



**Memorial Composite High School
School Council Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2024
Meeting at MCHS**

Attending: Ms. Carolyn Jensen (Principal), Mr. Paul McCann (Board Trustee), Ms. Debbie Miller (Recording Secretary), Ms. Meghan Cox (Teacher Representative), Lisa Kimmerly (Presenter), Laurie Haak (Chairperson), Sarah Corker, Jen Richens

1. Call to Order

- a. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Laurie Haak.

2. Approval of Agenda

- a. The agenda was approved by Sarah Corker.

3. Approval of Minutes

- a. The January 22/24 minutes were approved by Jen Richens.

4. Correspondence - None

5. Old Business - None

6. Presentation - Drug Addiction & Awareness by Lisa Kimmerly of Alberta Health Services

- a. Ms. Kimmerly is a Substance Use Therapist.
- b. The three most common illegal substances used by teens are alcohol, marijuana, and vaping/cigarettes.
- c. There are two types of drinking - social and binge.
- d. Alcohol is a gateway drug as it lowers inhibitions.
- e. Marijuana now has a higher percentage of THC than it did in the seventies. The percentage of THC in the flower is between 13-35% and the percentage in a dab pen is between 70-90%. THC affects brain development especially in individuals less than 16 years of age. Most significantly there are deficits in verbal learning and memory.
- f. Vaping has new information coming out often due to lack of regulations. There are lots of lung issues related to vaping.
- g. The names and appearances of other illegal drugs were reviewed.
- h. Ways to talk with your kids about drugs was discussed.

7. New Business

- a. **COSC Report** - Good collaboration.
- b. **ASCA Resolutions and Conference** - This is to take place on April 26 & 27. As Laurie Haak is unable to attend, a message will be sent to other Council members to ask if they want to register for the conference.
- c. **Staff Appreciation** - School Council typically plans a staff appreciation day where parents bring in treats for the staff. The date of May 8/24 was selected. Carolyn will

- send out a notification to the School Council parents to see who is interested in participating.
- d. **PSD Education Planning Day** - This will take place on April 11/24. A variety of stakeholders are invited to attend to discuss specific topics. Sarah Corker has agreed to attend.
 - e. **Parent Volunteers** - The Food Program at MCHS is looking for parent volunteers to assist with restocking the food stations throughout the school.
 - f. **Future Agenda Items**
 - a. April - ASCA Resolutions
 - b. May - Invite the incoming Grade 9 parents

8. Reports

a. Staff – Ms. Cox

- a. Student Services is going to each of the classrooms for current grade 10 and 11s to discuss course selections. Students will be bringing home a course selection sheet to look at the courses available. After Spring break, we will be opening up the course selection to be able to do it at home or at school through PowerSchool. There is a tutorial video to help with this as well.
- b. Mental Health and Wellness Course offering in Torch time - 1 credit - supporting PSD Mental Health in Schools. Teacher Facilitators based out of division office to deliver the course.
- c. Indigenous Post Secondary Event - March 20 in the Common Area 5:00 - 7:30
- d. Handball is up and running. In addition to the senior mens team, we have a girls team and junior boys team that are new this year.
- e. Memfest 2024 is coming! Our little anime convention is coming back to Memorial on Saturday, May 4th, 2024, from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. It is for Parkland, Evergreen and surrounding schools only. It is not meant to be open to the general public, but students, staff and families are allowed to come who are connected to a school in the area. There will be games, prizes, contests, panels, cosplay and anime! We will have vendors, all of whom are former or current students and it is entirely run by current students, staff and past students who are coming back to help out their alma mater! The entry fee is \$5.00 and tournaments are usually \$1.00 as well as the ramen eating contest (which is a cheap, \$1.00 lunch!). It was a great success last year and we are looking forward to doing it again this year!
- f. The Japan Trip at Spring Break is going to go from March 21 to March 29. There are 36 students between Memorial and Spruce Grove Comp. Memorial has 21 students and 3 chaperones and Spruce Comp is bringing 15 students and 3 chaperones. Erika Oshiki, James Coghill, and Ian McGann are going as chaperones from our school. From Spruce Comp, Corbin Musselman, the Japanese teacher, Cheryl Otto, the principal and Pam Arnason are going as chaperones. We will be visiting Tokyo, Kamakura, Hakone, Kyoto, Nara, Osaka, and various sites inbetween.

- g. MCHS German is going to Germany over spring break. Mr Goulet has also created a new Memorial German instagram page. It is still currently in development, but it can be found here: <https://www.instagram.com/memorialgerman/>. It can also be accessed on Instagram @memorialgerman
- h. The Marketing class travelled to Safeway on Thursday, March 7 to learn how grocery stores use visual merchandising to sell products. During the visit, the students got a tour of the store to learn why grocery stores are laid out like they are, how displays are used to increase sales, etc. Thank you to Dave McBride, the Manager of Safeway, for making this happen for our students.
- i. The Memorial Business Competition Club will attend the SAIT Case Clash that will happen on March 23-24 at the SAIT campus in Calgary. Prizes for the competition are: 1st place - \$700, 2nd place - \$500, 3rd place - \$300. Members of the Business Competition Club include Barrett Ellert, Hunter Hollands, Jaden Van Dasselaar, Jeanne Kubota, Sierra Androschuk, Hailey Jantzen, Maria Verdugo, Quinlan Presley, and Elijah Wilfert. Any students interested in joining the club can speak to Mr. Stuckey in room 1068 for more information. Thank you to our generous sponsors who support the Business Competition Club:
 1. Kevin Mullane - Mullane Wealth Management (National Bank Financial)
 2. Hawkings Tinney LLP
 3. Birdsell Grant LLP
- j. Outdoor Ed went rock climbing last week.
- k. The badminton team has their first home game this Thursday after school!
- l. Memorial Drama students are working on their One Act PLays for this year's festival.
- m. The choir just performed at Choral Celebration this morning, to a room full of adoring youngsters. They sang El Grillo (an Italian madrigal) and You Will be Found (from the musical, Dear Evan Hansen). Then 15 of our MCHS singers joined with Meridian Heights and Greystone to perform in the Parkland Singers tour choir. That group is headed to Disneyland on Thursday.
- n. The grand total raised for the Alberta Cancer Foundation from the bike-a-thon was \$50,434!

b. Principal Report – Ms. Jensen

- a. **International Travel** - We have 4 different trips happening during spring break.
- b. **Belonging Assembly April 9/24** - Married couple Dr. James Makokis and Anthony Johnson will be the guest speakers; they completed in and won The Amazing Race Canada in 2019.
- c. **Artificial Intelligence** - A teacher committee was created to discuss the usage of AI in high school. A training session will be held on the next PD.

- d. **2024-2025 Planning** - We are working on projections. Course selection can happen at home this year so parents can be involved. The process of hiring new staff has started.
- e. **Announcement** - Carolyn Jensen will be retiring at the end of this year. The position has been posted.
- f. **Key Dates**
 - March
 - 04-07 - Grad Photo Retakes
 - 06 - Student Teacher Lunch
 - 06- LAWS Bonnie Doon Bowling
 - 07- Entrepreneurship Class Field Trip to Stony Plain Safeway
 - 08- OEM Remanufacturing & Finning Canada International Women's Day Mentor Workshop
 - 10- April 8 - Ramadan
 - 11 - Men's Handbal @ MCHS
 - 12 - MacEwan University Field Trip Career Exploration/ Art 30
 - 13 - Parent Teacher Interviews - 5:00-7:00
 - 11-15 Counselor Visits to Gr. 10 & 11s re: 24-25 Course Selection
 - 14 - Outdoor Ed 10 Vertically Inclined Rock Gym Field Trip
 - 14 - Targeted Parent Phone Calls - 1 hr between 4:00-6:00
 - 15 - Rotary Bikeathon
 - 18 - Choir Field Trip - 9:00 - West Meadows Baptist Church
 - 18 - School Council - 7:00
 - 18 - Community QSA Planning 4:30-6:30
 - 18-21 - Feeder schools do Grade 10 Course Selections
 - 19 - Carolyn Jensen Division Office Student Advisory Committee Meeting Field Trip
 - 20- Joy Curry LAWS Servus Place Swimming
 - 20 - Indigenous Post Secondary Info Night 4:30-7:30
 - 21- Wabamun Lake Fishing Field Trip Carson McKenzie
 - 21 - Badminton @ MCHS
 - 21 - Memorial Mania - Dodgeball @ lunch
 - 21-25 - Choir Trip to Disneyland
 - 21-29 - School Trip to Japan
 - 22- 24 Gr. 10-12 Sait Calgary Field Trip
 - 22 - PD Day - No Classes
 - 23-04 - School Trip to Germany
 - 23-02 - School Trip to Portugal and Spain
 - 25 - 01 - Spring Break
 - 29 - Good Friday
 - April
 - 01 - Easter Monday - No School
 - 02 - Sign up for Grad Performance in the Music room
 - 09 - Belonging Assembly - Blk 2 - Guest speakers Dr. James Makokis & Anthony Johnson
 - 10 - Course drop deadline
 - 13-16 - ULead Conference - Admin away
 - 18 - Grad Assembly Blk 3 large gym
 - 19 - Grad Ceremony Auditions - sign up deadline
 - 19 - Anime Movie Night 3:45 - 9:15 pm
 - 22 - School Council - 7:00 pm

- 23 & 24 - MCHS to host PSD Visual Arts Celebration
- 24 - Administrative Professionals Day
- 25 - Rotary Pancake Breakfast
- 26 - Valedictorian - Deadline for applications

c. School Trustee - Mr. McCann

- a. There is a planning meeting tomorrow.
- b. PSD Education Planning Day is April 11.
- c. On Feb 5, the Provincial government made an announcement related to the LGBTQ+ community. Schools will continue with business as usual until there is a change in legislation.
- d. The Work Place Safety Report was received from the OH&S Committee.
- e. The Financial statement was received and we are on track to meet the budget.
- f. Next year's school calendar has been posted.
- g. The new high school for Spruce Grove has been put on hold.

9. Table Go Round - Nothing at this time.

10. Adjournment

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 pm.



School Council Chair



Principal

Next Meeting Dates – Monday at 7:00 – MCHS Board Room

- April 22, 2024
- May 27, 2024