

June 7, 2023



STEMIA SCHOOL COUNCIL

3553 31 St NW
Calgary, AB
T2L 2K7

MINUTES

Deborah Toth, Secretary

AGM

STEMIASCJune2023(15)

DATE/ TIME

June 7, 2022/ 6.30 PM via ZOOM/ AGM

FACILITATORS

STEMIA School Council Executive Committee

ATTENDEES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Golden (Gurmeet) Bhatia (Chairperson)
Shawn Furlong (Vice-Chairperson)
Deborah Toth (Secretary)
Josephin Justine (Co-Treasurer)
Ibeth Albertazzi (High School Director)

SCHOOL STAFF/ ADMINISTRATION

Kerry Blum (Sr. High School Principal)
Michelle Alberts (Jr. High School Principal)
Caitlin Gillie (Teacher Representative)

PARENTS

Charles I., Sophie T. M-C H., Melanie Y., Chriag D., Harpreet S.D., Cat K., Shriya, Bernette H., Karen A., Amber M., Rebecca O., Chirag D., Liliana, Mai N., Gaurav W., Charles C., Jennifer I., Lisa L., Razaq L.

CALL TO ORDER

Quorum declared to be present and meeting **called to order at 6.36 PM** by Golden Bhatia.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

WELCOME

Golden Bhatia introduced the members of the Executive Committee and gave a Land Acknowledgement.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

APPROVAL OF AGENDA WITH AMENDMENTS (Deb T./ Golden B.)

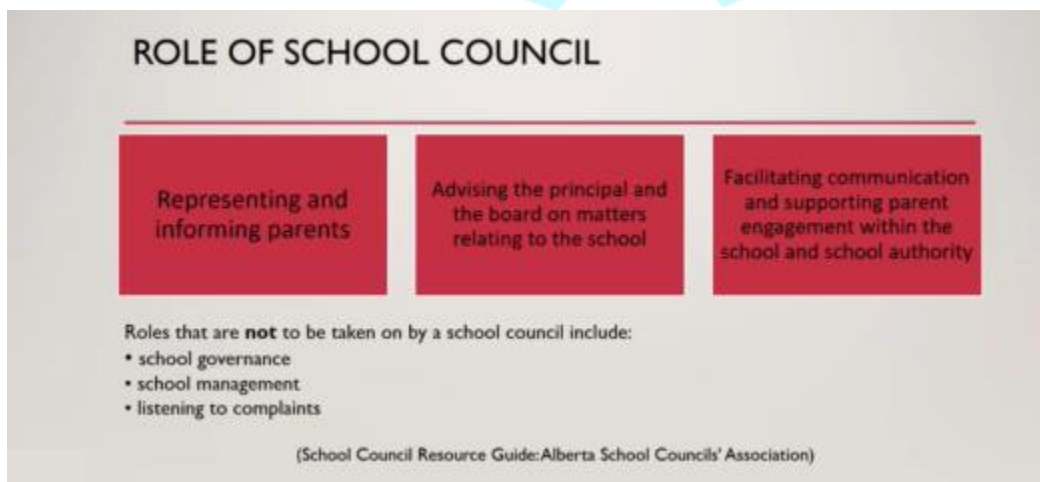
AGM Agenda, with amendments, was unanimously approved as distributed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF May 10, 2023 (Deb T./ Rebecca O.)

The Minutes from our May 10, 2023 meeting were unanimously approved.

REPORTS

CHAIR REPORT- Golden Bhatia





Volunteer opportunities for parents and students are available at: <https://stemicouncil.ca/volunteer/>

PRINCIPAL REPORT- Kerry Blum, Michelle Alberts, & Caitlin Gillie

Thank You Parents and Teachers (Michelle Alberts)

I want to thank Ms. Gillie, our student council, and all you parents for a fantastic year. We're looking forward to wrapping up this year with the fun activities that are being planned by our student council.

Soccer + Track and Field (Michelle Alberts)

I was lucky enough to attend the first track and meet for half a day. We're so impressed with the 18 athletes who advanced to the Jr. High finals. The soccer and track/field seasons have officially concluded. Mr. Wood led our soccer team and we were able to end the season on really high note.

Chess team (Michelle Alberts)

The chess team went to Edison School last Friday. Our school placed 3rd and that was incredibly exciting!

PD Days (Michelle Alberts)

Since our last meeting, we've had two PD days where we focused on building classrooms for next year, and write our IPPs.

Final Exams (Michelle Alberts)

Final exam week will take place during the last two weeks of June. A lot of information has been sent to parents. Grade 9's will be writing their PATs and the second last week of June will involve final exams for Grade 7 and Grade 8. If a student is away, they are still expected to make arrangements with their teachers to schedule their exams and submit their final projects/ assignments. The last day of school will be Wednesday, June 28th. The kids will be dismissed early on that day.

Grade 9 Farewell Celebration (Michelle Alberts)

Our Farewell celebration will take place on June 16th and will last about 1 hour, followed by food and light refreshments for our students and families. Thank you to our School Council for helping with this event.

Next School Year Bussing (Michelle Alberts)

Good news! We will have 11 busses (instead of 9) that will be servicing the year 2023-2024. First Student is still in the process of building the routes. We will share more information as soon as we can.

Phys-Ed Shirt (Michelle Alberts)

Our teachers have identified the need for a shirt that is dedicated to Phys-ed classes. As such, they've proposed that a new shirt, specifically for Phys-ed, is worn by all students next year. They are currently designing this Phys-ed specific shirt. The cost will be \$15 per shirt. We will give an update when the shirt has been designed. This shirt will be helpful for multiple reasons and will help our students with more hygienic practices.

Year-end celebration in Kananaskis (Kerry Blum)

We are taking our staff and Sr. High students to Fullerton Loop to enjoy a hike. They're pretty excited for this event which will include team-building games.

Last days of School (Kerry Blum)

Our last day of school will be June 20th, and tutorial day will be June 21st. Our last week of exams is scheduled between June 22nd and June 27th.

CALM Classes (Kerry Blum)

Today was a great day at the school with the mandatory Alberta Education CALM classes. For those of you who aren't familiar with those, CALM classes help with practical resume building and interview skills when applying for jobs. We've had volunteers (many of them with an HR background) come in to do mock interviews for our students. Their comments were very positive and they reported being blown away by our students. Shout out to our STEMIA parents. We're very proud of our kids and STEMIA families.

Projections for next year (Kerry Blum)

I want to share some data regarding student enrolment at both campuses. We started spring 2021 with 400 very brave families, with many parents never having stepped foot in our school building. We are thankful for the parents who believe in our vision. In our second year, we grew 40% up to 565 kids between grades 7 and 10. For next year, we are looking at another 56% from this year to 2023-2024. We will be up to 881 students next year, with a forecasted growth of up to 1000 students. The waitlist is absolutely massive and we are humbled by the interest we are receiving in our program. We have done over 100 interviews over the last two months and we've hired a lot more staff to support our expanding classes.

Charter HUB for Sr. High Campus (Kerry Blum)

You may have heard that one of our partners in the Charter HUB program is choosing to re-direct their intentions somewhere else as they were not quite ready for the HUB. This will not affect STEM Innovation Academy and we are moving ahead with our program at our new location.

Thank you Michelle (Kerry Blum)

Michelle has stepped in as the new Jr. Junior High Principal at a weird time (in May). She's taken on her role seriously and the students have commented about how much she cares for all of the students. I am personally thankful for her involvement and I am excited to work with her as we continue to move towards the same vision.

Payment system (Kerry Blum)

There will be a new payment system that will make things more efficient. This will be an online system that will help pay all the fees (school fees, bus fees, Phys-ed t-shirt, etc.) in one central application.

High School Transportation (Kerry Blum)

We will not be having yellow bus service for our high school. One of our STEMIA Board Directors, Rebecca Ostrickoff, can back me up on this. Due to zoning issues, there is no space for school bus drop-off. This is not necessarily a STEMIA decision but a City of Calgary decision. A transportation study was carried out and there was one small space that could potentially be zoned for bus drop off. However, this would be extremely difficult, especially if we were having multiple schools being serviced at the HUB. The students will have to use public transportation to access the school.

STEMIA gear (Kerry Blum)

I wanted to talk about the STEM gear and the importance of our uniform. The reason we chose the uniform has everything to do with our community, identity, pride, and professionalism. We feel passionately that a uniform "unifies" our population. We have some flexible options and our uniform is a little bit more casual than other uniforms. However, there have been some issues with our dress code and students not abiding by our STEM gear protocol. Most of our issues come from our Jr. High population, where 25% of the kids often don't wear their STEM gear. Please note that both the t-shirts and the hoodies must have the STEM logo. We need our parents help to enforce this. We've also heard from many parents saying they want to purchase STEM gear all year round, which is why we're having an online store open. You will have options to customize and design these items. There is a lot of variety in terms of the STEM gear (colors, design) and there shouldn't really be a battle for the teachers to be STEM gear police. Please note that this is a recurring issue, we have a loaner STEM gear that the child must wear. We want to give our students the benefit, but we need our parents' support to enforce the STEM gear. Lapel pins came in as a suggestion- thank you, but we would prefer not to go with lapel pins. We need our tops to be similar in length and appearance. We will work with our staff on consistent messaging regarding the uniforms.

CAITLIN GILLIE

Year-End Celebration for the Students

Our kids have been working so hard! We have some exciting activities planned for our Grade 9 students. On June 14th, our students will go to Flying Squirrel and their Farewell Celebration will take place on June 19th. Our Grade 7 students will be heading to TELUS Spark and our Grade 8

students will go to South Glenmore Park. These will be great activities to celebrate their successes.

Spirit Week

Our Student Council is planning fun activities for next week's "Spirit Week". Our Jr. High students will be able to wear different outfits and dress up.

TREASURER REPORT

TREASURER REPORT (Josephin J.)

STEMIA School Council

Treasurer Report: June 07, 2023 (AGM)

Period of May 10, 2023 to June 07, 2023

				Money Out
Starting Balance		Community Spirit Account	\$3007.94	
Deposits/Income				
Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Type	Description	Deposit	Expenses
May-24-2023	E-Transfer	INTERAC e-Transfer Sent-ASTRO JUMP OF ALBERTA		\$1179.66
Ending Balance			\$1828.28	

- T-Bill savings account--**\$679.92**

APPROVAL OF TREASURER REPORT (Josephin J/ Rebecca O.)

Motion unanimously passed.

STEMIA School Council

Proposed Budget: 2023 -2024

Date	Description	Expenses
2023 SEP	WELCOME BACK BREAKFAST Junior High and High School	\$2200

APPROVAL OF TREASURER \$2200 BUDGET FOR WELCOME BACK EVENTS AT BOTH CAMPUSES (Josephin J./ Rebecca O.) POLL

Motion unanimously passed.

ELECTIONS FOR 2023-2024 EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

The election portion was led by 2022-2023 Vice-Chairperson, Shawn Furlong. Shawn reminded everyone that the votes are held through an anonymous poll; all votes are confidential.

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF CHAIR FOR 2023-2024

Golden Bhatia was nominated as Chair for the year 2023-2024.
Golden was elected as Chairperson with a 90% approval rate.

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON FOR 2023-2024

Deborah Toth was nominated as Vice-Chair for the year 2022-2023.
Deborah was elected as Vice-Chairperson with a 92% approval rate.

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF SECRETARY FOR 2023-2024

Deborah Toth was nominated as Secretary for the year 2023-2024
Deb was unanimously elected as Secretary.

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF TREASURER FOR 2023-2024

Josephin Justin was nominated as Treasurer for the year 2023-2024
Josephin was unanimously elected as Treasurer.

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF HIGH SCHOOL DIRECTOR FOR 2023-2024

Ibeth Albertazzi was nominated as High School Director for the year 2023-2024
Ibeth was unanimously elected as the High School Director.

UPDATES

YEAR-END CELEBRATION (Deb T.)

Our STEMIA School Council Year End Celebration will take place on June 27th starting 5PM. Thank you to the parents who helped provide excellent ideas and reached out to businesses for our planned silent auction. Unfortunately, we did not have enough items for a silent auction. We've decided to convert the silent auction into a raffle. The event is meant to reunite all families from both campuses, and connect our students, staff, and parents with one another. We have rented inflatable games from AstroJump. Our event will also feature the Used Uniform sale. More information will be provided in the coming days via email on how you can sell your gently used item. The Sparkans will also be attending and will be working with Ms. Roa and Mr. Mackrory on some demos.



FUN LUNCH (Deb T.)

Thank you to Stacia George and Corrina Murray. They've both agreed to continue their work as Fun Lunch coordinators.

GIFTS FOR OUR BUS DRIVERS AND SCHOOL CUSTODIANS (Deb T.)

We will have some year-end gifts in the form of gift cards for our 9 bus drivers and 11 custodians.

YEAR-END STAFF PARTY (Deb T.)

We are pleased to cover the costs for food and refreshments for the STEMIA Staff party that will be held on June 29th. We've asked Lina's catering to help with this event.

BUS CHATS (Deb T.)

The 11 bus chats (9 for Jr. High and 2 for Sr. High) will be disabled on June 29th, 2023. Thank you to all the parents who've participated and provided helpful updates. New bus chat groups will re-open in late summer. More information on how you can sign up will be provided in late summer.

ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting date for STEMIA School Council will take place in September 2023 at our Jr. High location. Ms. Golden Bhatia **adjourned the meeting at 7:44 PM.**

