

March 1, 2023



# STEMIA SCHOOL COUNCIL

3553 31 St NW  
Calgary, AB  
T2L 2K7

MINUTES

Deborah Toth, Secretary

STEMIASCMarch2023(13)

## DATE/ TIME

March 1, 2023/ 6.30 PM  
3553 31 Street NW  
T2L 2K7  
STEM Innovation Academy Junior High Campus

## FACILITATORS

STEMIA School Council Executive Committee

## ATTENDEES

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Shawn Furlong (Vice-Chairperson)  
Deborah Toth (Secretary)  
Josephin Justine (Treasurer)

### SCHOOL STAFF/ ADMINISTRATION

Bob Ackerman (Jr. High School Principal)  
Jeff Crane (Sr. High School Principal)  
Matt Honeywood (Teacher Representative)

## APOLOGIES

Golden (Gurmeet) Bhatia (Chairperson)  
Kerry Blum (School Principal)  
Ibeth Albertazzi (High School Director)

### PARENTS

Lisa M., R-C, Lisa T.

## CALL TO ORDER

Quorum declared to be present and meeting **called to order at 6.30 PM** by Shawn Furlong.

## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

### WELCOME

Shawn Furlong introduced the members of the Executive Committee and gave a Land Acknowledgement.

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

### APPROVAL OF TODAY'S AGENDA March 1, 2023 (Shawn F./ Deb T.)

Agenda, with amendments, was unanimously approved as distributed.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF February 1, 2023 (Deb T./ Lisa T.)

The Minutes from our February 1st, 2023 meeting were unanimously approved.

## REPORTS

### CHAIR REPORT- Shawn Furlong

#### STEMIA 2023 Science Fair

Shawn thanked the parents who graciously agreed to volunteer at the Science Fair as guest judges. Thank to Ms. Janessa Bretner for guiding and leading our students. Many of their projects were incredibly advanced and forward-thinking.

### PRINCIPAL REPORT- Jeff Crane and Bob Ackerman

#### Sparkans (Jeff Crane)

The Senior High Robotics club, known as the Sparkans, set up a GoFundMe account to fundraise for the materials needed for their project. The club has traveled to Victoria and they are currently presenting their work. Ms. Blum is currently in Victoria and has accompanied the students on this trip. They are competing against strong teams from Taiwan and Hawaii. We are proud of the Sparkans and what they've accomplished within a short period of time.

#### Finalizing Report Cards (Bob Ackerman and Jeff Crane)

We are currently finalizing report cards and IPP reports at both campuses. Report card writing usually takes place during PD days. Report cards will be available on Powerschool.

#### PD days (Bob Ackerman and Jeff Crane)

On PD days, our staff from both campuses, meet to discuss the needs of our students and how to bridge gaps that can help smoothen the transition for our Grade 9 students. Our Junior and Senior high teachers collaborate to discuss resources and develop assessment guides and expectations that can positively help our students and parents navigate the transition from Junior high to our Senior high program.

PD days are also extremely valuable for our teachers who get to further explore programs that can improve our current option courses. Some of our teachers went to the UofC to learn more about Biomedical Engineering, Robotics, and Mechatronics programs that could be incorporated

in our options' curriculum. PD days were also helpful for our teachers in terms of Schoology workshop, FabLab technology, Grading reviews and guidelines, etc.

### **High School Open House (Jeff Crane)**

We recently hosted a High School Open House with around 550 attendees. We were very happy with the interest we received. Another lottery will take place next week. In September 2023, we will be welcoming 250 new Grade 10 students at our new location. The announcement of the new High School location will take place within the next few weeks. Class sizes at our new High School campus will be relatively small with 25 to 30 students per classroom.

### **Options (Bob Ackerman and Jeff Crane)**

Option course selection will take place in March and April. Students can do this through their Powerschool account. New incoming students at STEM IA have a different process to register for their options.

### **Staffing (Bob Ackerman)**

Posting for new jobs will take place on our school website. We have some strong candidates who have already expressed interest in joining our team as STEMIA teachers. Interviews will begin next week.

### **Spark Time (Jeff Crane)**

Spark time (tutorial time) is an opportunity for students to connect with their teachers before and after school. Spark time helps if our students have questions and concerns about the course material. Our teachers are eager to help during this one-on-one time, but there are not a lot of attendees during Spark Time. We want our parents to be aware that Spark time is helpful and students who need extra guidance could really benefit from this.

### **Bus Update (Bob Ackerman)**

A transportation meeting took place on February 22<sup>nd</sup> at our Junior High campus. Our Principal, School Superintendent, and myself, were present to answer questions and gather ideas/suggestions pertaining to our transportation struggles. In addition, two management representatives from First Student, were there to offer some insight as to why two of our routes do not have a full-time bus driver. The meeting resulted in a lot of good ideas and suggestions. An email was sent out to all parents to share a summary of what was discussed. Ultimately, we remain committed to our STEM IA families and will continue advocating for full-time bus drivers to serve our routes.

Bus fees are due by March 15<sup>th</sup>. If you are in need of assistance, please talk to Ms. Kurucz, our bus coordinator. We are happy to work with families and we understand that everyone has unique challenges.

## **MATT HONYWOOD**

### **Schoology**

Thanks to Schoology, the results of a test are available in a timely manner, and provide immediate and quick feedback to students on how they did on a test. The feedback can tell our students what they're doing right, and where they need to improve. Schoology is very helpful for teachers as it guides us in our understanding of what is working for our students. The information that Schoology provides can help us improve our course delivery and gives us a good indication of whether the material taught was properly understood by our students. Armed with this information, we can make appropriate changes that can help both our students and teachers. I am currently working with teachers at both campuses to help them better understand the grading guidelines on Schoology.

# TREASURER REPORT

TREASURER REPORT (Josephin J.)

STEMIA School Council

Treasurer Report: MAR 01, 2023 (AGM)

Period of Feb 01, 2023 to Mar 01, 2023

				Money Out
<b>Starting Balance</b>			<b>\$1141.91</b>	
Deposits/Income				
<b>Date (MM/DD/YYYY)</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Expenses</b>
Feb-01-2023	Cheque	HH- Fun Lunch	\$300.25	
Feb-01-2023	Cheque	HH- Fun Lunch	\$342.26	
Feb-01-2023	Cheque	HH- Fun Lunch	\$ 83.64	
Feb-14-2023	Cheque	HH- Fun Lunch	\$395.25	
Feb-14-2023	Cheque	HH- Fun Lunch	\$ 83.64	
Feb-14-2023	Cheque	HH- Fun Lunch	\$ 96.10	
Feb-14-2023	Cheque	HH- Fun Lunch	\$ 69.75	
<b>Ending Balance</b>			<b>\$2512.80</b>	

**APPROVAL OF TREASURER REPORT (Josephin J./ Deb T>)**

Motion unanimously passed.

**ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING DATE**

Mr. Shawn Furlong adjourned the Meeting at 7:45 PM. The next meeting will take place in May 2023 via ZOOM

