

Northern Lights School Council Meeting
Annual General Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, October 16, 2024

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: Northern Lights School

In Attendance: Marissa Gillespie, Andrea Manning, Lindsay Stanford, Mayensi Gonzalez Bonilla, Christine Sizer, Shelley Henderson, Michelle Brinson, Charney Docherty, Lisa Sloane, Vyoma Vashi, Paige Herron, Cailin Wolsey, Angela Harris, Danielle Irvine, Vanessa Blyth, Ali Mundy and Madi White

1) Call to Order:

- a) Marissa Gillespie calls the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.
- b) Land Acknowledgement
- c) Introduction of Guests and Council Members
- d) Verification of quorum
 - i) Quorum obtained

2) Review and approval of agenda

- a) Andrea Manning moves to approve the agenda as amended
- b) Lindsay Stanford seconds
- c) Motion carried

3) Review and approval of minutes

- a) Christine Sizer moves to approve the minutes as presented
- b) Shelley Henderson seconds
- c) Motion carried

4) Updates and Reports:

- a) Grades 4, 5 and music presentations
 - i) Grade Four - Lisa Sloane, Vyoma Vashi, Paige Herron, Cailin Wolsey
 - ii) Grade Five - Angela Harris, Danielle Irvine, Vanessa Blyth, Ali Mundy
 - iii) Music - Madi White
- b) Principal Report
 - i) The school is at full capacity. There are no talks about mobile classrooms.
- c) Key Communicator Update
 - i) **CBE schools are feeling the squeeze with provincial funding for students that isn't keeping pace with historic enrolment and rising inflation.**

At the Community of School Councils meeting in April the Board of Trustees released startling numbers that affect each of our children attending CBE schools. The key points include:

- The CBE has roughly 142,000 students in its schools this year. According to the Board of Trustees, each month approximately 400 new students join the CBE. It's expected that the CBE will welcome an additional 9,000 students during the 2024-2025 school year.
- The student population has become increasingly more complex and diverse. For example, many new students identify as non-Canadian who are EAL (English as an Additional Language) learners who need more support in their learning journeys.
- While the CBE received an increase of \$85 million in funding from the province compared to the previous year to address the 9,000 additional students, the provincial budget for 2024-2025 does not provide the funding necessary for a growing school

district. Specifically, the funding does not address inflation and the real cost of supporting students with increasingly complex learning needs. In many cases, this means growing class sizes.

- Many schools are running out of space. The overall utilization of CBE schools is at 92% capacity, which is higher than ideal levels. In about two years (2025-2026) it's projected that utilization of CBE schools will be 102% capacity. Currently, 68 schools are operating at 100% capacity or higher. More than 30 schools are overflowing, leading to enrolment lotteries and sending students to schools that they were not designated for.
- According to the Board of Trustees, funding for students in the CBE is the lowest in Canada. In its 2024-2027 fiscal plan, the Alberta government has committed to funding levels below growth and inflation. Base level funding per student has remained relatively the same over the past seven years. However, funding per student from 2022-2023 is actually below 2016-2017 levels.

While these numbers paint a dark picture, you can be a light in your child's learning journey. You can make a difference by:

- Staying informed
- Starting conversations with fellow parents, family and friends
- Connecting with your MLA

5) Standing Business

- a) ASCE Grant
 - i) Tabled until December meeting when we have the grant
- b) Year Plan
 - i) No change
- c) Review School Council policies
 - i) Review roles of different positions – Review again at December meeting and will be discussed via email

6) Dissolution of the 2023-2024 school year Executive for the School Council

- a) Lindsay Stanford moves to dissolve the Executive
- b) Christine Sizer seconds
- c) Motion carried

7) Election of the 2024-2025 school year Executive

- a) Open Positions: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Key Communicator,
- b) Elections:
 - i) Mayensi Gonzalez Bonilla nominates Marissa Gillespie as Chair for the 2024-2025 school year
 - ii) Christine Sizer nominates Lindsay Stanford as Vice Chair for the 2024-2025 school year
 - iii) Lindsay Stanford nominates Christine Sizer as Secretary for the 2024-2025 school year
 - iv) Lindsay Stanford nominates Shelley Henderson as Treasurer for the 2024-2025 school year
 - v) No nominations for Key Communicator for the 2024-2025 school year. Position remains open.

8) Presentation and approval of bylaw changes

- a) Lindsay Stanford moves to approve the approval of the bylaws as presented
- b) Shelley Henderson seconds
- c) Further discussion – No further discussion

d) Motion carried

9) Discussion about meetings and parental engagement next year - Tabled

10) New Business for the October Meeting:

a) Role of School Council and Executive

i) Roles will be sent out by Marissa Gillespie to executive members

b) Parent engagement

i) Tabled until the December meeting

c) COSC

i) Next meeting Wednesday, October 23 (in person).

d) Phishing emails

i) An email was sent from CBE warning that Phishing emails are being sent to School Council accounts

ii) Email attached

e) Setting of meeting dates

i) Wednesday, December 18, 2024 @ 6pm

ii) Wednesday, February 19, 2025 @ 6pm

iii) Wednesday, April 16, 2025 @ 6pm

iv) Wednesday, June 11, 2025 @ 6pm

11) Closing

a) Next meeting of the Northern Lights School Council will be Wednesday, December 18, 2024 @ 6pm.

b) Adjournment 6:53pm

Northern Lights School Fundraising Society Annual General Meeting

Date: Wednesday, October 16, 2024

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Northern Lights School

In Attendance: Marissa Gillespie, Lindsay Stanford, Mayensi Gonzalez Bonilla, Christine Sizer, Shelley Henderson, Michelle Brinson, Charney Docherty

1. Call to Order

- a. Marissa Gillespie calls the meeting to order at 6:54 pm
- b. Verification of quorum
 - i. Quorum obtained
- c. Review and approval of minutes from May 21, 2024 meeting
 - i. Shelley Henderson moves to approve the minutes as amended
 - ii. Christine Sizer seconds
 - iii. Motion carried
- d. Review, addition of any items needed and approval of tonight's agenda
 - i. Lindsay Stanford moves to approve the agenda as amended
 - ii. Shelley Henderson seconds
 - iii. Motion carried

2. Updates / Standing Business:

- a. School Update on money and spending
 - i. Shelley Henderson moves to approve up to \$2000 on Tale-Bot Robots
 1. Lindsay Stanford seconds
 2. Motion carried
 - ii. Shelley Henderson moves to approve up to \$400 per home room on field trips for reduction of fees and buses or for in class opportunities.
 1. Lindsay Stanford seconds
 2. Motion carried
 - iii. Christine Sizer moves to approve up to \$2000 on supplies for school clubs
 1. Shelley Henderson seconds
 2. Motion carried
 - iv. Shelley Henderson moves to approve spending up to \$1000 from the general fund toward the student wish list
 1. Mayensi Gonzalez Bonilla seconds
 2. Motion carried
- b. Casino Update
 - i. We are still missing volunteers for Sunday with limited back up volunteers
 - ii. Another post and email will be sent to hopefully get these positions filled
- c. Dance Update
 - i. Will be on Thursday, May 15, 2025
 - ii. Details to come in the new year
- d. ASLC Grant
 - i. Tabled till December meeting
- e. Grade 5 Gifts
 - i. \$750 for books from general funds approved at May 2023 meeting still pending purchase.
 - ii. Table legacy gifts till December meeting
- f. Welcome Back BBQ Funds
 - i. Christine Sizer moves to spend \$1384.89 for games from our general account

1. Shelley Henderson seconds
 2. Motion carried
 - g. Fall Fundraisers
 - i. Apples
 1. Apple fundraiser was a success with 97 boxes sold
 2. Approximately \$800 raised - final total pending
 - ii. School spirit wear
 1. Sale of spirit wear will begin next week and go until Friday, November 8
 2. Delivery will be near the end of November
 3. Hoodies will be \$35 and t-shirts will be \$15
 - iii. Purdys
 1. This is set up for before Winter Break
 - iv. Papa John's
 1. We will organize some family pizza days for the school year, specific dates pending
 - h. Staff Appreciation
 - i. Lindsay Stanford moves to approve giving Michelle Brinson \$2000 from the general fund for dinner and other items during parent teacher conferences, professional development and other teacher events
 1. Christine Sizer seconds
 2. Motion carried
 - ii. Christine Sizer moves to approve spending \$750 from the general fund on staff appreciation items
 1. Lindsay Stanford seconds
 2. Motion carried
 - i. Gift cards
 - i. Shelley Henderson moves to approve spending \$100 on gift cards for prizes throughout the year
 1. Christine Sizer seconds
 2. Motion carried
 - j. School council GST update
 - i. Christine Sizer moves to approve spending \$302.99 from our school council GST account for guided reading books
 1. Mayensi Gonzalez Bonilla seconds
 2. Motion carried
 - k. Incidentals
 - i. Christine Sizer moves to approve spending up to \$50 on incidental items without prior approval from school council from the general account.
 1. Shelley Henderson seconds
 2. Motion carried
3. Treasurer's Report:
 - a. General Account
 - i. \$11,191.02
 - b. Casino Account
 - i. \$43,775.44
4. Tax Return assessment
 - a. Mayensi Gonzalez Bonilla moves to approve spending up to \$250 for the Tax Return assessment

- b. Lindsay Stanford seconds
 - c. Motion carried
- 5. Book Auditing
 - a. Mayensi Gonzalez Bonilla moves to nominate Jake Chislett and Jessica Buzanko to review our finances as well as secretary books as soon as possible.
 - b. Lindsay Stanford seconds
 - c. Further discussion
 - d. Motion carried
- 6. Dissolution of the 2023-2024 executive for the Northern Lights School Fundraising Society
 - a. Lindsay Stanford moves to dissolve the executive
 - b. Christine Sizer seconds
 - c. Motion carried
- 7. Election of the 2024-2025 school year Executive
 - a. Open Positions: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer
 - b. Elections:
 - i. Mayensi Gonzalez Bonilla nominates Marissa Gillespie as President for the 2024-2025 school year
 - ii. Christine Sizer nominates Lindsay Stanford as Vice President for the 2024-2025 school year
 - iii. Lindsay Stanford nominates Christine Sizer as Secretary for the 2024-2025 school year
 - iv. Lindsay Stanford nominates Shelley Henderson as Treasurer for the 2024-2025 school year
- 8. Signing Authority Change
 - a. Removal of signing authority
 - i. Christina Sizer makes a motion to remove Mayansi Gonzalez Bonilla from signing authority
 - ii. Lindsay Stanford seconds the motion
 - iii. Motion carried
 - b. Addition of signing authority
 - i. Christine Sizer makes a motion to add Marissa Gillespie for signing authority
 - ii. Lindsay Stanford seconds the motion
 - iii. Motion carried
- 9. Official nominations
 - a. Andrea Manning is officially nominated to be Volunteer Coordinator and Casino Organizer
 - b. Mayensi Gonzalez Bonilla is officially nominated to be Fun Lunch Coordinator
- 10. New Business
- 11. Adjournment
 - a. 7:45pm