

Meeting Minute  
Alta Vista School Council Meeting  
Wednesday, April 17, 2024 7-9 pm

1. Welcome and Introduction (Melissa Extross, Chair)

2. Approval of Agenda

**Agenda was approved**

3. Approval of last meeting's minutes

**March Meeting minutes were approved**

4. Chair's Report (Melissa Extross)

- Spring Fair Committee - still open to any and all new volunteers
- How do we want to support events at other local schools?  
**Recent outreach from Ridgemont and Featherston to co-run or promote events at the other schools. Discussion surrounded the concept of supporting our sibling schools events but not oversaturating our community with endless emails, etc. Group consensus was that we would not email out to our community about other events but rather promote them via our Facebook page.**

5. Administrative Report (Dennis Paré, Principal)

- School Updates  
**The construction project is ongoing, and we anticipate returning to the office soon. They are hoping for occupancy by April 9. Additionally, there are discussions about adding a ramp at the front door while the removal of the retaining wall is being considered. However, there is no timeline for the demolition yet, and it won't occur before the end of the school year. We're unsure if the accessible parking lot will be affected or relocated.**
- Staffing Updates  
**This time of the year is busy for administration. Staffing allocations based on the tentative number of students we are getting. We are expecting the same number this September 2024 as last September 2023, so teaching allocation will remain the same. Expecting 4 Kindergarten classes this coming September instead of 5. Dennis solicits input from the staff around this time. By early May, they start hiring lists.**

6. Teacher's Report (Stephanie Hindle, Teacher's Representative)

- Update on School Activities  
Kindergarten:  
**Spring brings outdoor fun with soccer balls, hula hoops, and more as our play structure reopens! Students learn about life cycles and signs of Spring. Building**

Science vocabulary in English and French. Looking forward to the field trip to the Experimental Farm in early May.

Primary:

- 2A and 2B were working on sound and reading
- Learning about dogs and dog safety with the Ottawa Humane Society
- Grade 2s participated in a multi faith worship space field trip. They visited Hindu Temple, a Jewish synagogue, a Greek Orthodox church and a mosque. Field trip is done to learn about similarities and differences between religious traditions in Canada.
- Grade 3 will be going to swim to lessons, taking the bus to Sawmill Creek.
- Grade 3s have been learning all about structures, and how to make a strong structure.
- EF3A/B/C were lucky to have Mme. Siryne's sister Laurena and her friend Jean come and talk to the class about the school where they teach in Paris, France, with an interest on favourite French desserts.

Junior:

- EF4A and EF4B participated in the Scientists in School's "Get it in Gear" workshop
- AV Junior Girls and Boys Basketball teams both came in third place at our regional basketball tournaments
- Junior Skipping Club is underway each week to kick off "Jump Rope for the Heart" in May.

Intermediate:

- Hydraulics Build: students created moveable machines, really exciting to see.
- Display in the Halls:
  - Candy inspired Shoe design Art
  - Black History Month Art, inspired by Alma Thomas
- Combined Math and English for Grade 7
- First Nations Learning: Craig is Mushkeggowuk Cree, a member of Attawapiskat First Nation. The Grade 7 classes received a presentation on Wampum belts and Bannock
- Badminton team is underway, tournament will be held on May 1st.

School wide:

- Jungle Sport: coming from April 29-May 3
- May Marathon Month: this will run again this year. Each morning 8:45-9am students Grades 1-8 are welcome to join

**Staff are very grateful to have such a dedicated and supportive team behind them!**

7. Treasurer's Update (Kathy Wrye, Treasurer)

- Financial update
  - **Current Council Account Balance: \$38,534.24**
  - **Total net funds raised so far: \$5,153**
  - **Total funds spent so far: \$16,838**
  - **Total amount allocated to requests & standing items is \$35,085 (term 1 & 2)**
  - **Remaining funds that could be allocated: \$12,310**

**Voting items: \$1,765**

- **\$125 – Ice Maker for phys ed office - approved**
- **\$340 – Tent for sporting events - approved**
- **\$500 – Grade 7 & 8 Planned Parenthood workshops - approved**
- **\$800 – Get Real Inclusivity workshop for the junior division - approved**

8. Committee/Event reports and updates

- Spring Fair Committee (Melissa)  
**Coordinator positions have been assigned, but we're still in need of volunteers and support staff. With the Spring Fair just one month away, we're pleased with our progress compared to last year. We're currently gathering donations for the silent auction, reaching out to food vendors and activity providers, and finalizing the event schedule. If you're interested in lending a hand in any capacity, please don't hesitate to reach out - your assistance would be greatly appreciated!**
- Movie Night update (Dean)  
**The movie night will be on April 26th and the movie will be "Raya and the Last Dragon"**
- FOTW Update (Kathy)  
**Planning is going well. The Event is being held at the school tomorrow, April 18. Have booked Jaquie Du Toit as the performer for the evening; she will be performing 'Songs from the Motherland'. Over 140 people have RSVP's so should have a good amount of food. Still light on volunteers, so if anyone is able to help out let Kathy know.**
- Deals on Wheels (Ahmed)  
**Everything is going well. Ahmed will touch base with Mais for things to sell, just waiting to send the announcement. It is scheduled for April 28. This Spring Consignment sale is where people can bring anything on wheels (i.e. bikes, skateboards, etc.) can be sold and where the school also takes a percentage. All unsold items will be picked up and not stored.**

## 9. Discussion items and New business

- Atletico Ottawa fundraising opportunity

**When requesting a silent auction donation from Ottawa Atlético, they indicated a preference for doing a collaboration with Council instead by offering a discount code to Alta Vista families in exchange for promoting the team on our website and facebook page. Two options were presented to Council for consideration:**

- **Promo code for all home games for the remainder of the 2024 season; discount would be approximately 10%**
- **Fundraiser for the school, where the Council would receive \$2 for each ticket sold using the promo code provided; under this option purchasers would still receive a discount, but would be lower (around 10%)**
- **It was also suggested in discussion with the organisation that a donation to the silent auction would be contingent on generating sufficient sales of tickets. However, at this point the silent auction coordinator is not counting on a donation from the team and is presenting this to Council strictly as a fundraising opportunity that may align well with interest in soccer in the school community.**

**Ottawa Atlético would also be open to collaborating with teachers at the school and offered to come to the school to do some soccer activities with the kids, including bringing some players.**

**Council decided to go ahead with organising the fundraiser option. Kathy will follow up with Ottawa Atlético to get it going. She will also follow up at some point with Kathleen Connelly and Beth Rutland about Ottawa Atlético visiting the school.**

- Eclipse glasses collection

**School parent, Cathy Richards, offered to help organize a collection of eclipse glasses to be sent to South America so that children there can watch the eclipse taking place in the Fall of this year.**

- Featherston School Council PRO Grant event (May 8)

**Speaker event with a focus on mental health and self regulation. Featherston planned and executed the event but invited Alta Vista, Arch St. and Pleasant park to join them at this event. Will take place on May 8th in their gym. All are invited but topics will be geared towards parents and caregivers.**

- May meeting - in person or virtual? **Virtual meeting for May confirmed**

- Reminder:

- Flavours of the World scheduled for April 18th
- Spring Fair Committee meeting scheduled for April 23rd
- Final Movie Night of the school year scheduled for April 26th (Raya and the Last Dragon)
- Deals on Wheels scheduled for April 28th

## 10. Next meeting: May 15, 2024 **Virtual**