

G.S. Lakie Parent Council Meeting
Tuesday, September 22, 2022
Start Time: 6:03 pm

Attendees:

Brad Dersch	Courtney Wehlage
Aimee Dewacht	Lori Adamson
Matthew Brunner	Joelynn Zeinstra
Mike Shanks	Catherine Ball
Tisha Elford	Karma Van Schaik
Christa Pike	Laura Miller
Vanessa Steele	Viviana Lartiga
Cheryl Gilmore	Maya Johnson
Purdy Makrodihakdjo	Jacquie Van Dyk
Sonalie Weisbeck	

1. Call to Order

- A. Welcome & Introductions**
- B. Review Agenda**
- C. Review and approval of Meeting Minutes from June 2022.**
 - Approved by Tisha Elford.

2. Wizard of OZ Presentation

- There will be a live performance again this year. This year it will be “Wizard Of Oz With A Twist”.
- The script for this performance was written by Courtney Wehlage as a spin-off from the original Wizard of Oz. The script was then reviewed and revised by Lakie’s performing arts team, being Courtney Wehlage, Lori Adamson, Sheldon Arvay and Kristi Legge. The script includes some unique things and Lakie is very excited about the collaborative process of this performance, as it is unlike any performance they’ve previously done. The collaborative process consists of students designing costumes and set designs, as well as a variety of music and dances.
- Auditions will begin taking place next week.
- The performance will take place at Yates Memorial Centre in March 2023.

3. Admin Reports:

Brad Dersch, Principal

- Meetings will now take place on the 3rd Thursday of the month.
- Brad is happy to take on the role of principal this year.
- School enrollment numbers continue to increase. Currently there are 516 students enrolled at Lakie.

- Renovations/Constructions has commenced at the school. Renovations started outside today and will be in the works for the next several weeks. These renovations are happening as a result of a school grant that we had previously applied for and were successfully in getting approval for last year. The school plans to add some things to the outdoor space to help students transition from elementary school to middle school, but still meet the needs of middle school age students (ie. four square, basketball nets, picnic tables).
- School communication. If you are not already receiving the Gator Gab, please ensure you let the office know as it is a main means of communication. The school also uses School Messenger, Synervoice, Social Media, the school website and the digital sign outside to communicate with parents.
- We encourage middle school age kids to get involved at school as much as possible, as we believe their involvement at school adds to their overall middle school experience.
- This year all students will enter and exit through the main doors of the building only. Guest must buzz the doorbell at the main door to be let into the school. This has been recommended by Lethbridge Police Service and is in place for the safety of our students and staff.

Parent question: Have instructional hours changed in recent years?

Response addressed by Cheryl Gilmore, Superintendent.

- Instructional hours have not changed under the School Act for many years.
- Brad Dersch confirms that although Lakie dismisses students at 2pm on Wednesday, the approx. 1 hour of instruction is made up in other areas in the weekly schedule. It should also be noted that staff are not dismissed early on Wednesday, as this time is used for professional development.

Parent question regarding school bell times and bussing

Response by Cheryl Gilmore:

- Reliable safe transportation was the main goal of the School Division this year, as the Division was not pleased with how last year's bell times and bussing schedule worked out. It should be noted that Southland Transportation can provide us with whatever we need, however the issue that comes into play is costs. Every bus run costs between \$40,000 and \$60,000. It was more feasible and made more sense this year for elementary students to start later than high school kids.
- Kristin Larkin could not make it today and sends her regrets.

Matt Brunner, Vice Principal

- Fundraiser. Our fundraiser has been in full swing. At Lakie our fundraiser is a huge culture building event that is tied into our Fish Fridays. It is very fun for our students. As well, there are many giveaway prizes, etc. The fundraiser deadline will be October 3, 2022
- X-Country. This event went great and we were lucky enough to also have great weather.

- Volleyball. Volleyball has started. We've had a great vibe in our gymnasium with many supportive and excited spectators.
- Canteen. Our canteen is up and running for the second year. Canteen orders are done through School Cash Online and order deadline are the week prior. We are hoping to eventually expand on our canteen services and potentially offer walk-up orders one day per week. We are still trying to work out some details in this regard.
- School Clubs. Lakie provides a large variety of clubs for students, both during the day and afterschool. Students are encouraged to get involved.
- Bussing. Cheryl Gilmore discussed this earlier.

Aimee Dewacht, Vice-Principal

- Option change requests are now complete. It was a different process than we normally do, however, it seems to have gone quite well.
- Learning Commons. The learning commons has been reorganized to accommodate more than just reading. The reorganization has freed up some space for a learning sessions to better meet the needs of students. Whiteboards were also added for vertical learning, as well as other new equipment to make the space flexible and moveable.
- At next PL session on October 11 we will be doing a book study. There will also be a speaker.
- Benchmarking. When a new student comes to us and English is not their first language or they speak multiple languages in their house, we do an evaluation to find out where that student is at. The province re-released benchmarking and it is now more of a continuum. We are going to try the new benchmarking process this year and it will be the same for every student, as it will no longer be dependent on the students first language. Our staff have been very receptive to this and believe it will now be much better for tracking each student's growth.
- Refugee. Currently there are 150 intakes being completed within the Division. Students are either coming from a refugee camp or have limited exposure to school programing.

4. Trustee Report – N/A

5. Updates

A. Save the Kids Speaker

- i. Various school council have come today to bring in a Save The Kids Speaker. We are currently look for businesses to help with sponsorship for this event to decrease cost to various Parent Councils. Interested business may email Lakie's Parent Council at council@gmail.com
- ii. November 3rd there will be a Save the Kids Speaker at Chinook High School for all parents to attend.
- iii. November 4th (Fish Friday) there will be a Save the Kids Speaker/Presentation for Lakie students.

B. Agenda items to be added to any upcoming agenda

- If there are parents wishing to add items to the agenda at any future upcoming meetings, they may email Parent Council Admin at council@gmail.com.

6. New Business

i. Fundraising/Parent Council

- Currently the School does their own fundraising, which consists currently consists of the Powercards Fundraising during the month of September. Parent Council would like to provide Lakie with more benefits from fundraising and accordingly, would like to incorporate a Non-Profit Society to raise additional funds for our school. Over the next few months Parent Council will be working on the Bylaw, etc. to get this Society up and running.

7. Additional to Agenda

Nil

8. Upcoming events

- a. Orange Shirt Day – September 29, 2022
- b. National Truth & Reconciliation Day – September 30, 2022 (No School)
- c. Thanksgiving Day/PL Day – October 11 & 12, 2022 (No School)
- d. Parent Teacher Interviews – October 20 & 21, 2022 (No School)

9. Next Meeting

- a. Thursday, October 27, 2022 at 6:00 pm.
- b. Meeting Dates for the year: November 17, January 19, February 16, March 16, April 20, May 18, June TBD

10. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned. Motion for adjournment given by Vanessa Steele.

Chair

Donut Day raised money for Kona Ice
Staff appreciation –
Parent Night - *

Election

Chair – Vanessa Steele

Vice-Chair – Mike Shanks

Secretary – Christa Pike

Treasurer – Karma Van Schaik