

MidSun School Council Meeting + AGM Minutes

Tuesday, September 24, 2024

Recorder: Jessica W

Attendees (17): Kristine C-G, Jen D, Jeanne F, Pam P, Jamie C, Lisa S, Callie S, Karla S, Shelly C, Jenine S, Tiana L, Ivo J, Danny Y, Erica M, Deanne W-F, Shalene C, Monalisa S

Staff Attendees (2): Charlene Kushniruk (Principal), Jenn Grant (Assistant Principal)

Meeting called to order: 6:00pm

Welcome and Introductions

Motion made by Jamie C to approve the MidSun School Council Meeting & AGM agenda for September 24, 2024. Seconded by Jen D. Carried.

Motion made by Deanne W-F to approve the MidSun School Council meeting minutes from May 28, 2024. Seconded by Jen D. Carried.

1. Chair Update

- A. Thank you to 2023-2024 MidSun School council members.
- B. Kristine C-G gave the group an introduction to the AGM and encouraged everyone to sign-up for open executive and volunteer positions.
- C. Kristine C-G discussed that the speaker initially scheduled for the Fall, Shanna Shepard, is currently in limbo as funds were frozen due to grant expiration. Update to be provided at the next meeting.
- D. Kristine C-G also encouraged attendees to invite family and friends to volunteer at the school. Police clearances from previous elementary schools can be transferred to MidSun. This year, the CBE will provide a voucher code for the cost of obtaining a police certificate. For more information, contact Jeanne F or Kathy in the MidSun office.

2. AGM 2024-2025: Executive Positions (elected)

- A. Treasurer: Erin Loyd
- B. Secretary: Jessica Weatherhead
- C. Vice-Chair: Jamie Carter
- D. Chair: Kristine Chambers-Gibbs

Motion made by Tiana L to elect Erin Loyd, Jessica Weatherhead, Jamie Carter, and Kristine Chambers-Gibbs into elected executive positions of the MidSun School Council for 2024-2025. Seconded by Jen D. No discussion. All present (17) voted in favour. Carried.

Volunteer / Appointed Positions. Appointed by Kristine C-G.

- A. Volunteer Coordinator: Jeanne Ferguson
- B. Fun Lunch Coordinator: Jen Daramola. Currently looking for co-chair for transition to next school year.
- C. Key Communicator: Jenine Stel
- D. Casino Chair: Deanne Wheeler. Co-chair Shelly Castellano.
- E. Staff Appreciation co-coordinators: Danny Yip and Lisa Shearer
- F. Fundraising Coordinator: Open

2. Meet the Principal, Assistant Principal and School Update

- A. Charlene K had the floor for an introduction as the new MidSun school principal providing a brief overview of her education, background and work history with the CBE and both the Calgary and Edmonton Catholic Schools.
- B. Jenn G provided a school update and will be aiming to post at least one photo per day on Instagram (IG handle: midsunschool). Jenn G also noted that house games have started where students will be able to earn points to win pizza parties throughout the year.
- C. Jenn G also discussed that the student advisory council for student-lead initiatives and changes will be going ahead again this year with the support of Mr. Wilson.
- D. Charlene K discussed upcoming fee increases for 2024-2025 which will be different than previous years. Families can expect communication on how the school plans to implement fees increased in certain courses (food, comtech, construction, field trips, band) to offset costs. Some attendees asked about how the fee increases will change the quality of programming. Others asked about fees for grade 7s who will be moving through 8-week option programs.
- E. Charlene K and Jenn G spoke to the implementation of the new cell phone legislation (no phones from bell to bell). They noted that it was an easy transition for grade 7s and even though it was more difficult for 8s and 9s, the students are doing great. The school has a different feel and office referrals are down significantly.
- F. Charlene K noted that parking has been monitored and the school is focusing on safety over convenience. Initially, there were a lot of questions from families about the changes to drop-off/pick-up areas but there has been hardly any push back. Bus students now have a safe walk from the unloading zone to the school.

Families have adjusted meeting spots, and the school is hoping that families continue to abide by the rules throughout the winter.

- G. Charlene K advised that she is now using Smore for the weekly Mid-Sun messenger update which will be circulated on Fridays. Attendees asked if there could be an option to sync the school calendar to personal calendars.
- H. Charlene K noted the email circulated to families about spectating school sports with mindful reminders to be respectful and kind. She also advised the attendees that students are not allowed at other schools without a parent.
- I. Charlene K noted that MidSun currently has 637 students (initially projected for 642) and they will be adding four new students late September.
- J. Jenn G discussed that clubs (chess, Uno, board games, balloon animals and Rubik's cube) at the school are starting up which will increase as the weather gets colder. She also noted that there is a math/science support club every Thursday afterschool and to expect more information about the culinary club.

3. Key Communicator Update

- A. No report.

4. New Business / Open Table

- A. Kristine C-G opened the table to discuss and vote for the start time for parent council meetings going-forward. The attendees voted for either Option A: 6pm or Option B: 6:30pm. In a vote of 11 to 6, option B had the majority vote.
- B. Kristine C-G reminded the group that there are links to:

CBE School Council Handbook: <https://cbe.ab.ca/FormsManuals/School-Council-Handbook.pdf>

Administrative Guidelines –School Councils and School Societies:
<https://cbe.ab.ca/GovernancePolicies/AR5001.pdf>

- C. Kristine C-G also discussed an organization called *Between Friends* which may be of interest to our Blue Pod/Complex Needs students and families. Charlene K and Jenn G will discuss before the intake for families in January 2025.
- D. No further business.

Meeting adjourned: 7:28pm

Next meeting Tuesday, October 22 at 6:30pm