpful
- Hallowe'en Dance afternoon of Oct 31<sup>st</sup>
  - Teachers will be there with their classes
  - Parents can help with decorating the gym for the dance
- Book Fair in March

### **Play Area Project – Loreley Zavattiero & Katherine Peterson**

- No update

### **Key Communicator – Vanesse Loke**

- Will share after attending meeting on October 20th

### **Volunteer Coordinator – Melissa Lucas**

- If you want to volunteer
  - If you want to volunteer with students, you need a criminal record check. Free for volunteers but first you need to bring your ID to the office and the office sends a letter to

start the process while you fill out a form online with your information and copies of your identification. The process takes two to six weeks

- Casino needs more volunteers and no criminal record check is needed. Largest fundraiser and most parent volunteers needed
- It would be great to have more parents sign up
- A flyer will be sent home to say for parents to come to the office
- At November conferences, parents can come to the office when they visit the teachers and show their id to office staff

#### **Parent Education Coordinator – Laura Schorn**

- Here are some places that offer free online education for parents
  - <https://community.hmhc.ca/sessions/>
  - <https://www.foothillsacademy.org/community/comm-education>
  - <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/amh/page2434.aspx#:~:text=The%20Parent%20In%20formation%20Series%20is,making%20changes%20in%20their%20lives.>
- Parent Education Grant of \$500 per school
  - Other schools have joined together to make a speakers series that was successful

#### **New Business:**

- None

#### **Adjournment: Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:10pm**

Moved: Rachel

Second: Tatiana

Voted and Carried

#### **Committees for reference:**

Special Events Coordinator: Co-chairs – Kim Harding (Lead), Melissa Lucas

Volunteer Coordinator: Melissa Lucas

Play area project committee: Loreley Zavattiero, Katherine Peterson

Parent Education Coordinator: Laura Schorn

Fundraising Chair: Rachel Gulam

Casino Coordinator: Vanesse Loke

**Naturalization Coordinator: OPEN**

Book fair: Angela Lee, Kim Harding

Special Lunches: Janie Lamb

Key Communicator/CAPSC coordinator: Vanesse Loke

**Marion Carson Parent Association  
General Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Tatiana D, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:10 pm. Enough members were present to constitute a quorum.

Present: Dustin Turner, Huong Ly, Tatiana D., Katherine P., Laura C., Laura S., Nadine P., Rachel G., Kim H., Vanesse L., Daisy Z., Melissa L., Olean S., Selma K., Tosanwumi A., Moinuddin B., Myra C., Amanda A-Y., and Andrew C.

**Agenda: Motion to approve the October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 agenda as presented**

Moved: Melissa  
Second: Katherine  
Voted and Carried

**Minutes: Motion to approve the September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 annual meeting minutes as presented**

Moved: Melissa  
Second: Rachel  
Voted and Carried

**Fundraising Update**

- Fundraisers will be listed on website (Marion Carson Home Page -> Get Involved -> Fundraisers & Donations  
<https://school.cbe.ab.ca/school/marioncarson/get-involved/fundraisers-donations/pages/default.aspx>
- Bottle Drive
  - Big Thank you to all the volunteers that came to help
  - Struggled to find volunteers, 50% were filled by parents on council
  - Hoping to run a few more
  - Beddington Heights Bottle Depot has been fantastic and if you need a place to drop your bottles please use them
  - Raised \$1064.08 - whatever we raise the bottle depot adds 10% to the total!
- Mabels Labels: [https://mabelslabels.ca/en\\_CA/fundraising/support/](https://mabelslabels.ca/en_CA/fundraising/support/)
  - 15% off until Oct. 24th
  - Runs all year long
- Papa John Pizza Night
  - 15% off and 15% goes back to the school
  - Need to order online
  - First one on Thursday October 27th
    - Please share code with family, friends and neighbours
  - Next pizza nights are on Nov 24, Dec 22, Jan 25 and Feb 16 then we will see how it goes
- Purdy's Chocolates for Christmas!
  - Largest fundraiser, last year it made about \$2500



- A link with the Purdy's Catalogue will be sent out, your family and friends can order as well.
  - Purdy's is trying to go paperless so all orders will be online. You just need to sign up and join campaign
  - More info will come later but ordering will be from November 1st to 19th with pick up around December 5th from a location a couple of blocks from the school
  - We get about 5-20% of what is raise and if we raise more than \$1000, they give us a 25% profit check
  - Our goal to raise over \$4000
  - More volunteers needed
- Book Fair booked for March 9th and 10th
  - Anyone want to find their own fundraising idea and lead? We need more parental involvement
    - email [mcschoolccouncil@gmail.com](mailto:mcschoolccouncil@gmail.com)

### Treasures' Report

- No updates to report since May AGM

### Requests

- AV System (sound system and projector for Gymnasium) have received 3 quotes in yesterday and today
  - \$43,517.25 (includes 8000 infrustrature of wiring in the walls
  - \$31,88.79 to \$42,154.82
  - \$32,389.99 to \$42,4343
    - Difference is in quality, projection and size of screen
    - Laser projection is recommended but could do bulb
    - Sound system - how many microphones, headsets and portability, wifit, bluetooth
- Final quote just came in before meeting and admin will review more carefully and make a recommendation to council
- Quote was procured from CBE technical department and are experts in the field and attended the meetings with administration
  - Quotes from reliable companies that already have systems in other CBE schools
  - Current system could potential fixed but for \$5000 but only for one year
  - New System would come with warranty of 5 years

**Question:** How would this enhance learning for the students? This would be half of our fundraising for the next two years.

### Answer:

- When we come together, there is a struggle to hear in the space
- Can't play music in the gym for the students because sound system is not reliable
- Acknowledgment of land projected on the cinder block but students couldn't see the pictures that were being shown
- Assemblies around every 6 weeks plus other assemblies (welcome, Remembrance, concerts, etc)
- Greatest technology need they have in the school
- Smart Boards are now part of evergreening project but if they break before that, then school has one in the learning commons
  - Evergreen - technology gets decommissioned but then school gets funds to purchase new, but we are over ratio

- System is upgradeable
- Quote is only valid for 15 days as many parts come from the states
- Timeline for system installation - depends on company
- About half the quote is for sound and the other half for visual - could be installed in stages

**Questions:** Can casino funds be used for a built in sound system?

**Answer:** Need to speak to AGLC and need to make sure we have a casino

- Council discussed the need to forecast of where funds go

**Council discussed and will make a decision next meeting and administration will get a re-quote before the next meeting. The Council will vote at the next meeting in November.**

**Question:** Are room parents allowed this year?

**Answer:** Historically Melissa (volunteer coordinator) coordinated room parents. Room parents organised volunteers for teachers. Council no longer has access to the information if parents have police security clearance. So teachers are coordinating themselves. Need to be careful because of FOIP because school cannot share parent's information with other parents. Teachers can send an email to say email this parent if you want to volunteer. Parents need to email teachers to say they give permission to share their email.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:03pm

Moved: Katherine

Second: Melissa

Agenda Addendum:

### **A SPECIAL Message from School Council on Casino NOVEMBER 9 and 10**

Our casino is quickly approaching, and we need many volunteers for November 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>!

**PLEASE USE THE SIGN-UP GENIUS LINK BELOW AND SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HERE ARE DETAILS:**

Choose a day: Wednesday Nov 9 or Thursday Nov 10 or both

Choose a shift: 11:00am - 7pm, 630pm - 3:30am, 11:00pm - 3:30am or any combination of (multiple shifts are welcome, as long as in the same position)

Contact Information: Email and phone number to text

[Sign-up Genius. CLICK HERE.](#)

**Once you respond/sign up, you will be sent a Volunteer Application Form to complete.**

Each person will then be assigned a role (list of potential responsibilities will be sent out at a later date). Training will be provided, so don't worry if you've never done it before!