



211 McKnight Blvd NE  
Calgary, Alberta T2E 5S7

# MINUTES

## FFCA North Middle School Council Minutes

*Date | time* November 13, 2023 | 6:30 pm

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### Members

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#### **Council**

Ummul Banin, Chair  
Nicole Chen, Secretary  
Sanjib Karmaker, Treasurer  
Connie Kimber, Parental Partnership Coordinator (online)  
Marina Lakhani, Parental Partnership Coordinator  
Minh Banga, Fun Lunch Coordinator  
Unfilled, Community Services Coordinator

#### **Staff**

Doug Lamb, Principal  
Carolee Freeman, Teacher Representative  
Danny Williamson, Teacher

#### **Absent**

Amyna Mohammed, Fundraising Coordinator  
Jim Poirier, Associate Principal  
Nourchan Osman, Fun Lunch Coordinator  
Zenita Lalani, Vice-Chair

#### **Parents**

No additional NMS parents were present

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## Approval of Agenda

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- Motion to approve the November agenda
  - Motion – Ummul
  - Second – Sanjib
    - Motion to approve the November agenda as presented-carried.

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## Approval of Minutes

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- Motion to approve the October minutes as presented
  - Motion – Ummul
  - Second – Minh
    - Motion to approve the October minutes as presented-carried.



2023 Oct minutes

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## Teacher Update

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Ms Carolee Freeman, Teacher Representative:

- Provided the updates from additional teachers:
  - Athletics is in full swing and going well
  - The school is coming to the end of first term. The teachers are learning PowerSchool now and will be submitting grades there, but grades are not yet being posted to PowerSchool. Doug confirmed that having marks/grades being posted live on PowerSchool is a greater board level decision to be made. When/if this decision is made it would likely start with the Highschool population.
- Mr Danny Williamson-Classroom Economy:
  - This is an elective course integrated into the classroom over the course of the year. Lesson outcome is to cover Life Skills focused on communication, financial responsibility, self-discipline, taxes, resume building, and mature decision-making skills.
  - Are students taught about the outcome of debt? In the economy a student can put themselves into debt when they conduct their personal business or through financial mismanagement.
  - What happens at the end of the year? There is a score board discussion and a final auction.
  - Why is he the only teacher doing it? This course has substantial teacher involvement with tremendous frontloading. This hasn't been picked up by other

peers at this time due to the workload. Doug likened it to taking on an additional class worth of work within a full teaching load.

- Do students sometimes take liberties with the program? Yes, they're human. Some humorous stories were shared. Mr Williamson stays on top of the program throughout the year to keep it balanced, fair, and educational.
- The ask is funding for gift cards (various sources like mall cards, coffee cards, game cards) that are used as part of an auction for the program and for the purchase of candies/small items that the students are able to bid on/purchase. The ask is up to council. As a precedent, previous councils had approved up to \$200.
- Council agreed we will discuss same and inform Mr Williamson of the outcome for what we can afford. **Action item: An email will be circulated for discussion.** Doug will discuss with SRC (select sections) to determine if they can contribute. Then we can put together a budget.

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#### Administration Update

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- **Action item: Doug will ensure minutes are posted to the website. He can obtain the previous minutes from the memory sticks.**

#### Principal's Report for Council Nov. 2023

- PowerSchool-Report Cards and Rykor (no more family login). Please provide feedback!
- Office furniture installed over the break.
- Bus problems expected to continue. Supply of drivers is the bulk of the issue. FFCA is coming to the end of a contract with Southland. FFCA will work with Southland to try and tackle the issue in a way that ensures adequate drivers.
- October PD days focused on FFCA's System Learning plans goals connected to Inclusion and the New Curriculum (this is the streamlined outcome of work done during COVID with Mr Dienes). This has expanded this year to include support and office staff as well.
- New Curriculum rollout has been going well, especially in ELA and Science. Feedback is continually being obtained. Math challenges continue which are connected to gaps in student learning caused by the new curriculum. There are some units/gaps that weren't covered in the transition and students in grade 6 may not have received this information in grade 5. A new document will be developed informing parents where the gaps are and what plans/steps will be implemented to address same.
- Next PD Day is December 1<sup>st</sup>, with NMS hosting SMS staff for 'next steps' session on Inclusion (universal design for learning) and new curriculum (assessments). As an example, we have more ELL students at NMS so how do the schools work together to balance this.
- Remembrance Day Ceremony went well. Thanks to Ms. Maier for our guest speaker-retired Major Alexander Watson. Thank you to the students from Mrs. Wazir's class for their poetry.
- PAT results-outstanding!
  - FFCA does not have any gender imbalances for the core subjects

- Our ELL students are exceeding the averages
- From Superintendent Nippard:

*I want to share with you that our final PAT/PDE metrics are exceptional.*

*Overall, 93% (only 63.3% provincially) scored at the Acceptable level on the PAT's, as compared to the most recent FFCA 3-year average we have of 94.1% (provincially 73.8%).*

*Overall, 42.5% scored at the level of Excellence (16% provincially) as compared to our 3-year average of 42% (20.6% provincially).*

*Overall, 90.2% (80.3% provincially) scored at the Acceptable level on the PDE's, as compared to the most recent FFCA 3-year average we have of 92.7% (provincially 83.6%).*

*Overall, 43.8% scored at the level of Excellence (21.2% provincially) as compared to our 3-year average of 41.1% (24% provincially).*

*We've looked at our historical results from 2012 and there is a steady trend of continuous improvement in these results. When taken together a case can be made that these overall are our best combined academic achievement results. It's wonderful to be able to make this case as we meet initially with the ministry review team next week to review all our metrics and as we host them from November 22-24<sup>th</sup> at our campuses.*

*Thank you - and by extension all FFCA staff - for your exceptional work!!!*

*Roger*

- Asks:
  - Thanks for the Chromebooks!
  - Additional hot lunches in the new year?
    - Council indicated that we could possibly be able to increase it so long as volunteers are available.
    - Doug will be seeking the input of staff to determine if this could be facilitated.
  - Likely a December ask coming for Winterfest (last year was horse and carriage for about \$900). Doug is aware that we may not have the budget.
  - Charter Renewal Focus Groups Thursday November 23<sup>rd</sup> at SMS, 11:15-12:00.
    - Could the chair + up to 2 other Council Members attend? **Action item: Ummul cannot attend. Doug will connect with Zenita. Marina will be able to attend. Sanjib may be able to attend and will let Doug know.**
    - 1-2 other NMS parents will be recruited
    - Our renewal plan is hoping for a permanent charter going forward.

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#### Hot Lunch Update

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- The rest of the year has been set-up.
- October was \$324 from Cedars Delie (\$269 from Edo)

- The next order reminder for McDonalds will go out tomorrow for the November Hot Lunch date.
- As per the Admin Update, we may be able to accommodate additional Hot Lunch program dates. TBD.

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## Treasurer Update

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Nov Statement

- See attached report
- We have a balance of \$2,914.42 and the In-Lieu account contains \$1,683.
- Outstanding payments of up to \$1700 are anticipated for ASC. Last year's \$1700 was paid. We will pay up the \$1700 remaining for ASC.
- We are owed \$500 from NEE and NWE for their contributions to the BBQ.
- We have \$300 going out for the Bullying Posters.
- Outstanding \$100 to Ummul for a receipt.
- We anticipate \$200 for Mr Williamson.
- We anticipate \$900 for the horse and carriage for Winterfest.
- We anticipate \$900 for the Stampede breakfast.
- We anticipate some funding for the Christmas thank you packages to staff.
- We anticipate some funding for the chocolates/candies for neighbours of FFCA
- We know we will receive outstanding cheques from Healthy Hunger soon.
- Sanjib estimates we have about \$2000 in our budget based on quick math. Upcoming fundraising will come from Purdy's, Texas Donuts, March move night, ?Learn-a-thon.

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## Fundraising Coordinator

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- December is Purdy's. Campaign is currently ongoing
- Texas Donuts will be January, 2024
- Learn a Thon in February, 2024. Sanjib will look back at the outcome as we aren't sure how much it raised.
- Move night in March, 2024.
- Talent show AGM, May, 2024.
- We continue to alternate with SRC for fundraising. Discussion that snack packs will be primarily left to SRC as it's appropriate for that group.

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## Volunteer Coordinator/Parental Partnership

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- Coordinate with Amyna for the volunteers needed for Purdy's.
- Give aways and parent thank you cards will be done for volunteers. A lunch will be based on budget availability.

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## Community Partnership

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- Council will supply small chocolates for the neighbours in appreciation prior to the winter holiday. Connie confirmed it is 32 packages. We will include one more for the community association for a total of 33. Doug confirmed that any time in the last week of school in December would be best.
- **Action Item: Admin will reach out to teachers, likely art, to request the cards to be made.**

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## Chair Update

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- **On 2023 November 3, Ummul made an electronic motion to approve \$300 to cover prizes pertaining to the Bullying Poster Competition. Marina seconded. Motion carried.** Information from the electronic motion as supplied by Ms Charles:
  - In past years parent council has provided funding for prizes for the Bullying Awareness Week Poster contest. Can you please put a request in to see if they are willing to do the same this year. The cost last year was 275.00. I am asking if they would be willing to again help with this with a total not to exceed by \$300.00. The students will be working in groups of 2 or 3 on these posters. The students have always engaged in the art and good conversation during my presentations, and this helps connect a visual to the message of standing against bullying. The contest acts as a process to have everyone reflect through the contest and voting.
  - The winners after our school wide vote will be as follows:
    - Grade 7 and 8 Competition (Maximum 3 students per poster could be less depending on size of the group)
      - 1st place – 2 movie passes for each person x 3 Maximum
      - 2<sup>nd</sup> place – 1 movie pass for each person x 3 Maximum
      - 3<sup>rd</sup> place - \$10 gift card for Dairy Queen x 3 Maximum
    - Grade 5 and 6 Competition (Maximum 3 students per poster could be less depending on size of the group)
      - 1st place – 2 movie passes for each person x 3 Maximum
      - 2<sup>nd</sup> place – 1 movie pass for each person x 3 Maximum
      - 3<sup>rd</sup> place - \$10 gift card for Dairy Queen x 3 Maximum
- Preparation for talent show.
  - Doug provided a contact for a new family that wants to support the school and council for the talent show (Sparq Productions. 825-437-6475 [contact@sparqproductions.com](mailto:contact@sparqproductions.com)).
  - SRC can present for up to 10 minutes for their program.
  - Allot 20 minutes for the business portion.

- Tentative date is set for May 6, 2024 for 6-730pm.

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#### ASC (Association of School Councils) Update

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- N/A

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#### Goals (All)

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- AGM planning. To be discussed at future meetings.
- Bank balance goals-to end the year with \$9000 available. This is a conservative goal for the size of our campus.

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#### Adjournment/Next Meeting

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- Adjourned: 8:15pm
- Next meeting: December 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> (an email will be circulated. ASC is on December 4th).