

WO Mitchell School Council

Meeting Minutes



Date: May 19th 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, Paulina Villarreal

Parents/Guardians:

In Person: Carmen F, Elysa A, Kristine Z, Paula , Lindsay B, Irene,

Online: Melanie B, Samantha Y, Angel N, Allison J, Jayme M, Miceala C, Marecela

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

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

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

Approval of Agenda

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

Sra Paulina Teacher Presentation:

Teacher Introductions:

Paulina Villarreal

She has been supporting the entire school with the NLA approach to help students learn Spanish.

Neurolinguistic Approach to Language Acquisition:

Phase I - Mini NLA cycle

Paulina is connecting with teachers across grade levels so there is consistency throughout the school in teaching Spanish.

Jan- March - Sra Paulina went into every classroom for half a day for about 1.5 weeks each, and was presenting teachers with strategies for math while speaking Spanish.

Photography residency

Paulina utilized the photography residency to work on the NLA approach. Students had to talk about their photos in Spanish, and during the photography display, there were videos being shown of students talking about their photos as well as students given the opportunity to talk into the microphone to describe their photos. This was led by the teachers and Paulina was providing feedback,

Assessment

There are assessments being done including field tested rubrics.

This NLA work also parallels the school development plan.

Pre-reading and post reading

NLA Literacy Loop Stages

1. Oral - students do most of the talking speaking in complete sentences and use only the target language with no translations
2. Message of the Day - models target vocabulary/grammar
3. Reading - when students begin to read they start making connections with the sounds and how they are written
4. Writing sharing

Paulina shared videos of the students

Grade 2 classrooms - learning about seasons.

Talking back and forth in Spanish, the kids were very excited.

Grade 4

The students needed to explain how to be a better person.

Reading out loud in Spanish in smaller groups

Prereading strategies so they kids are able to read the words in an actual book.

Grade 5

Read a book in Spanish and then they come together and talk about it in Spanish. Small group discussions, and then shared with the entire class. Lots of practicing reading and then coming together.

Grade 1

Written phrases with letters missing and the students have to fill them in.

Writing Grade 5

What they have read and what they practise in the oral phase. Vertical surfaces - for math. It is very important to create text with students first, and then give them the opportunity to practise with their peers. One marker for 3 students, after 1 min they share the marker, and continue writing the text from the previous students. Active learning - shared knowledge. Learning is visible. At the end they created individual work and each one writes at their level, all students do this with the confidence that is impressive. They are excited to do this.

Feedback from the teachers is that this strategy has been amazing. They go back and forth on what works and what doesn't. This communication amongst teachers makes the program really good, and helps the students learn quicker and better.

Principal Report:

Mike:

Ingolsby has been put on a leave and Riha Tariq is filling in for Ingolsby until she returns in the fall. Eve is leaving to fill a principal role at Collingwood school. We will miss her, but we are very proud of her.

Grade 6 provincial achievement tests:

English Language Arts Part A May 25

English Language Arts Part B: June 4

Science: June 12

Math part A: June 15th

Math Part B: June 18

Two hour exams, and students are allowed double time if needed. Will be using grade 5 classrooms, so they can all be in one class, so they can move students out as they finish and give extra time for others. Parents will get results in the fall.

Eve:

School Highlights

Grade 6 went to Camp Chief Hector, a couple of weeks ago for 3 nights. They had an incredible time. The collaboration was amazing, students were open and inclusive, and it was a huge success. We will be booking again for next year, seeing it as very valuable time. Interpersonal, and social skills have grown so much and they are ready for the next step in moving towards junior high.

Que Pasa - Grade 3 performed at the Jubilee. Our students were little naughty roosters and they did an amazing job and we were all really proud of them

Swimming coming up for Grades 1, 2 and 3..

Jump rope for heart - assembly tomorrow. Donations will be collected, there is a QR code that will be sent home with students.

Later this week we have Kinder / Grade 1 orientation. Families are invited to the school to get a tour and learn more about the school and routines, and ways to support students at home

RAM update:

Projecting 392 students for 2026/27 enrollment

CBE projected 402, so we are a bit below what CBE thinks we will get.

Planning to staff for 392, if we get more students we might get an ability to hire more staff. If we hire more staff than needed, we might have to surplus a teacher in the fall, and it could cause significant interruption.

No staff identified for surplus. No teacher postings for open positions.
Ferkranus will be returning next year.

Predicting a status quo for next year, as far as teachers go.

Class sizes are projected to be similar for next year.

Projected to have 1 Education Assistant for 25 hrs per week, and an additional EA at 17.5 hours next week. If we get more student enrollment we could potentially increase the second EA to 25hrs per week.

Budget numbers are finalized on September 30th.

Principal Report located here: [Principal Presentation](#)

Council:

Education Grant:

Over 50 families signed up, so there was a lot of interest. No recording of the presentation allowed. He did say he would be back in Calgary in person, his schedule is on his website. So if you missed the presentation you could potentially see him in person. This is something the parent council will likely host every three years as it is a very relevant topic for parents.

3, 4, 5 and 6 are watching the presentation over this week and are bringing letters home that parents are supposed to sign a sheet they bring home.

COSC update: Community school council meeting:

Please refer to the COSC presentation here as this will be much more indepth than our meeting minutes: [COSC Presentation](#)

Classroom complexity challenges - just ran through things the CBE has been seeing

Classrooms are complex and full of students with complex needs.

118 schools in the CBE receive the classroom complexity team, which is 1 teacher and 2 EA's.

118 teachers and 236 EA's are now required to fill those positions which will be a process and take some time to do.. Our school was not allocated to have one of these teams, as the volume and complexity is higher in other schools.

CBE receives \$60 million more for next year, but that is barely keeping up with the increased enrollment that has already happened within the CBE, and student enrollment numbers will just keep increasing. Idea 166 of 251 schools are either full or over capacity, so if increasing by 8000 more students

179 schools will exceed the 50 year life expectancy in the next few years

New projects happening, in areas where there is rapid growth

Fiesta Planning Update:

Based on feedback from last year, everyone was really happy. Aiming for the earlier timeslot again of 5-7. Food trucks were not ideal, lineups and costs were too high. Bring your own dinner, order door dash, eat at home and come fed, there will be concessions. Make everything \$2 each - cash only. With the concession no fee for the dance, but a registration so we can keep track of numbers

Organize volunteers to help setup, take down, and concessions, raffle tickets - sign up genius

Permit has been filed and paid for

Thursday June 4th

Garden of Wonder:

Friday May 22nd meet up to plant right after school

Services June 9th, lawn is mowed every two weeks.

What has to be done to get the sprinklers on and when does that need to happen. Talk to Shawnie.

One sprinkler head was damaged and needs fixing.

Cheques were late the last time, and they weren't happy, so might need to find a different vendor for the future.

Have the trees been checked for stability and health in the garden of wonder? Is this something that needs to be looked into? CBE may need to look into them.
Council can be reimbursed for buying compost bags.

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:

June 16th, 2026 at 7:00 PM - In person only TBD (Brewsters, Milestones in Royal Oak, Silverpoint Pub)

Adjournment:

Carmen adjourned the meeting at 8:42 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.