



SCHOOL COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

H.A. Kostash School

September 13, 2022

Soft Start at 6:00 – 6:05 p.m.
Agenda to commence at 6:07 p.m.

Meeting Chair: *Lauren Melnyk*
Meeting Vice-Chair: *Lise van der Vaart*
HAK Trustee: Ward 6 (South East): *Elohne Chizawsky*
HAK School Principal: *Brenda Mykytiuk*
Recording Secretary: *Kelly Montgomery*



Ground Rules:

- **Remember Confidentiality** (share topics and learnings, not names and specifics)
- **Listen Actively** (no side-bar conversations; no cell phone use)
- **Share** (no voice dominates; all ideas matter)
- **Respect others' opinions and views** (all voices heard; agree to disagree)
- **Take responsibility for learning** (Participate! You only get out what you put in)
- **Promote discussion and group decision-making** (collective voice)

Provincial School Council Regulations:

<https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/school-councils/provincial-regulations>

Alberta School Council Association News:

<https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/about/news>

School Council Resource Guide :

<https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/public/download/documents/40732>

"We would like to acknowledge that we are on Treaty 6 territory, a traditional meeting grounds, gathering place, and traveling route to the Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Métis, Dene and Nakota Sioux. We acknowledge all the many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries."



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Land Acknowledgement

Attendance: Lisa Melnykchuk, Lauren Melnyk, Kelly Montgomery, Lindsay Trembecky, Jered Serben, Lise van der Vaart, Donna Cherniwchan, Leanna Gray, Elohne Chizawsky, Leah Wagil

1.0 Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:07pm by Lauren Melnyk

Introduction of guests and executive members -

Verification of quorum

2.0 Review of Agenda: None. Agenda accepted as presented.

3.0 Approve Last AGM minutes: [School Council AGM Minutes 2021](#) Donna Cherniwchan moved to accept the 2021 AGM meeting minutes, seconded by Lindsay Trembecky.

4.0 Elections:

Secretary: Kelly Montgomery volunteered. 2nd and 3rd call made. Nominations cease. Kelly Montgomery accepted the position.

Vice Chair: Lise van der Vaart volunteered to be Vice Chair. 2nd and 3rd call made. Nominations cease. Lise van der Vaart accepted the position.

Chair: Jered Serben nominated Lauren Melnyk. 2nd and 3rd call made. Nominations cease. Lauren Melnyk accepted the position.

5.0 Principal's Report: [September Principal's Report 2022](#)

- continually refining the communication pathway between teachers and parents via Remind, school newsletter, electronic board

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- Covid is still an issue we must be aware of. Students and staff are asked to stay home if they are feeling unwell.
- The new school construction progresses with various decisions needing to be made along the way. The general public must realize they are not able to tour the new school or the construction site.
- HAK will be hosting an information session about the importance of a school council and the role it plays in the school and community. This session will take place in October, details to come.

6.0 Trustee/ Board Highlights: Elohne Chizawsky

We had a Board Briefing on September 1st and held our Organizational meeting on September 8th. Our Board has had a trustee resign due to personal reasons. We will be holding a bi-election for Ward 1 to ensure that Aspen View has representation in all Wards. Candy Nikipelo continues as our Chair as it is a 2-year appointment and we have re-elected a vice chair. The members of the Board are excited that the new school year has begun and I am very happy to say that enrollment is up in most of our Schools. HAK has 39 new students.

As many of you know Mr. Dick Richards has retired and we have a new Administrator at HAK. Mrs. Brenda Mykitiuk is HAK's new Administrator. She is happy to be back at HAK and we all look forward to an excellent school year. With Mrs. Mykitiuk taking over at HAK, Vilna school now has a new Administrator as Mr. Joe Harrington has taken over that role. Joe has been at Vilna for many years and looks forward to his new role.

HAK is holding its pancake breakfast this Friday, September 16th at 8:30 am. Everyone is welcome. It has been a very LONG 2 ½ years without an Awards night. I am pleased to say that HAK will be holding their Awards night starting at 6:30 pm and Convocation to commence at 7:30 pm in person on September 23rd.

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I am sure that many of you have questions about the new school. Stantec tells us we are still on target and on budget. The completion date is March 31st.

We have a meeting with the Education Minister on September 30th. Our Board will be speaking to her about 2 of our major priorities. Rural transportation and the introduction of the new curriculum and recommendations on how it should be rolled out. In regard to Rural transportation-all rural divisions face many of the same problems. Insurance has jumped to over \$6200 to insure each school bus. It makes it almost impossible for private bus owners to insure more than 1 bus as some have in the past. Getting drivers is becoming more and more difficult as well. If we don't have drivers, we cannot get the students to school! And as we all know the price of fuel/diesel is atrocious. The fuel contingency put in place has helped but by no means is it an answer to our issues.

With the new curriculum, our board will discuss advocating for a "slow down" for the implementation for 2023 and how it should be rolled out. Aspen View has a new associate Superintendent, Katherine Mann who is leading the implementation, gathering, and organizing of resources for our staff. We thank our staff for starting the implementation of the new curriculum. It is not an easy task.

The amended Use of Highway and Rules of the Road Regulation will allow school buses to drive at the posted speed limit on Alberta highways, instead of at 90 km/h. Alberta was the only Canadian jurisdiction that still limited the maximum speed limit for school buses. Permitting school buses to travel at posted highway speeds will increase road safety by reducing the likelihood of drivers taking unnecessary risks to pass slower-moving school buses. This speed limit change was recommended in a report released by the Student Transportation Task Force.

A number of School Boards have advocated for this change for years. The ASBA also made a motion some time ago to have the speed limit changed. The change came into effect on Sept. 1st/22.

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7.0 Standing Business:

8.0 New Business:

- Creation of a new school logo- tabled until next meeting
- July 2023- people will have an opportunity to purchase remaining items from the old school.
- People will have a chance to tour the old school before it is taken down.
- Bricks may be sold from the old school as a school fundraiser.
- The playground will remain where it is. CASA is currently discussing the idea of constructing healthy living/ outdoor workout areas around the new school.
- There is no final word on what is going to happen with the old school though. The small gym may remain open.

9.0 Upcoming Events for School Council involvement:

- Pancake breakfast and Meet the Teacher- September 16th, 2022
- CASA meeting- September 22nd, 2022
- Awards Night and Grade 12 Convocation- September 23rd, 2022 at 6:30pm

10.0 Roundtable:

-Ukrainian language program- Elohne Chizawsky will look into this topic; in school or online. Although not part of the public school program, CLC will be offering a course in the community later in the fall.

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- Hot lunch- a job ad has been posted for this position and it closes on September 19th, 2022.

- The Smoky Lake Public Library is not moving into the new school.

- Jr and Sr High options- The question was asked, how does the school pick the options available to Jr and Sr High students. The students are asked what topics they would find useful. Donna Cherniwchan mentioned enrollment has increased this year so there may be more money for funding the options. Kelly Montgomery suggested surveying the parents to see what option ideas they have for their children. Jered Serben spoke about the need to focus on practical learning for the students. There is a need in the community and the province to provide the students with useful skill sets. Here is an opportunity for HAK to provide students with learnings they will rely on. Jered Serben suggested approaching Smoky Lake County with what the learning needs are and the County will assist HAK in securing funds. I

11.0 Next Meeting of the HAK School Council: This will be determined once a date for the school council information session has been agreed upon.

12.0 Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 7:23pm

AGM Action Items:

- 1) **Chairperson:**
- 2) **Vice-President:**
- 3) **Secretary:** Letter to Smoky Lake County highlighting learning/ options needs.

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