

J.J.N. School Council Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2021 6:30 p.m.
Email: jjnearingparentcouncil@gmail.com

Attendance:

Mark Kay, Chair
Kelly Skuba, Secretary
Darren Skalski , Vice Principal
Cheri Steiner, F&F Co-Chair
Carrie Silzer, F&F Co-Chair
Christine MacDonald, F&F Treasurer
Ashley Dascavich, Compassionate Friends
Grace Kully, Partners in Prayer
Beinta Hansen-Wong

1. Call to Order 6:33pm
2. Welcome, Acknowledgement, Prayer, Introductions
3. Adoption of Agenda
 - **MOTION** to approve as presented.
 - First: Grace Kully, Second: Christine MacDonald
 - All in favor, MOTION CARRIED.
4. Review and adoption of Previous Minutes (Mar 17, 2021)
 - **MOTION** to approve as presented.
 - First: Grace Kully, Second: Christine MacDonald
 - All in favor, MOTION CARRIED.
5. Administration Report
 - See attached report
6. Trustee's Report
 - Unable to attend, see attached Trustee report
7. Treasurer's Report
 - As per last meeting's vote, school council bank account has been closed, funds transferred to FFJN account. Treasurer position has been removed.
8. Chairperson Report:
 - ASCA AGM is on April 25. Mark can provide more information to you if you'd like to

attend. So far no one has requested to attend but if they do, this is volunteer work and council does not feel you should have to pay out of pocket to attend.

- **MOTION:** FFJJN will cover the fee for anyone who wishes to attend the ASCA AGM.
- First: Grace Kully Second: Christine MacDonald
- All in favour, MOTION CARRIED.

9. Friends & Family President report

- Nothing new to report.
- Bank balance is \$10,492.28, includes \$5000.00 in reserve for future playground repairs leaving 5492 available to spend.
- 4th fundraiser from last year's survey from Calahoo Meats
 - o Discussion on whether or not we want to run it. Last time was spring 2018. Decided it will likely go ahead as a no-pressure fundraiser.

10. Old Business

- Teachers' Wish List from last meeting
 - updated, added incubator and playground bin replenishment

11. Committee Reports

- Events - Marissa
 - Teacher's appreciation plans are on-going.
- Hot Lunch - Cathy or Leslie
 - Unlikely to have any hot lunches at all this year
- Yearbook – Gage
 - Work is progressing
- Compassionate Friends -Ashley
 - Nothing to report
- Partners In Prayer - Grace
 - Have involved all classes now
 - Group still meets via Zoom
 - Grace's husband leads Partners in Prayer @ VJM, was contacted by Archbishop as they have just discovered that these committees exist and are interested to learn more information

12. New Business

- Events Committee - Discussion & Vote to move to Friends at the end of the school year.
 - **MOTION** to move Events from School Council to Families and Friends of JJ Nearing at the end of the school year.
 - First: Marissa McCarty. Second, Ashley Dascavich.
 - All in favour, none opposed. MOTION CARRIED.
- Classroom Outside Play Bins
 - **MOTION** for F&F to spend up to \$1300 to replenish the playground bins.

- First: Grace Kully, Second: Carrie Silzer
 - All in favour, MOTION CARRIED.
- 2021-2022 Council Position Votes:
- Chairperson: Mark Kay nominated, accepted
- ViceChair: no nomination received
- Secretary: Beinta Hansen Wong nominated, accepted
- Compassionate Friends: Ashley Dascavich nominated, accepted
- Partners in Prayer: Grace Kully nominated, accepted
- Yearbook: Gage Atkinson nominated, accepted
- Special Events: Marissa McCarty nominated, accepted

No voting necessary, all positions awarded by acclamation.

13. Next meeting is May 19, 2021, 6:30pm

14. Adjournment 7:19pm

Note: Families & Friends meeting to follow immediately after adjournment.

**ALBERTA EDUCATION ASSURANCE SURVEY
(GRADE 4 PARENTS, GR. 4 STUDENTS, TEACHERS)**

Alberta Education mailed out assurance survey packages (formerly known as the Accountability Pillar Survey) to parents of grade 4 students. Each package includes a letter to parents from the Education Minister, a random access code (RAC) for accessing the survey online, and instructions for accessing the survey in other languages. The deadline for completing this survey has been extended to April 28, 2021. Thank you in advance for completing this survey!

MOTIVATIONAL MAGIC SCHOOL PRESENTATION - MAY 12, 2021

Steve Harmer of Motivational Magic will be holding three - 50 minute outside presentations for our JJN students. The presentation is "Brilliant and Resilient", which focuses on the work of Dr. Ken Ginsburg on the 7 C's of Resilience: competence, confidence, connection, character, contribution, coping and control.

INLINE SKATING

As part of our physical education enhancement program, JJN students will be participating in inline skating lessons from May 25 - April 4. All sessions will be held outside, and sanitizing protocols will be in place.

SUPPORTING STUDENT LITERACY

J. J. Nearing applied for and has been chosen to participate in two great reading support initiatives. The first being phase one (April 2021- June 2021) of the provincial government literacy initiative and the second being a University of Alberta research study with grade 2 and 5 students on reading fluency. We are participating early in both initiatives in order to continue and enhance the proactive interventions we have been doing this year to support student literacy.

JJN EVENTS FOR APRIL/MAY

April 22 - Friday Schedule

April 23 - No school

May 12 Motivational Magic Presentation for K - 6 students (3 outside shows)

May 25 - June 4 Inline skating (outside event)

Item	Description	Cost
2021/22		
Literacy home readers		
<p>NEW</p> <p>A new incubator for egg hatching, The Brinsea Products Maxi II Advance Automatic 14 Egg Incubator</p>		<p>There are 2 ordering options:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Amazon is the Canadian retailer for Brinsea Products. The Incubator is currently CAD \$427.11 (this has been fluctuating as of late) 2) Direct from Brinsea (out of Texas) The incubator is currently on sale for USD \$269.99 plus USD \$45 to ship to Canada. (approx total: CAD \$420)
<p>Incubator</p> <p>Why:</p> <p>Every spring Kindergarten explores New Life. We discuss new life as a gift to us from God, and we celebrate the arrival of spring with new beginnings. One of the most tactile ways to accomplish this in Kindergarten is through hatching our chick eggs each year. We order eggs through local hatcheries and then we incubate them at school and if we are lucky enough to witness it, we get to watch the hatchings come out of their shells. Once they complete the incubation process, we move the chicks into a temporary home in the classroom where we learn how to care for God's living creatures before we donate our chicks to a local farm.</p> <p>With the technology available to us, we are able to run a live stream of our eggs and chicks so that we can watch the eggs from home, allowing more students access to witnessing the hatchings. We share our live stream with the whole school so everyone can take a peek at our eggs. Once our chicks are ready, we are able to share them within the school as well. Our current incubator is getting very old. It is less effective than the newer versions. There is only a viewing window into the incubator through the plexiglass at the top and this is getting scratched and harder to see through. It is also getting more difficult to keep this incubator at the appropriate temperature for the eggs.</p>		

The Brinsea incubator has a digital temperature control, and its unique dome shape offers a massive viewing area from all angles. It also has an automatic egg turner, which would allow us to start our eggs earlier at school and get a deeper understanding of the life cycle of the chicks, incubating them for the entire 21 days, instead of the final days that we do now. A newer incubator would also allow us to expand our flock to incubating duck eggs, goose eggs, or even quails.

Other:

2020/21

AED

Actual Cost 1 736.70
Pedi pads 148.97

Another set of the “We Thinkers” Social/Emotional learning kit.

In being taught these lessons, all students can gain an understanding of what it means to be a considerate member of the classroom community which in turn supports their focus and learning in the classroom. Another set makes it easier for teachers to share and do these lessons early on in the year.

\$100 - from Scholastic

Document Cameras

IPEVO DO-CAM USB Document Camera CAD\$189.00
20 cameras

<https://international.ipevo.com.tw/ca/products.html>

\$200 each
Actual cost: 1088.00

Library

Details below



\$5500
Actual cost: 1 499.25

Electrostatic Sanitizing Machine

[Victory Innovations Professional Cordless Electrostatic Handheld Sprayer VP200ESK](#)

Use to sanitize sports equipment to enable all classes to share sport equipment safely.

\$1500.00
Actual cost: 1 132.95

Echo the Dolphin Mascot Suit		\$3000
Music -Class set of spoons -Class set of ball (to teach beats)	 SPONGE BALL 3" 460 Our Price: \$3.50  Handcrafted Maple Wood Instrumental Spoon \$15.00	Set of 35 = \$525.00 Website: Les Bûcherons Actual cost \$584.33 Set of 60 = \$210 (for all gr 3s) Website = Sportsfactor Actual cost \$220.50
Classroom - outside play bins		Division 1 (K-3) Skipping Ropes \$135 Long Ropes \$45 Soccer Balls \$135 Footballs \$100 Playground Ball \$63 Sand Toys \$70 Division 2 (4-6) Skipping Ropes \$120 Long Ropes \$156 Soccer Balls \$120 Footballs \$100 Playground Ball \$56 Saucer Cone Set \$52.50 TOTAL \$1,152.50
Library explanation: \$5000.00 for library books (replace old damaged books, purchase new books and purchase additional copies of popular books). Our funds for the library come from our 2 book fairs. In previous years we received a combination of 60% in scholastic credit and 25% cashback based on our sales. Plus an additional 10-20% in free books based on our sales. This gave us a library budget of \$6000.00 cash for the year, \$1800.00 in free books and \$500.00 in scholastic credit. This year they are only offering 20% scholastic credit regardless of sales, this is why we are requesting money from our Parent Council. \$500.00 to promote the fall book fair at the end of October. With the online book fair they have cancelled the promotion allowance, 50/50 draw, there are no flyers to send home, no theme and no book talk in a box. With these funds I would purchase a copy of several popular books that will be for sale in the fair so I can do book talks and read		

them to the students to get them excited for the book fair. I would also purchase prizes for the students so we can have a few contests to increase book fair excitement. And instead of the 50/50 draw I would use this promotion money to create a couple of book packages for prizes during the book fair for both students and teachers.



Joan Crockett/Trustee/St Albert Ward

JJN - April School Council Report

New Curriculum Draft (Summary from Superintendent's letter to parents)

- After a Special Board Meeting, GSACRD has made the decision not to pilot the new K-6 Draft Curriculum. After consultation with our school leaders, teachers, and considering input from families, First Nations and Métis partners, and other stakeholders the Division is committed to facilitating what is hopefully a return to a greater sense of normalcy for students and staff in the fall. We realize that many challenges will be faced in the next year or so as we rebound from the pandemic. As our superintendent, Dr Clint Moroziuk stated, "We will continue to work as partners with the Ministry in providing thorough formative feedback over the course of the 2021-2022 school year".

2021 Edwin Parr Division Nominee – Justine Kuntscher

- The Board of Trustees endorsed the nomination of Justine Kuntscher from Bertha Kennedy for first year teacher excellence.

2022-2025 Capital Plan

- School Boards are required to approve and submit their three-year capital plan to Alberta Education by April 1 deadline each year. Administration contacted Group 2 and based on the review of school facilities and building condition; the top three capital priorities are:

1. Modernization or Replacement of Legal School (K-9)
2. Replacement of École Father Jan (K-9)
3. Modernization of Bertha Kennedy (K-6)

New schools are chosen for safety and health, enrollment pressures, building condition, functionality, and programming.

Mental Health Capacity Grant Continues

- Letter written to Minister LaGrange from our Board, the Town of Legal and the Town of Morinville requesting the Mental Health Capacity Building Initiative to continue. We received notice that the Mental Health Capacity Building grant would be extended to March 2022.

Quarter 2 Division Budget Report for our Division shows all program areas are in a surplus position. Due to COVID-19 and a decrease in student enrolment, spending remains cautious. Many programs are underspent.

Covid – Update

- All schools in our jurisdiction have had COVID-19 cases.
- We have seen the most significant impact of COVID-19 cases in November.
(15 schools, 837 students had to isolate, 93 staff had to isolate)
- On November 27, 2020, Minister LaGrange mandated that all grades 7-12 students move to at home, online learning.
- Cases began to decrease in February.
- We have not had any cases as of March 22.

Trustee Initiative

- April 8 – 9 Board Self Evaluation
- April 12 – Meeting with Archbishop Smith and Bishop Terrio
- April 14 – First Nation Metis Inuit Meeting
- April 15 – 16 – Board – Strategic Planning
- April 19 – Grace Summit

ASBA Offers Campaign Material and Resources for Trustee Candidates - October 18, 2021

- Alberta School Boards Association supports and builds capacity of school boards (61) and trustees (450). ASBA regularly meets and/or communicates with the Ministry of Education which is then shared with trustees at monthly Zone meetings.
- ASBA has developed materials and complied forms, regulations, and resources to assist candidates in planning a successful campaign. Information includes canvassing door to door, phone canvassing, campaign literature, online events, lawn signs, and social media info. <http://www.asba.ab.ca/home/elections-2021>

Importance of Locally Elected Schoolboards

- **Recently two provinces have eliminated school boards: Nova Scotia (2018) and Manitoba (2021)**
- Trustees understand and reflect the unique culture, issues and needs of their communities.
- Trustees keep the community informed, ensuring that voters understand the educational context of government decisions and advocate for education resources.
- Trustees lobby government for initiatives thought be beneficial to schools
(Example, school staff vaccinations)
- Catholic trustees work with ACSTA and bishops, parish, school, and home to develop and nurture the students spiritual, academic, and physical needs. Example – meeting with bishops April 12, 2021.

Next Board Meeting April 26, 2021 at 3:30 pm

REQUEST FOR DECISION / MOTION – J.J. Nearing School Council

Subject

Events Committee

Recommendation(s)

- Move the Events Committee to fall under the domain of Families and Friends of JJ Nearing, effective at the end of the 2020-2021 school year.
- Update operating procedures to reflect the removal of this position.

Issue

Some events organized by this committee have the potential to generate a profit and School Councils are intended to break even, not earn money. In addition, the School Council no longer has a Treasurer or bank account (refer to Council vote on March 17, 2021) to provide funds – all monetary transactions flow through JJFN.

Background

Prepared by: Kelly Skuba

Moved by: Marissa McCarty

Seconded by: Ashley Dascavich

Vote/Decision

☒ Approved

☐ Rejected



Council Chair

Date: April 21, 2021