

December 6, 2023



STEMIA SCHOOL COUNCIL

3636 Research Road NW
Calgary, AB
T2V 0Y1

MINUTES

Deborah Toth, Secretary

AGM

STEMIASCDecember2023(18)

DATE/ TIME

December 6/ 6.30 PM at the Senior High Campus

FACILITATORS

STEMIA School Council Executive Committee

ATTENDEES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Golden (Gurmeet) Bhatia (Chairperson)
Deborah Toth (Vice-Chair/ 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)
Morgan Andrew (Teacher Representative)

PARENTS

Tracy, Douglas, Josephin, M-C, Rizwan, Uzma, Karen, Johannes, Lisa, Alanna.

CALL TO ORDER

Quorum declared to be present and meeting **called to order at 6.40 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 (Deb T./ Golden B.)

Agenda was unanimously approved as distributed.

The Minutes from our November meeting were unanimously approved.

CHAIR REPORT- Golden Bhatia

Instagram:
Stemia.paco



Golden reminded everyone that December is Diversity month.

December



GUEST SPEAKER- Joanne Higgins, STEMIA School Superintendent

Ms. Higgins thanked the parents in attendance for their participation and involvement at the school.

Charter Renewal: The Proposal for our STEM Innovation Charter renewal will be submitted on January 8th 2024. The process of charter renewal begins in the 3rd year of operation. A request has been made to renew the charter for 15 years instead of 5 years. There are clear indications that the program is successful and has a positive impact on hundreds of families.

Parent involvement: Parents may be asked to be involved in the renewal process where their feedback and experience with the school will be sought by Alberta Education officials. If you're interested in becoming part of the process and helping out our school in this regard, please email: j.higgins@stemia.ca

PRINCIPAL REPORT- Kerry Blum & Michelle Alberts

Parent Introductions

Ms. Riddick and Ms. Blum gave an opportunity to each parent in the room to give a short introduction and share a little bit about their STEMIA student and their experience at the school.

PAT results (Michelle Alberts)

The Annual Alberta Education results, which include public, charter, and private schools' results, will be posted on the website. Please take a moment to look at the results and don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions. Last December (2022), we noticed that some students were struggling in specific core subjects. We targeted those students and made sure they received appropriate support that would build their confidence for the PAT exams. We are proud of our work with those students and the results really demonstrate how effective these extra supports were.

PD Day (Michelle Alberts)

During our last PD Day before Fall Break, our staff engaged in helpful discussions on how we can support our students in terms of mental health. We are dedicated to opening more conversations surrounding mental health supports.

Open House at the Junior High (Michelle Alberts)

Our November Open House was a huge success. We welcomed around 700 families and many of our staff and students stayed late to showcase their work and our amazing program. These 2 information sessions proved to be helpful for many families who were not familiar with our program. There is currently a big waitlist at our Junior High.

Skills Day at the Junior High (Michelle Alberts)

This was led by our wonderful Mr. Christiansen who worked with students to build a shower appropriate for sustainable water use. This is a highly innovative project which garnered much interest.

Student Council (Michelle Alberts)

Our Student Council will be working on a holiday food drive, bake sale, a homeroom décor contest, spirit week, and holiday games. They will also be fundraising for microwaves, something they've been wanting to bring to our student community to help with warm lunch meals. We applaud their work and tremendous initiative.

Winter games (Michelle Alberts)

We are pleased to announce that we will be hosting home games for the first time at STEM IA! More details to follow!

Goodbye Ms. Suffron (Michelle Alberts)

Ms. Suffron will be leaving our STEMIA staff in January 2024. We have posted the position online for a temporary contract.

Sports at the High School Campus (Morgan Andrew)

We recently wrapped up our volleyball and cross-country seasons. Basketball is still continuing with the boys' team winning tonight.

STEM sessions for girls at the UofA (Morgan Andrew)

We travelled with 20 girl students on November 25th to attend STEM sessions at the University of Alberta. This trip proved to be extremely appreciated as it provided multiple opportunities for our students to connect with other women in the STEM field.

Leadership team initiatives (Morgan Andrew)

Our Leadership student club is currently organizing a charity drive for the holiday season. The drive will benefit the Outreach Centre.

Hosting VEX Robotics tournament (Kerry Blum)

We are thrilled to announce that on December 16th, we will be hosting the Annual STEM Challenge and VEX tournament in our building. There are currently 34 teams registered, including 4 of our own. We hope that our School Council will consider helping us with sponsorships so we can continue hosting these events.

Robotics Launch (Kerry Blum)

On January 6th, 2024, we will be participating in a live video forum. The teams participating in this event, including our own STEMIA team, will have 7 weeks to build their robots.

Open House (Kerry Blum)

Our Senior High Open House welcomed more than 1000 attendees! It was a very busy night and we've received 1,100 applications for Grades 7-12. On January 9th, our Grade 9 students will have the privilege of visiting our campus and learning about our courses and credits. With the increasing population at our Sr, High campus, we will be traveling to UBC, UofA, and the the University of Lethbridge to recruit more talent for our organization.

Gym At the High School (Kerry Blum)

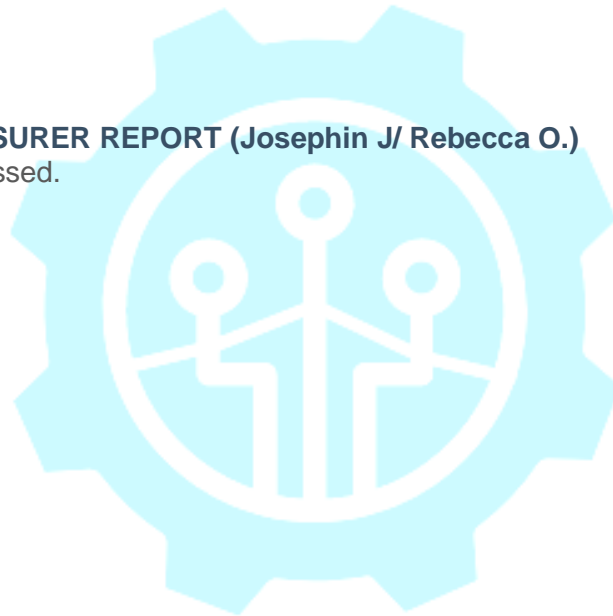
We are sad to report that a gym will not be ready for 2024 at our High School. Our students will still be going to UofC and Vecova for gym.

TREASURER REPORT

TREASURER REPORT (Josephin J.)

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

Motion unanimously passed.



STEMIA School Council

Treasurer Report: Dec.06, 2023

Period of Nov 01, 2023 to Dec 06, 2023

				Money Out
Starting Balance		Community Spirit Account	\$863.32	
Deposits/Income				
Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Type	Description	Deposit	Expenses
Dec-02	E-Transfer	Juices for Fun lunch		\$58.77
Dec-04	Deposit	HH-Fun lunch	\$250.74	
Dec-04	Deposit	HH-Fun lunch	\$336.63	
Ending Balance			\$	1391.92

Expected Expenditure

Christmas Gift cards for 73 staff—including 3 custodians and 9 Bus drivers.

Total-82 –each \$15 –\$1230.

ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting date for STEMIA School Council will take place on February 7th, via ZOOM.
Ms. Golden Bhatia **adjourned the meeting at 8:03 PM.**