

# WO Mitchell School Council

## Meeting Minutes



Date: April 21st at 7:00 pm

Location: WO Mitchell School

9 parents/guardians and 6 staff members were in attendance

Principal/Staff:

In Person: Mike Scott

Online: Eve Moreau, Sandra Imperaderio, Elisa Waingort, Laura Moreno, Sali Galvez-Castro

Parents/Guardians:

In Person: Carmen F, Elysa A, Miceala C, Lindsay B

Online: Adelle, Brianne B, Melanie B, Allison J, Ana

Miceala called the meeting to order at 7:05PM.

### **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

Carmen motioned to approve the meeting minutes from February; Lindsay seconded and all were in favour. The minutes were thereby approved.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Carmen motioned to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting; Lindsay seconded and all were in favor. The agenda was thereby approved.

### **Grade 2 Teacher Presentation:**

Teacher Introductions:

Srta Imeraderio

Sra Galvez

Sra Moreno

Sra Waingort

### **Photography Residency:**

Great experience for the students where they were able to learn cool and new techniques. They focused on finding things that are important and special to the school to take photos of. Students

were also learning new vocabulary words along the way - composition, aperture, etc. Students were also working with Sra Paulina on the vocabulary part in the Spanish language aspect. Sra Waingot found it fascinating what the kids were being taught, and how quickly the kids learned to get close, move back, and how flipping the camera you get a different perspective. It was really neat and the kids learned a lot!

Students are preparing to talk about their photos, using Spanish as they will be presenting their photos to other classes.

### 7 Sacred Teachings:

They are focusing a lot on, and we are fortunate to have a lot of resources in our school.

One of the books they focus on is - Stand like a Cedar

Fridays teachers take the kids outside and incorporate nature into their learning. In the classroom they have also created a space for kids to bring in indigenous artifacts. Kids brought in moccasins, dream catcher, and beaded earrings. Teachers wanted to make it an inclusive experience so a student brought in an indigenous dress from their country of India. This also links in with the social studies curriculum.

### Science Fundamentals:

Two university students from the University of Calgary come in and talk about different topics, they are coming in twice a week. Once recent topic was Philosophy. It is a great way for students to get another voice in the classroom and different topics.

In science students have also started with coding. Students use the ipads in class to use the program Scratch to do coding. Ozo bots are another tool the students use in class to learn coding.

### Field Trips:

Students did a Telus Spark visit where they did a class called Coding Colors Robotics which tied in nicely with the science curriculum. They had to learn the importance of clear and accurate instructions. They had to be sure to follow tips to make them work correctly. The students had a really fun time learning this and being in a different environment.

### Leighton Art Centre:

Wonderful field trip where the kids were able to learn about Canadian history, art and Wildlife. They learned how to identify different animals through antlers. Learned how to draw a landscape photo, and created sculptures of animals that they were able to take home.

### Buddies:

Grade 2 students collaborate with the grade 4 and 5 students. It is about building community within the school and providing opportunities for older students to mentor. Some Gr 6 students come in to

help teach math and show different strategies that could help the Grade 2 classes. They also help with art projects, one being building instruments from things around the house. Working with the older students has been fun. Older students will also help with some of the coding to come up.

Some Grade 2 students have been buddies with the kinder classes and are able to help mentor and learn some of their own leadership skills with the kinders.

### Volunteering:

We really appreciate all of the volunteers that have helped out so far, with field trips, musicals and in the classroom. Teachers would love to have more caregivers come in to talk about their jobs and do presentations to the students. They have had an Engineer, electrician, and a geologist come in so far. Students loved it, they were very attentive and the kids had a lot of fun.

### **Principal Report:**

#### Eve - Spring Concert:

We are really looking forward to the upcoming celebrations of Dia de Libro (World Book Day) - This is a big celebration in Spain as well as Latin America. Also have the Photography Gala as well as the Book Fair. There has been a lot of excitement around this photography residency. Students are speaking really well while practicing Spanish for their photo presentations. Thank you for all the books that have come into the school! Staff have a lot of costumes ready to go, and are hoping for a lot of students in costumes. Thank you to the volunteers who will be helping out with all of this.

Spring Concert. Phenomenal. It is so great to see every student up there get into it, and we are always amazed at what Ms Gray can do with the children.

Que Pasa is coming up on May 12th, our grade 3 students will be performing at the Jubilee. Rooster theme, which will likely get a lot of laughs and we are all very excited about it.

PLD professional learning day. In this session staff will be actively looking at our school and learning of indigenous culture and trying to incorporate as much as they can. They will be hosting two profs from UofC to help teachers learn more about reconciliation and a focus on Metis understanding.

#### Mike:

School Development Plan and School Budget - we have to go over the survey results. We didn't have a huge amount of information on the survey because it was only available to folks who attended the parent council meeting. - Trying to get more information on the

school website so parents have one location to find information. There was nothing too surprising in the results and everyone seems pleased with how things are going.

Question on the budget for next year if that will include the same amount of teachers, or if that will be different for next year? It is hard to say as we don't know the student numbers yet, but we are planning on being status quo. Project enrollment is 400 students, but over the next few weeks we will start to have a better idea. No, we don't have a number of staff that will be allocated for next year, but we are planning on the same numbers as this year.

Will teachers stay with the same grade? Mike tries to be very supportive of what the staff here are wanting to pursue in their careers. We don't want to turn the whole school upside down, but again trying to support the teachers and their desires for their career paths, while keeping consistency for the students in mind.

Thank you to the two student teachers that had their practicums here, and have now been hired by the CBE and will be integrated into the Spanish Language schools in the fall. It is nice to learn from these practicum students and what they some of the new technologies and new ways of learning that they are able to teach some of our staff.

### [Principals Presentaion](#)

#### **Council:**

##### Education Grant:

Paul Davis has agreed to do a 1 hr parent presentation on May 14th. It will be strictly virtual, and will have to sign up and RSVP. We are not allowed to post his email to the school site, so it will need to be emailed out to only those who register, please watch for the registration link to come out via email. He will also be doing a presentation with students in the school - date still to be determined. Grades 4-6. It would be beneficial to have the student presentation after the parent one, so parents can answer any questions students have.

##### Yearbook Cover Update:

Covers were narrowed down, I am not sure if they have been voted on by the kids yet. Teachers will check in on that.

##### Fiesta Planning Update:

Carmen will check in with Paula on this.

##### Playground Committee Update:

They had a meeting with the contractor and made a few tweaks and are finishing up some changes which we will soon be able to show some designs to the community. This will hopefully get the community more involved and wanting to support it with funds. Working on tallying funds from the read-a-thon and working on a few things on additional fundraising funds. Bottle trailer again the week after May long weekend 19-22. Council will try and post a bit beforehand so people are aware to save their bottles. One more cash raffle in June this year, Grocery Store gift cards as a prize similar to the cash raffle, hopeful to have the gift cards donated.

#### Garden of Wonder Update:

Do we want to go with the same landscaping vendor? Yes, we will stay status quo, as they have been good and it is in the budget. We will need a Spring Cleanup soon. We will put any extra/order some more flowers to put in the beds. If parents want to donate any extras after their May long planting they are welcome to donate them to the school.

#### **Questions/Comments:**

Society, which is the next meeting, is Bound by Societies Act of Alberta so certain things need to be discussed in that meeting rather than in the Council meeting.

#### **Date of next meeting:**

May 19th, 2025 at 7:00 PM - In Person and Online

#### **Adjournment:**

Miceala adjourned the meeting at 8:05 pm.

#### Purpose of Council:

A group of people who work together to advise the Principal and the board respecting matters relating to the school; A means for parents and community members to work together with the school to support and enhance student learning.

#### W.O. Mitchell School Council Mission:

W.O. Mitchell School Council is committed to supporting opportunities for each student to maximize their intellectual, physical, social, emotional and creative growth in an encouraging, safe and caring environment.