

Mitford School Council Meeting

Date: Tuesday, February 4th, 2025, at 6:30pm

Location: Learning Commons & Zoom Meeting

1. Call to Order

6:30pm

2. Welcome and Introductions

Attendees: Elva, Jessica, Tinille, Katie, Dwight, Andrea, Katie, Fiona, Barb, Brooke, Michael, James, Jo Dana

3. Approval of Agenda

- Motion to approve: Andrea / Second: Taneil

4. Approval of Minutes from November 5th Meeting

- No minutes provided, tabled to next meeting

5. Reports

a. Mitford Administration

- See attached

Questions:

- **Michael:** Is there a hard quote for the playground cost? How can we cut costs? Can we use parent labor?
 - **Response:**
 - The estimated cost is approximately \$400,000.
 - While labor costs have been saved in the past through parent involvement, current liabilities make this less feasible. Further exploration of cost-saving measures is necessary.
 - The project will be parent-driven from concept and design to fund development.
- **Dwight:** How will the fitness room work? Will it be part of gym class? When will kids use it?
 - **Response:**

- Details are to be determined as the fitness room must be supervised by a teacher or adult.
 - Options being considered include forming a club or utilizing the space for sports teams and other groups.
- **Andrea:** How long does a playground project take from start to finish?
 - **Response:**
 - The project is expected to take at least three years.

b. Board of Trustees

- **Review of School Council Role:** Discussion on the role and responsibilities of the school council.
- **Planning for Next Year:**
 - **Growth of RVS:** Although growth is slowing, it continues at a steady pace.
 - **Progress:** The district is starting to get "caught up."
 - **Mitford School:** Next year at 80-87% capacity, with a target utilization of 85-90%.
 - **Future Growth:** Continued focus on growth and its impacts.
 - **New High School Site:** Efforts are underway to prepare the next high school site in collaboration with the town and province.
 - **Government Response:** Positive feedback on addressing growth needs.
 - **Rivercrest School:** Estimated to open in 2028, necessitating new boundaries.
 - **Airdrie and Chestermere:** Boundary and grade changes happening next year, which will impact Cochrane school staff.
- **School Board Election:** October 20th
 - **Nominations:** Open much earlier than in the past. Information is available on the RVS website.
 - **Cochrane:** Will elect two trustees.
- **School Council Survey:** Mitford School Council has the survey.

- **Budget Priorities:**
 - **Staffing:** 80% of the budget is allocated to staff.
 - **Other Priorities:** Important to strategize on the remaining budget.
 - **Suggestions from meeting attendees:** Mental health supports, smaller class sizes, more CDAs, technology upgrades, and other elements that support a great learning environment.
 - **Parent Survey:** An upcoming survey from RVS will seek parent feedback, which is crucial for planning and moving forward.
- **Questions:** No questions were raised.

c. Friends of Mitford

- **Casino Fundraiser:**
 - The casino event was a great success. Thanks to everyone who volunteered.
 - Everything ran smoothly, and we received positive feedback.
 - We should find out soon how much we raised from the event.
- **Upcoming Fundraising Events:**
 - **Growing Smiles:** Our next fundraising event is coming up soon.
 - **Movie Night:** Date to be announced.
 - **Freezie Friday:** Considering making this a regular event. We just need one parent volunteer to help.
- **Allocation of Funds:**
 - **Technology:** Funds will be used to purchase items like laptops, which need frequent replacement due to expiration.
 - **Other Purchases:** Money will also go towards bikes and a laser cutter, among other needs.

6. Round Table

a. School Council Survey

- If you would like a link to the survey, please let James know.

b. Contacting School Council

- You can use the school council email, which goes to James, if you want to bring up a topic.

Motion to Adjourn

7:24pm

Motion: Brooke / Second: Andrea