

Aspen Grove School Council Jan 13, 2025

School Council and Society – Working commitments:

The working commitments and behaviors of the group include active listening, inclusivity where all voices are valued, ensuring transparency in decision-making each other accountable, and collaborating with shared goals to support student while clearly defining roles to avoid duplication of efforts and coordinating on initiatives like fundraising to align with school priorities.



1.0 Call to Order

- Welcome and Introductions:

2.0 Attendance

Johamah, Andrea, Nikki, Kathy, Jacalyn, Brandi, Ashley, Colin, Arlene, Jacob, Whitney

3.0- Aspen School Council Executive are:

Chair- Brandi Smith

Vice Chair -Jacalyn Schultz

Secretary -Ashley Vincent

Treasurer -Kathy Lamson

4.0 Review of the Agenda and additions

- Munch A Lunch Dates- posted for remainder of the year (Mucho Burrito, Papa Murphys, hot dog day, Wok Box, Mary Browns) has been shared and will be re-shared
- Literacy Week Jan 27-30- teachers have formed a committee to plan Literacy Week. They were very happy with the prizes, logging reading minutes- next year will try to start early in January on the return from Christmas break to encourage more reading minutes. Then everyone's name will go into a draw for participation prizes. Arlene will liaison after next teacher meeting regarding prizes and information will be shared with all parents by the school/teachers.
- Gently used Gator Gear (School Swag)- all Aspen Grove clothing that your children have outgrown will be shared with other Aspen families. Younger kids grow so quickly and grade 8's moving on to high school may have clothing to donate. May run simultaneously to new gator gear being sold online. Perhaps could be set up with the family movie night. Donations will come into the school, can be washed and checked for gentle use, and then can be redistributed to new students for free to those that would not have had the opportunity to get new gear. Could have some new Gator items on display/sizing at family events for everyone to have a look at.
- Shout out for Facebook postings for dates, reminders, simple layouts have been appreciated.
- February Family Movie night – select date? License to get a pre-release movie before it comes out to rent or buy, or purchase to stream. Date will be Thursday, February 27 before the PL Friday. Can sell popcorn and treats in the canteen, admission will be free. Could collect donations for non-perishable food items. Students can bring pillows, stuffies, blankets etc. Doors open at 6, movie starts at 6:30 pm to allow time to set up and purchase items from the

canteen. Can follow with a spring dance in April or May for another opportunity to have families come in to the school.

- Council of Schools Council Workshop Jan 23rd CO Board Room (Chair Basics- Not Just for Chairs) Brandi, Jacalyn and Admin will be attending. This was something discussed previously to try to get out to more PD opportunities, other group members can attend future opportunities.
- ASCA subcommittee (purpose, expectations and vote)- Andrea brought up last meeting joining/bringing resolutions forward to ASCA. We need to decide as a school council if this is something we would like to do- would this be a subcommittee- most likely led by Andrea and would meet out of parent council time- any propositions could be brought forward to the group to vote on, and then brought forward as a resolution to ASCA. We need to decided as a group if it is something we would like to pursue, and then form a group, which would give about 10 minute updates at parent council meetings. All the resolutions brought forward may already be on the table, would require a lot of research to ensure it is a new resolution, and then would have to represent the majority of the group. Why do we want to bring it forward? Would impact does it have on students? What impact does it have on parent council? Also shares ideas on school engagement- but this is also directly related to the PD that will be attended on January 23. Committee can not only be one person- needs to represent the group, and member needs to commit to time on the sub-committee. Dates for resolutions are due on January 16. Other information in ASCA could be sharing with parents current information- for example potential strikes in schools- however at this point there is a lot of rumors and not specific information to be communicated. Perhaps there are other parents in the school who would be interested in joining- could postpone until next meeting. Nikki, Johamah, and Nikki volunteer to be on the sub-committee. The meeting on January 23- is free- provided by the school district- was only open to admin and parent council chairs and vice-chairs, provides training to new parent council executives. More training is provided by ASCA at a cost and is shown virtually. Essentially it is training to allow parent councils to become more knowledgeable in running effective parent councils.
- Motion made by Andrea, seconded by Nikki
All in favour to have a sub-committee for ASCA: 7 for, 2 against
Sub-committee will be Johamah, Nikki and Andrea. Will provide an information update at meetings for 10 minute cap.

5.0 Approval of Minutes from Nov 2024

Jacalyn motions to approve, Kathy seconds, all in favour, carried

6.0 Treasurers Report- moved to Foundation Meeting.

8.0 Principal Report-

Turkey dinner was a wonderful success and very appreciated to have had the support from donations and parent council. Winter Carnival was enjoyed by families and a success. Collaborative practices- looking at attendance policy- 92% attendance rate which is exceptional. Perhaps students with perfect attendance could be recognized in a way. Average at other schools may be around 85%. Learning walks are admin being present in classrooms and giving feedback to teachers. Currently in the process of Responsive Planning, utilizing data walls, knowing what supports students, knowing students and knowing how to accommodate all needs.

School basketball season has started- 1 boy and girls JH teams- they practice at lunch and after school.

Bell Let's Talk campaign has received a coffee lid to decorate with words of encouragement and then will be distributed to coffee shops around town for January 22.

January 17- next assembly- introducing Truth/Turtle sacred teaching

Literacy Week is annuary 26-February 2 as discussed earlier

Connect Team- Mental Health Capacity Building Team- students in grades 7 & 8 are receiving a 5 week program for looking after your mental health. Trying with the older kids this time to see if it has more of an impact than the younger kids.

2 EAs resigned over the Christmas break- repalcements have been re-hired. We also hired another EA to support our inclusive students.

NWP 3rd year Nursing Students are in this week to provide presentations to grades 1-6 (nutrition, body image, hygiene etc)

9.0 School Board Trustee Report-Andre is absent

10.0 Questions/ Other Business-none to add

11.0 Next Meeting – February 10

12.0 Adjournment

Aspen Grove Greater Gator Society Jan 13, 2025

School Council and Society – Working commitments:

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1.0 Call to Order at 7:36

- Welcome and Introductions- no new members in attendance

2.0 Attendance

Johamah, Nikki, Kathy, Jacalyn, Brandi, Ashley, Colin, Arlene, Jacob, Whitney

3.0 Society Executive are:

Chair- Brandi Smith

Vice Chair -Jacalyn Schultz

Secretary -Ashley Vincent

Treasurers -Kathy Lamson/Jacalyn Schultz

4.0 Review of the Agenda

Fundraisers for the remainder of the 24-25 year:

- Let it Sow (seeds) pamphlets- to be shared- paper/cash orders give 50% profit, only 40% online. Brochures and orders will be provided for free. Should be in next week.
- Chocolate almonds to come in April. Prizes for top sellers to drive engagement. May have leftover prizes from Literacy Week, which were donated by anonymous donations.
- Discuss money to save for Playground VS supporting School Initiatives? (ex 40/60)- can still support current students and what is happening in the school, but still working towards the playground, provide a budget/framework to work towards. Playground will likely be around \$150-200 k. Can always add on more pieces as time goes on. Next year do a bigger ticket fundraiser for the playground (50/50 tickets, tickets for an all-inclusive vacation etc.) Will solidify plans by the end of this school year.
Ashley motions for 40% goes toward playground/60% goes to school initiatives, seconded by Kathy- all in favour, motion carried.
- Did not receive Blue Cross or Rotary grant, but can apply again next year for both. Brandi is in communication with grant writers for future grants. We did previously receive a Rotary Grant for 25 k in the fall. Brandi to inquire about grants for inclusive playground equipment, suggested by Arlene. Kerri-Lee Geerlings and Jamie Dowry from Riverstone are a contact to inquire about a matching grant through the government. Kal-Tire also has a grant for 36 k to look into. When we get closer to building the playground we could get businesses to sponsor specific pieces of smaller cost equipment and provide plaques to show appreciation/

5.0 Approval of Minutes from Sept 2024

Approved by Johamah, seconded by Brandi

All in favour

6.0 Approval and Additions

7.0 Treasurer Report

\$37,340 general bank balance

\$39, 571.90 casino bank balance

Cheques written since last meeting:

Cheque 380- Julie Hardacker- 524.50 Fun Lunch Supplies Hotdog day

Cheque 381 Julie Hardacker- 173.04 Turkey Dinner Supplies (plates, napkins, tablecloths)

Cheque 382 Jacalyn Schultz-1000.00 gift cards for x-mas hampers (4x\$250 walmart)

Cheque 383 Julie Hardacker- 47.62 Fun lunch supplies Papa Murphys

Cheque 385 Papa Murphys 1289.82 Fun Lunch

Hot Dog Fun Lunch profit- \$348.06

Papa Murphys Fun Lunch profit- \$581.53

Growing Smilies- \$998.47 (50% refunds were given out due to poor quality of wreaths)

8.0 Fundraising Reports

See agenda items above

9.0 Items for approval from School Council:

None

10.0 Next Meeting

February 10

11.0 Meeting Adjourned

Adjourned at 7:44 pm