

Mitford School Council

Mitford School Council AGENDA

Date: Tuesday March 1th, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

ZOOM MEETING

**Attendance: Melissa E, Rosa T, Brianna S, Peter F, Fiona G,
Melinda B, Karen S, Cara S**

1. Call to order - **6:31pm**
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Approval of the Agenda – **Motion: Melissa E, 2nd Melinda B**
4. Approval of the Minutes from Previous Meeting – **November's minutes to be approved in April**
 - a) Review
 - b) Business arising from minutes
 - c) Approval
5. Report from Mitford Administration



Mitford School



Peter Fultz

Principal

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110 Quigley Drive

Cochrane, Alberta T4C 1Y1

Brianna Storey

Assistant Principal

Principal Report for School Council 01 MAR 22

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Student Population: 279

Classes: Grade 5 (two classes), Grade 6 (three classes), Grade 7 (two classes), Grade 8 (two classes); Grade 7/8 Blended Class (one class)

COVID_19 Protocols Lifted March 1:

Details can be found on the Rocky View Website at:

https://www.rockyview.ab.ca/whats_new/operational_update_for_march_1

Athletics:

Boys A and Girls A Basketball came to an exciting end. The boys had an incredible final tournament in Crossfield while the Girls did awesome with tenacious play, capturing Bronze in their division. It is so wonderful to have these opportunities for interested student athletes and thanks are extended to Coach Ralko and Coach Sekulich. The B Basketball season is now underway.

Ski Trip:

Mitford is excited to offer a ski trip to Norquay for the whole school! Over 100 students have signed up! Due to the huge response, it will now be over two days with grade 7/8 going on April 6th and grade 5/6 going on April 7th

Grade 6 PATs:

Alberta Education is proceeding with PATs for grade 6 in ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies. Families will be given unlimited access to exambank.com in the next few weeks as a support for students. It is important to note that this form of assessment will be rather new to students so teachers will be working with them using many supports including exambank.com as well to support students so they are feeling comfortable and confident with the assessment.

Grade 7 & 8 Final Assessments:

With life beginning to return to normal we want to do our best to support our grade 7 and 8 students with the opportunity to experience and practice year end assessments. More details about these assessments and the June dates for them will be shared in coming weeks.

Grade 8 Transition:

BVHS will be coming to Mitford to share a presentation about the exciting transition to high school life. The tentative date will be March 14th during the school day. Transition events for parents and families are yet to be confirmed. Stay tuned.

Outdoor Education Building:

Mitford School has received tacit approval for an outdoor education building! This building is hoped to be constructed in April with the goal of housing 30 to 35 mountain bikes and our 70 pairs of snowshoes. The purpose would be to provide new opportunities for students and their teacher to easily access these for daily physical activity and/or their CTF courses such as Outdoor Education, Active Living! Mitford will be submitting a request to FOM for financial support for the purchase of the mountain bikes. Mitford School is funding the cost of the building

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with the construction being a collaboration between the RVS Building and Maintenance dept and the RVS Building Futures program.

Future Presentations:

- School Council Sponsored Presentation 15 MAR 22 at 7PM: **Opening up communication with your teen, presented by Jen Donovan**
- Are there presentations that School Council feels would be valuable for future meetings?

6. Presentation of Parent Insight Survey

Presentation by Peter Fultz regarding survey results of inclusion, instruction, making learning visible, student engagement.

7. Report from Board of Trustees

2021/2022 Budget Adjustment

The Board received an update on the 2021/22 budget and approved \$8.63 million of additional spending. The budget adjustment is a result of changes to government funding due to new funding model, additional targeted grants from government, as well as changes to expenses due to higher-than-expected enrollments and the COVID-19 pandemic. This adjustment reduces projected year-end operating surplus (reserves) to just under 4% which is within the range recommended by the Auditor General. Highlights of the new spending include:

- \$3.55 million in additional resources for schools
- \$3.65 million in facilities maintenance and enhancements
- \$650,000 for efficiency improvements
- \$500,000 for teacher release time for curriculum implementation support
- \$300,000 for enhancing the division's cybersecurity position.

Draft K-6 Curriculum

In mid-December, government announced changes to the implementation timeline for the new K-Gr 6 curriculum. It is now expected that three subject areas – English Language Arts & Literature, Mathematics, and Physical Education & Wellness – will be implemented in September 2022. Content continues to be refined based on feedback from Albertans and is expected to be shared with teachers and school authorities in the spring. These are tight timelines and as a Board, we are concerned with the additional pressures and work this puts on staff and teachers at a time of limited resources (people and dollars) and challenges due to the ongoing impacts of teaching and learning in a pandemic. For full details on government plans for the new curriculum, and how to provide feedback visit <https://www.alberta.ca/curriculum.aspx>

Budget 2022

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We anticipate government tabling Budget 2022 in the legislature on February 24th. Once provincial grant funding is known, RVS will begin to develop the school division budget for the 2022/2023 school year. This process involves many pieces – grant funding, enrolment projections, cost projections, school/bus fees, spending priorities, and more! Budget development starts in Feb and culminates at the end of May when the budget is presented to the Board for their consideration.

Joint Board School Council meeting – March 10

School Council Executive are invited to join our spring Joint Board School Council Meeting on Thu March 10 from 6:30-8pm via Zoom. Invitations with information on how to register has been sent to your principal. The evening will include a presentation entitled Mental Wealth: Investing in Your Child's Mental and Emotional Well-Being.

8. Friends of Mitford update - **please stay for their meeting to follow.**

9. Discussion and Planning of a School Council Presentation. – **Melinda**

presented the upcoming school council presentation that is booked for

March 15 at 7pm. The cost is \$375 including GST and will be paid for by

the Alberta School Council Engagement Grant.

MITFORD SCHOOL COUNCIL

Please mark you calendars for a zoom parent workshop hosted by your School Council:

[Join us Tuesday, March 15 at 7pm for:](#)

Opening up communication with your teen, presented by Jen Donovan

It can feel like your relationship with your child is slipping away as they move into the tween/teen years. This zoom workshop will discuss ways of understanding and approaching communication with your tween/teen to have a better understanding of their world and foster a stronger connection with you as a caregiver. The workshop will be follow-up with an extended Q&A, open to a range of topics including tween/teens

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development during and post COVID, 2SLGBTQ+ navigation, substance use, and mental health.

About Jen Donovan:

With a MA in Leadership and a BA in has over a decade of experience in working primarily with youth and addictions, mental health, eating exploitation.

Personally and professionally, Jen is passionate and ever learning about racial justice and is an active member of the 2SLGBTQ+ community.



Counselling, Jen Donovan (she/her) front-line social and health services, families around experiences of disorders, trauma/crisis, and

As a Youth Services Consultant, Policy Writer, Facilitator, Mental Health First Aid instructor, Project Manager and Clinical Supervisor in healthcare leadership, and Peer Reviewer for the Canadian Institute for Health Research (CIHR), Jen specializes in systems and team approaches towards enhancing prevention, humility, and sustainability for both staff and service recipients.

10.Round Table – Rosa brought forward the question of how parents can volunteer in Mitford. Peter will discuss this up with his staff and how moving forward what volunteering opportunities could be available.

11.Motion to Adjourn – 7:38 pm

Next Meeting: April 5th, 2022 6:30pm