

# New Horizons School Council

## Meeting Minutes

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January 10, 2024  
Meeting Called to Order: 7:00PM  
Meeting Adjourned: 8:41PM  
Virtual Meeting

Attendees: Elizabeth Macve, Sarah-Jane Lovgren, Anita Sanderson, Rebecca Koziak, Ellen Hanna, Amanda Bullion, Julie Jackson, Eeksha Kakkan, Lori Vigfusson, Marisa Araujo, Anika Kooger, Harv Brar, Raman Brar, Carol Chang, Beverly Doucette, Lisa Enarson, Kristi Gignac, Chelsee Ladouceur, Denette Leask, Dianne Blanche Villacura

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**1. Meeting Called to Order: 7:00PM.**

Elizabeth Macve as Meeting Chair.

**2. Statement of Territorial Acknowledgement**

The School Council of the New Horizons Charter School respectfully acknowledges that the land on which we meet is Treaty 6 territory, a traditional home, gathering place, and a travelling route for diverse Indigenous Peoples, including Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Nakota, Sioux, as well as the homeland of the Metis Nation. We recognize our responsibility as Treaty members and honour the heritage and gifts of the First Peoples of this land.

**3. Adoption of Agenda**

**MOTION: Sarah-Jane Lovgren moved to adopt the Agenda as presented.  
Seconded by Lori Vigfusson. Motion Carried.**

**4. Approval of Minutes**

December 6, 2023

**MOTION: Ellen Hanna moved to adopt the Minutes as presented.  
Seconded by Anita Sanderson. Motion Carried.**

**5. Reports**

**5.1 Chair/Vice-Chair/Secretary Report**

**Chair:** School Council is invited to provide a report at next week's Information Night for Prospective Parents (January 18).

SC is motivated to review and update Operating Procedures as required due to greater interest in involvement and support as the workload may benefit from having additional Officers. As we look at expanding our Executive membership, we will prioritize making updates to our Operating Procedures. Amendments can either take place at our AGM or at an SGM (notice must be provided at least 21 days in advance). It is critical that updates to the Executive cannot affect quorum. So far, Committees have been established to welcome additional support.

SC & FANHS are seeking to host a collaborative Board Retreat with a proposed date of early February. Topics will include School Council's advocacy role, succession planning, and strategic planning amongst other topics. A debrief will be reported at February's meeting(s).

**Vice-Chair:** Echoed significance of the Board Retreat as an opportunity to prioritize these conversations.

**Secretary:** From the commencement of this project proposal, the budget was \$10,000 + GST = \$10,500. When asking FANHS for the initial budget for the 2023/2024 academic year, SC opted to only ask for \$5,000 for AIR and hoped to be successful in receiving the AFA Grant to support the remainder of this year's AIR. It was determined that in a budget shortfall due to lack of receipt of the AFA Grant, SC would have an opportunity to return to FANHS with a request for additional funding support. There is value in this residency — students will be offered a unique experience to explore tools, materials, and methods that would not be presented in a standard classroom setting while working with a local artist who is an expert in their field and has an education background.

The costs associated with this residency are high due to the nature of the projects being unique per grade and division:

1. Every grade completes individual projects (students will keep their work).
2. Every division does a collaborative project (school will keep these projects).

The last update from the artist included a cost breakdown of labour and materials and the grand total came over budget. The artist has been communicated with and is re-evaluating projects to ensure that the agreement can be adhered to. Following discussion regarding the logistics and costs of hosting an art show (\$525 at the studio), it was agreed that it would be exclusionary if not all individual works could be displayed; therefore, there was a suggestion to either host the art show in conjunction with the school's Celebration of Learning (March) or at an alternate venue. For inclusivity and scheduling reasons, it may be preferred to host at the school; however, SC is open to learning what costs would be for an alternate venue should that opportunity be feasible. For these reasons, there will be a slight delay in the residency commencing — Administration and the artist to determine the most suitable schedule.

With unanimous consent, SC and all parties in attendance agree that the scope of the project (individual projects and collaborative projects) should be maintained without going over the agreed upon budget of \$10,500 and that if FANHS is agreeable, this is a responsible use of funds.

Motion for SC Finance Officer to formally submit a request of an additional \$7,000 in funds for this year's Artist in Residence. While this is in surplus of what is required, it is the Finance Officer's recommendation to estimate higher so as not to have to return to FANHS for additional support. FANHS Treasurer was in attendance and indicated that FANHS has suitable funds available. No concerns communicated.

**MOTION: Lori Vigfusson moved to accept the request for funds as presented.  
Seconded by Anita Sanderson. Motion Carried.**

## **5.2 Principal's Report**

See attached.

## **5.3 Financial Officer's Report**

2023/2024 Allocation of Funds: \$22,500.

Funds Motioned: \$7,573.

Remaining Funds: \$14,927.

## **5.4 FANHS Report**

Report shared by Rebecca Koziak.

Full report to be shared at FANHS meeting directly following.

## **5.5 Communication Officer's Report**

The Communications Team is working well together and have been producing successful weekly newsletters while also revitalizing social media channels.

## **5.6 Committee Reports**

(A) Halloween Dance Committee

Date: TBD

(B) Spring Carnival Committee

Date: May 25, 2024

Nothing to report. Additional engagement will be sought early 2024.

(C) Grant Committee

The [TD Friends of the Environment Foundation Grant](#) will be submitted on January 15 to support the garden project which will be led by Ms. MacKinnon, Ms. Olfert, and Ms. Stephens with support from Mrs. Clarke. Additional garden opportunities will be reviewed. The Committee has also been in touch with Strathcona County regarding their school garden program.

(D) Book Club Committee

Date: Ongoing

Nothing to report.

(E) Parent Link

Nothing to report.

(F) Holiday

With no major holidays immediately on the horizon, it will be a good opportunity to put a call out for donations of bins/storage materials and volunteer support to complete thorough organization of the Drama storage space which includes storage of many holiday items (Halloween, Christmas, etc.).

## 6. Motion to Accept Reports

**MOTION: Julie Jackson moved to accept reports as presented.**

**Seconded by Anita Sanderson. Motion Carried.**

## 7. New Business

### 7.1 Funding Requests

At the request of SC, NHS was able to secure an additional 4 spots for four Grade 6 students to participate in the [Women in Scholarship, Engineering, Science, and Technology \(WISEST\) CHOICES Conference](#). Ms. Servold has requested additional funds from School Support — Academic Support in the amount of \$172 to cover the costs of four additional students, as well as the additional fees that were not accounted for in December's ask. The cost per student is \$41.50.

**MOTION: Anita Sanderson moved to approve the funds disbursement as presented.**

**Seconded by Julie Jackson. Motion Carried.**

### 7.2 Staff Report

School Update: In order to foster a greater sense of community and support for our sports teams, more communication will be shared to invite students and families to attend sporting events to cheer for our teams. Planning is well underway for the Grade 9 Adventure Trip — forms have been sent home with all Grade 9 students. Some fundraising efforts will take place in support of this trip. The cold weather brings a season with opportunities for indoor recess.

**Communications:** The Communications Team will work with teachers to convey messaging such as teacher tips, what to expect at school or at home when it's too cold to be outside, how to support your child after a full day indoors etc. Volunteer Coordinator (Hayley Tarnasky) is working with Ms. Watson to engage additional volunteer support.

### 7.3 Future School Event Planning and SC Outreach

#### (A) Winter Planning

- Family Movie Night

Movie night went out as a poll in yesterday's newsletter with a selection of dates and films. A date and movie will be determined by next week's newsletter and will be communicated in the newsletter on January 16.

- Date Night

Tabled.

- Artist in Residence Proposal for 2024/2025

Proposals:

- [Mallory Chipman](#) (inaugural Musician in Residence at Edmonton Public Library).
- Reckie Lloyd with [Sangea Academy](#).
- Maralyn Ryan (puppets/theatre).
- Robyn Skaley with [Red Poppy Art & Consulting](#).

Objective:

- Artists who are experts in their field and provide a unique experience that would not be offered within mainstream programming.
- SC to develop a standardized approach to ensure timelines are met with regard to proposal submission, artist selection, and grant application(s).

If parents know of suitable programming, they are invited to submit proposals to [councilchair@newhorizons.ca](mailto:councilchair@newhorizons.ca) prior to February's meeting where they will be discussed and selected for the 2024/2025 academic year.

- Sustainability Event

Tabled.

- Family Math & Literacy Game Night with Box Cars & One-Eyed Jacks

Tabled.

#### (B) Field Trip Opportunities

- Telus World of Science and Winspear Centre have been noted as future opportunities.

### 7.4 Parent Perspectives

None.

## 8. Future Business

Prioritize review of School Council Operating Procedures.

**9. Correspondence**

None.

**10. Future Meeting Dates**

February 7, 2024

March 6, 2024

April 3, 2024

May 1, 2024

June 5, 2024

*All meetings are scheduled from 7:00PM and will be held as Hybrid In-Person (New Horizons School) / Virtual Meetings unless otherwise stated.*

**11. Meeting Adjourned: 8:41PM.**