



211 McKnight Blvd NE
Calgary, Alberta T2E 5S7

MINUTES

FFCA North Middle School Council Minutes

Date / time September 5, 2023 | 6:30 pm

Members

Council

Ummul Banin, Chair
Zenita Lalani, Vice-Chair
Nicole Chen, Secretary
Connie Kimber, Parental Partnership Coordinator
Marina Lakhani, Parental Partnership Coordinator
Amyna Mohammed, Fundraising Coordinator
Minh Banga, Fun Lunch Coordinator
Nourchan Osman, Fun Lunch Coordinator
Unfilled, Community Services Coordinator

Staff

Doug Lamb, Principal
Jim Poirier, Associate Principal
Ms Freeman, Teacher Representative

Absent

Sanjib Karmaker, Treasurer

Parents

Robbins Choi

Approval of Agenda

- Motion to approve the September agenda
 - Motion – Ummul
 - Second – Minh
 - Motion to approve the September agenda as presented-carried.

Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve the June minutes as presented
 - Motion – Ummul
 - Second – Connie
 - Motion to approve the June minutes as presented-carried.



FFCA NMS June
Minutes 2023

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Chair Update

- Welcome back for an exciting new school year!
- Terry-Fox Run is occurring on September 15
 - NMS has offered to do a BBQ lunch for the kids. All students are joining from NWE for the run, but only grade 4 students will be here for the BBQ. Only grade 4 students from NEE are joining for the run and BBQ.
 - We require volunteers for the date and Ummul will be reaching out to the Parental Partnership Chairs at the Elementary campus to arrange parent volunteers. We will ask for about ten parents from each campus to join.
 - **Budget for the event is for \$1200.** We will also be requesting funds from the two elementary campuses-\$250 per campus. It's a preliminary estimate as we still need to determine dietary restrictions/preferences (celiac/vegetarians/etc.). The BBQ offering will be hotdogs. Zen has reserved the grills. Pick-up trucks cannot accommodate the grills so they will likely need to be delivered. Zen will confirm dimensions in case a pickup truck could be used.
 - Regarding drinks, NMS will supply a water re-fill station for those that need it. Students will be bringing their own water bottles.

- **Action item**-we will network with the volunteer coordinators at the elementary campuses to recruit volunteers. We will ask for about 10 volunteers from each campus.
- Movie-night Fundraising
 - The hope is to host this event towards the end of September, or early October. We may have to wait to hear from an athletic council update first before determining gym availability.
- Ways to include parents with businesses so we are able to source their products for FFCA events
 - Proposal is to put together a list of parent owned businesses that we could have internally to draw from for supplies, etc.
 - Any ideas on how we could move forward on this? Please let Ummul know.

Teacher Update

- As it's the start of the year there is only a short report to share! Things are going well so far with a lot of student enthusiasm.
- There are several new staff onboard this year, in particular EAs and ELL supports. This support will be invaluable.
- Some athletic try-outs have begun for students as well as intermural sports.
- No current asks for volunteer support.

Fundraising Coordinator

- Apple fundraiser for September:
 - We will collect the orders through family log-in.
 - Boxes vary in price. Our potential profit margin is \$7.50 to \$9.50 per box.
 - NWE had supported us to become a partner in the program so we believe it should be smooth between the campuses with no significant competition.
 - **Action item:** Minh and Marina will transfer the NWE flyer to Amyna so it can be revised for content to reflect the requirement for parent pick-up time frames. Once this is complete Amyna will pass the flyer to Jim and Dough for campus distribution.
 - Action item: We will need volunteer help to distribute the boxes
- Amyna covered the fundraising options discussed at the last meeting. Please refer to June minutes.
- For upcoming fundraising events we will have the movie night in September, a cultural event towards the end of the year, and one more. See below for more discussion same.
- Doug shared that we have had positive and supportive event experiences when they are tied to cultural themes and events. Dances on their own provide logistic and supervisory challenges that may not yield enough benefit for council. The Student Responsibility Council (SRC) is involved in this theme as an initiative as well (SRC also fundraises and they take turns with council). Zen highlighted that a talent show may be a positive draw

for fundraising and the council is interested in same. Amyna offered we could potentially do a raffle at this event both to raise funds and an encouragement to keep families there as they can't pick-up a prize if they've left the event.

- One fundraising activity could be based on "fun" events like dunk tanks, dance/outfit vote programs, or water balloons. This could potentially be done at the Winter Fest.

Treasurer Update



Council Financials
June 2023

- See attached report
- We have a balance of \$6,877.28
- Outstanding payments of up to \$4000 are anticipated for ASC and BBQ leaving us with a balance of around \$2000 once adjusted.
- Update of signatures-not discussed as Sanjib was away today.

Hot Lunch Update

- First order is going to be done on September 29. The email will be going out to parents soon.
- Question asked by coordinators: Any particular requests from the council for options? There has been a request to avoid the pizza place as it was highly disorganized. There was another request for more ethnic options. Regrettably we are limited to the options provided by Healthy Hunger. Zen and Nourchan will look at some additional options/vendors.

Community Partnership

- Community raking leaves initiative will be attempted again.

Volunteer Coordinator/Parental Partnership

- **Action item:** To send out the parent sign-up for Terry Fox on Sept 15 and for the Apple fundraiser on Oct 11

Goals (All)

- Create an interest for more parents being aware of council business (brainstorm ideas)- Send out Google Forms to inform/educate parents during Parent Teacher Interviews- having Teachers bringing it up to parents? No discussed at meeting today.

- Minutes uploaded to FFCA NMS website. Not been uploaded since January, 2023
Action Item- Nicole can resubmit June minutes with the September minutes and supply a list of Council/Society Members for the website.
- Bring back Learn-a-Thon or something more interesting-like classroom challenges etc. This could be done in May, 2024. This can be challenge with the span of ages at NMS.
- AGM planning. To be discussed at future meetings.
- Bank balance goals-to end the year with \$9000 available. This is a conservative goal for the size of our campus.

Administration Update

- Smooth start!
 - Facilities: Over the summer the floors were refurbished, blinds replaced, new updates to office space coming to November (ordered last year), new pieces to replace broken playground equipment coming, and soccer nets replaced.
 - Full enrollment with approximately 12 new-to-FFCA students coming off the waitlist. There are three current spots being filled now. The stability of enrollment means smooth transitions for funding and staffing.
 - The start of the year was strong with a welcome back breakfast for all FFCA staff on Aug 21 and robust discussion/planned implementation of the FFCA System Learning Plan (SLP)(SLP looks at inclusion and smoothing of learning and education development by things like the Professional Development Days being linked together throughout the year). There is an overall high energy for the start of the year.
 - There were some hiccups with the start of the year with the following challenges:
 - NMS was broken into and several staff laptops were stolen. There have been more cameras installed and necessary repairs/insurance work is completed.
 - PowerSchool and Edsby challenges with demographic data not being transferred correctly between the two which required manual changes and updates on nearly every student in the system to ensure correctness. This has delayed the launch of Edsby.
 - Southland Busses. A few challenges as discussed in the emails. Parents are encouraged to utilize the grant option for this year to drive your child. There isn't an alternative service available.
 - Looking Foreword
 - Terry Fox-Thank you for your contributions!
 - Athletics-Boys volleyball can be added back this year.
 - Inclusion/SLS staffing. Two new staff have been added to central. One looking at supporting teachers/classrooms with developing executive functioning skills in students and the other new staff specializing in working with specific higher needs students.

- Budget/enrollment. We are looking forward to potentially hearing some new news tomorrow that might be supporting needs in the classroom (equipment, books, etc.). The government is moving forward on digital assessments. This may bring more money to the school for technology (Chrome books and a cart).
- Sept 22 PD Day
 - Classroom Support Plans. Making sure staff have what they need for students.
 - New Curriculum Experts have been added in and will be reviewed.

Additional Items Discussed During the September 5th Meeting Added for Clarity:

- Question from council: Do students have to supply their own laptop? No, there isn't a formal policy with this ask. Having some students with their own means the class needs to borrow less Chromebooks for any given activity so they can be stretched. That being said, purchasing a Chromebook is not a requirement for students. Classrooms do share the communal laptops.
- Question: Are teaching learning conferences in person? They will be split like last year. The teachers do appreciate council provided meals.

ASC (Association of School Councils) Update

- Carried over to next meeting.

Adjournment/Next Meeting

- Adjourned: 7:49pm
- Next meeting: October 2