

COSC meeting report:

Met Thursday Oct. 10th.

If anyone wants the minutes I can forward them. Here are the highlights notable for our school:

1. Desirea Agar presented from Alberta Health Services about COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL HEALTH. "Healthy students are better learners". SD76 is teaming up with AB Health Services to promote healthy learning environments. There are now "Health Champions" at each school. I am the one for RH. My role is to pass along health info, webinars, research, nutrition, etc. I will be briefly sharing a few points at each meeting. Medicine Hat is the pilot for this initiative. It is called the MOVING AND CHOOSING COLLABORATIVE. [explain model]

Under this falls the talk from last meeting on how they are looking at rethinking recesses. They are talking with recess leaders, surveying students/teachers/staff, and will engage parents and families for input as well. Talked about the POLAR BEAR CLUB - basically will get parents to sign a paper that your child can go play outdoors at all temps as long as they have the required cold weather gear. [kids in Yukon, NWT, Nunavut go play outside...our kids definitely can too] Looking at having more natural playgrounds and play spaces.

2. Mark Davidson (superintendent) talked about the budget implications. ASCA (Alberta School Council Association) laid off a number of their staff due to the anticipated budget. It came out Oct. 24th. March 2020 another budget will be announced. It is anticipated their will be more lump sum grant money and less monthly reporting money. Allows for more flexibility but less money overall. Looking at budget cuts. And their is talk of rolling out the new curriculum next year or the year after.

3. Policy Updates: Policy 720P 001 Off Site Activities has been updated... to reflect industry best practices. (Occ. health and safety, insurance requirements). The green, yellow, and red activities have been added and apply to onsite and offsite activities. Including parent council events.

4. Looking at having a mini conference with other school councils in the city. Will update when have more info. Next meeting is Nov. 21.