

LCHS School Community Council Minutes, January 22, 2025

LCHS Conference room

Attendees: Dwayne Marciniw, Doug Smith, Denise Block, Michelle Baldwin, Matt Veld, Stacey Veld, Melanie Sherbinin, Naurin Mangla, Diana Krys, Melanie Tetz, Rhonda Schwenk, Tenille Woods, Karen Thomsen.

1. Welcome - Michelle called the meeting at 7:02 pm
2. Additions to agenda - Michelle - none
 - a. Dwayne said he would add review of last meeting minutes to next agenda
 - b. Last meeting minutes were approved
3. Administrative reports - Dwayne - welcome back everyone
 - January in review
 - i. Really good first couple weeks this year
 1. Kids seem focused
 2. Low behaviours
 - ii. Last couple days, English is doing their in class assessments
 1. Grammar, reading, comprehension
 - a. Mental Health Capacity Building - Bailey and Wesley
 - i. Heard from coordinator, they said yes to present to SCC
 - ii. Presenting to teachers Jan 29th PD in the morning
 - b. The Pursuit School of Sport
 - i. Do not have 100% details on what the day will look like
 - ii. In the old Avery building
 - iii. Major centers already have this type of opportunity
 1. Regina, Saskatoon public, Calgary
 - iv. Students will be able to train during the day, and still value education
 - v. Sports training does not happen in the school
 - vi. Creating partnerships with the community sports
 1. Golf for example
 - vii. Training could happen in the morning or in the afternoon
 - viii. Still in school learning and need to attend
 - ix. Grades 6-12
 - x. Depending on registrations, for how it will look
 1. How many in a classroom
 2. Combined grades in classroom
 - xi. It will be challenging for teachers, but rewarding for families
 - xii. It should provide more evenings off from hussle and bustle of sports
 - xiii. Questions?
 1. Matt - Cost? Where are funds coming from? All for athletics?
 - a. Dwayne - having the opportunity to draw more students from other districts, which equals more funding
 - b. Matt - so like an investment?
 - c. Dwayne - education is like a business
 2. Matt - what is the budget? Specialized school engages less kids not more.
 3. Rhonda - Lpsd is already spending money on reno's at Avery, is there funds?

- a. Dwayne - do not know budget or cost. Numbers were probably crunched when this decision was made
 - 4. Karen - was there a survey put out for a vote?
- a. Dwayne - no, it was a leadership decision. Other districts have had success with these types of schools
 - 5. Matt - there is no money for extra curricular activities, how is there money for a new school?
- a. Dwayne - extra curricular is based on how to have success in academics, so the kids have something to look forward to. Not just classes
 - 6. Matt - new staff coming in for this school?
- a. Dwayne - it will be staffed on PTA reading, x amount of staff for x amount of students.
 - 7. Matt - this is a small school, less cost for bigger schools
- a. Dwayne - hoping for out of district students not just shifting staff and students around
- b. There was a time we had no outreach school, some schools just have an outreach class
- c. You have to try new things, reach out if you have questions or concerns
- d. Will take question about the budget forward from this meeting
 - 8. Melanie S. - has there been any positive feedback?
- a. Dwayne - yes, from staff and parents. People who train for weeks out of town. This will be a more flexible model
 - 9. Karen - will there be option classes?
- a. Dwayne - initially discussed that maybe some at the comp.
- xiv. Looks like 8:15 - 4pm school day, fridays no school.
- xv. Need 195 instructional days, 318 minutes / day minimal
- xvi. Rhonda - will there be a public forum with the director?
 - 1. Dwayne - good question, I will pass that on
- c. Interventions for success in semester 2
 - i. Data driven, looked at averages going in
 - 1. Final assessment 20%
 - 2. Last year at 15%
 - 3. All teachers had to turn in all final assessments for review
 - 4. Results were pretty good last year
 - 5. Province is at 30% for final assessment
 - 6. Kids who do not attend classes, normally do not do well
 - 7. Kids who do not complete assessments, normally do not do well
 - 8. Looking at how to increase attendance
 - 9. LPSD is 2-5% better attendance than other LPSD schools
 - 10. 8% poor attendance, which is up to 61 absences.
 - 11. Trying to engage families to improve attendance
 - ii. 2 teacher advisory groups to meet coming up to discuss attendance and assessments.
 - 1. Attendance- excused vs unexcused
 - 2. Attendance sheet post on edsby
 - 3. If missed 2 classes in a day, then cannot do extra curricular that evening
 - 4. Chronic absenteeism is 10%, 9 classes
 - 5. At 3, the teacher will talk with student
- a. 5, teacher calls parents (needs to be two way conversation) make up 1 hour at lunch intervention
- b. 10, admin calls parents, and 2 hour at lunch intervention
 - 6. Rhonda - all absences or just unexcused?
- a. Dwayne - we just deal with unexcused absences right now

7. Stacey - when ask student or family, what is the common reason?

- a. Dwayne - mental health comes up alot, that is why we want to include family
- b. Another reason is working - do not value education, want / need to make money. This is mostly grade 12s.
- c. Denise - transportation when they miss the morning bus
- d. Doug - school not a priority for some
- e. Stacey - tricky when we live in an oil town and anybody can get rich, not just the educated. Also when university students say they cannot find a job when they are done schooling
- f. Matt - who is hiring these kids? Can't have under 18 in the shop. Health and safety should be involved.
- g. Michelle - my son would rather work, does not want to go to school, would rather have the money.
- h. Dwayne - different centers have different opportunities for work. Some kids have to work, as they are on their own, most of these kids are motivated to show up and want to better themselves.

8. Stacey - can they go to Avery if they have chronic absenteeism?

- a. Dwayne - if we think it is a good fit
 - i. We set targets, goals, write contracts first
 - ii. Need 80% attendance to make it work
 - iii. Used to try to hang on to the students for all costs, but when they end their year with only 1 - 3 credits, then something has to change, perhaps Avery, working outside of the classrooms.

9. Matt - is there an opportunity for kids to make money in school? Sell services (sheds, haircuts, oil changes)?

- a. Dwayne - don't think that could be a thing. We do these jobs, 10% goes back into the program. It has been an alternate way to generate income for the school. Good outside of the box thinking though. Will look further into it.

10. Stacy - where is the cut off? 1 credit at the end of the school year?

- a. Dwayne - every student is different, some have medical issues, we try to support the kids and their families
- b. Try to hold on if close to passing even if attendace is low, but if they have low grades and low attendance, then start to look at some alternatives.
- c. That is why we need early and ongoing interventions
- d. Not unreasonable to have kids make up time missed at lunch time
- e. 12 missed, invite family in for a meeting, write contracts with kids

11. Matt - when there is two way communication at 5, do you see a drop off in missed days? Does it make a difference?

- a. Dwayne - sometimes yes, sometimes no. Some will lag at 4, they lag again at 9
- b. 7 - 8 instead of 10?

12. Stacey - 8 better than 10

13. Melanie S. - if 10 is chronic, then 5 is already half way there, should it be lower? Message home is not two way communication

14. Doug - tracking in difficult

- a. Edsby tracks all absences, excused or not
- b. Took 21 hours to sort out, not manageable to do regularly

15. Stacey - agree earlier is better, can you leave it to teacher discretion?

- a. Dwayne - 67 teachers, we need them to all by in
 - 16. Rhonda - some teachers might get overwhelmed with the numbers of families they have to meet with.
 - a. Dwayne - yes, communication home takes time
 - b. Average class is 25 students
 - c. Teachers may feel that sooner will be harder to attain, family meetings are usually an hour long.
- iii. Second item is Assignment completion
- 1. Cannot grade homework as it is not part of the curriculum
 - 2. Matt - why is it not part of the curriculum?
 - a. Do not know, shifted about 12 years ago
 - 3. Matt - no accountability or consequence is a problem now adays.
 - 4. Michelle - they think they are already passing, there is not mark for it, then why do it.
 - 5. Dwayne - students struggle with assessments not complete because of attendance
 - 6. Should we tighten up on times lines, so not all at the end of the year? How long do we give? What is reasonable? Some kids skip on purpose to extend time line. We give 3 days back in classroom, send to the library for longer, but doesn't always work well. Communication to familys as edsby is not for everyone.
 - 7. Matt - do they lose marks if late?
 - a. Dwayne, cannot lose marks
 - b. Matt - so no consequence?
 - 8. Michelle - can't give a 0?
 - a. Yes, but we need input on how long do we give? Reasonable to average truant students, how long to get interventions in place?
 - b. Group response - 1 - 2 weeks
 - 9. Tennille - how long does the teacher have to get the marks in?
 - a. Dwayne - 5 days is the expectation, some do it sooner, some later.
 - 10. Melanie S. - is it an expectation of your teaches to have assignment due dates on edsby?
 - a. Dwayne - yes, we can get early intervention if connected to edsby
 - b. Doug - expectation is to enter the due date on edsby when the assignment starts
 - 11. Michelle - 2 weeks from due date
 - 12. Karen - the longer it is left, the lower the grade
 - 13. Dwayne - 3 month seems too long, barely remember the material
 - 14. Michelle - consequences might get better outcomes
 - a. Longer times just drags it out
 - 15. Matt - connect with family two way if definitely better
 - 16. Tennille - if multiple class, then are all teachers expect to contact or just 1jteacher?
 - a. Dwayne - homeroom teacher is the one to call
- i. Communication builds relationships
- b. 2 weeks?
 - 17. Matt - your thoughts?
 - a. Looser, don't want to be too tight right away and start handing out a lot of zeros.
 - 18. Rhonda - these are not just truant kids

19. Dwayne - we have high achieving kids doing this

20. Stacey - what does post secondary school do?

a. Dwayne - they are reconstructing as well, starting relearn / reassess. Not rampant, but there.

21. Dwayne - we value discussion and feedback from parents.

4. Question and Answer - Michelle

. Melanie S - I-time coming back next semester?

.Dwayne - a grade 11 student was getting signatures to bring it back, met with her, reviewed some of the comments and discussed it with her.

a. Matt - what is I-time?

.Dwayne - kids would have time to stay in class to complete assignments. Students in good standing could leave. Has some issues so took a break from doing this. Need to evaluate what this would look like with grade 9s

b. Tennille - my student used this time well and misses it.

c. Michelle - when is skills competition this year?

.Dwayne - believe Feb 28th, will verify date

d. Matt - landbase going to be brought to grade 10 next year?

.Dwayne - we are looking into bringing it in. Doing some research, might be challenged to grade 11 in the future. Will see how it goes, give it a try.

i.Matt - my son gets alot of engagement with it

ii.Dwayne - will do lots of reflection after the first year

iii.Matt - moving forward, will getting physics, chem, math be difficult?

iv.Dwayne - it will be challenging to encomose all of these within the program. Some electives may also get dictated, not all optional.

5. Next meeting Date - February 27th, 7 pm

6. Michelle - Adjourned at 8:55 pm