



Muir Lake School - School Council Agenda
Library Learning Commons/Google Meet
7:00pm
February 18, 2025

- 1. Call to Order : 7:03pm**
- 2. Welcome and Introductions**
 - a. **Tori Pudde - Council Chair**
 - b. **Deanne Johnson - Community Hall Liason**
 - c. **Gail Lewis - Director, Transportation**
 - d. **Oriana Leithoff - Assistant Principal / Secretary**
 - e. **Andy Fune - Principal**
 - f. **Amanda Davy**
- 3. Approval of Minutes – January 2025**
 - a. **No members from the last meeting are present**
- 4. Approval of Agenda**
 - a. **Deanne Johnson Approved the minutes, Amanda Davy 2nd**
- 5. Items for Discussion**
 - a. **Special Guest - Gail Lewis, Director of Transportation Services**
 - b. **Open questions and invitation for question regarding transportations**

Q: What is the cut off for buses

A: -40, or -40 with the windchill, as per Environment Canada. It's tricky to call it between the evening before or the morning of. Parents are different in what they want. The goal is that if a bus breaks down, we can get to the students safely in 15 minutes or less. Showed the student transportation guide.

- Distances for funding
- School of choice information
- "What can you bring on the bus" page

Q: Do the buses ever not run in the morning, but not in the afternoon?

A: It's dependent on bus pick up times and end times of school days. Typically we move to the cancellation of buses for the full day so that parents can plan for the whole day.

Q: It does make it easier logistically if all field trips are cancelled - then we know what to expect

A: Sometimes in a freezing rain warning, that can be different because the weather can change.

Q: In parent groups, most moms prefer to know the night before in order to prepare for the day.

Gail: Have you liked, or how do you like the Bus Status App?

A: It's great!

Parents: We rely on the app and then the phone call.

Gail: the marker is 10 minutes for an update

Q: Are the bus drivers all hired by the contractor?

A: Yes, then we do a bus driver PD day - i.e. specialized transportation ran evac drills etc.

Q: Where is Alberta Transportation on seatbelts on school buses?

A: This is a hot topic. How do you get children in and out?

Buses would have to be re-designed

Q: What about bus supervisors and bus monitors?

A: That would be really expensive

Q: What if it was volunteer based?

A: The bus drivers in this area likely park in their yards not in the compound, so do our volunteers go to the homes of the drivers? It could be very complicated.

Q: What are minor vs. major incidents on the bus?

A: Minor could be small name calling or friends not getting along so the bus driver moves the children, a Major would be something that the bus driver is being distracted by, or physical violence

Q: The only thing that I wish we could do is send our children on a friend's bus to their house - but I know that couldn't happen for safety reasons.

A: The reason we don't is because we transport about 8,000 students. How do we monitor it? Liability thing as well.

Gail was thanked! Good job, Gail!

Q: What are the bus drivers trained in? Medical wise?

A: Drivers have emergency First Aid - if anything were to happen, 911 would be called.

6. Reports

a. Trustee – Lorraine Stewart

Board meeting today, encouraged to visit the website to see what supports we are offering from student services. Board policy 18 was passed in a motion, it's available on the website. Concerns over Federal Funding for the Jordan's Principle funding. There will be joint letters to MPs. PSD has partnered with CASA mental health and the creation of a CASA classroom with resources and support for 25/26 and this is for students with internalizing behaviours. 12 students each semester in grades 4-6. PSD received a 72 hour strike notice from CUPE - work to rule started today, Education Support Staff doing their duties in their paid hours. If questions, please see the PSD Labour Action website. There is the opportunity for the board to apply to the Labour Relations Board for a Lockout Vote - this does not mean that we will automatically lock out workers, the intent is to give us the tool if there is something really disruptive in the labour action IF we needed to. We hope that we don't need it. Letter from a resident that expressed concern over the board abdicating responsibility and giving direction to the Superintendent. Clarity around the fact that the Superintendent is the one employee of the board.

CASA classroom location is undecided at this point in time, just that we have been approved for one.

b. Principal/ Vice-Principal – Andy Fuñe/ Oriana Leithoff

Excitement over the Makerspace ideas and Robotic opportunities for students.

Shared the Divisional Priorities Presentation

c. School Council – Tori Pudde

Feb. COSC meeting at Graminia - Strike Action, MF talked about it a little. Contacting MLA because that is part of it. Unless it's something particular to your kid, in which you can contact your administrator.

Tori to pass along Jordi's notes on Social Media Accounts to Christine and Oriana.

What is Work to Rule - Lorraine answered that it is a form of a strike.

It is nothing about the people, but this is what they voted on as a union.

Planned for the possibility of a full strike.

Take a look at the website.

Is there anything we as Parent Council can do? → Call your local MLA to get rid of the wage cap.

Lorraine referenced the IUOE settlement on the website.

Lorraine gave some clarity on the bargaining process for CUPE members in the province.

The website as the FAQ

d. Community Hall – Deanne Johnson

Nothing happening at the hall. Bingo happened last month and it was very quiet. Playschool Ladies Night is March 1st.

7. Adjournment: 8:21pm

Tori Pudde

School Council Chair