

TMSS School Community Council Meeting Minutes

Date: September 9, 2025

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: TMSS Staff Room

Chair: Jacqueline Zslnka

Secretary: Michelle Allgrove

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Jacqueline.

2. Attendance

Present: Carmen Messer, Darla Sklapsky, Jill Pollon, Giselle Huvenaars, Crystal Hunter, Mark Van Haastert (Trustee), Michelle Wingenbach, Michelle Allgrove, Lynn Murray

3. Approval of Agenda

Agenda approved as presented. Lynn approves and Michelle W seconds.

4. Approval of Previous Minutes

Previous minutes adopted. Michelle W approves and Lynn seconds.

5. Treasurer Report

Presented by Lynn Murray

Opening Balance (Sept 1, previous year): \$3,668.58

Grant Received: \$3,257.20

Total Funds: \$6,925.76

Expenses:

- Member expenses/bank fees: \$80.00
- Workshop mileage: \$68.40
- Graduation donation: \$1,000.00
- Teacher lunches & year-end treats: \$645.00
- Water for Christmas dinner: \$339.30
- Community involvement (bus crash support): \$237.94
- Gym Blast (student event): \$1,542.20

- Guest speaker (Laura Lawrence): \$1,575.00

Total Expenditures: \$5,467.59

Closing Balance: \$1,458.17

The next grant is expected in **October/November**.

Motion to approve Treasurer's Report:

- **Moved by:** Michelle A
- **Seconded by:** Michelle W

6. Student Report

- No report

7. NESD Board of Director

- Lori Kidney unable to attend. Mark VanHaasert, board trustee, present.
- Trustee Report (Mark)
 - Acknowledged the SCC's high level of engagement and organization
 - Encouraged the committee to avoid burnout from over-fundraising and to seek divisional support when possible.
 - Noted the division's continued focus on attendance and student engagement.
 - Attendance and busing are ongoing division-wide concerns.
 - Encouraged schools to maintain open communication with the Board.
 - Discussed the importance of **career counselling** and **high school planning** for small schools.
 - Highlighted the success of programs like **shop classes** in nearby schools.

8. Business Arising from Minutes

- 3 member at large positions (2 x 1yr, and 1 x 2yr term)
 - Darla Sklapsky will take a 1 year member at large term
- **Natural Play Scape Project Update**
 - Preparations for seeding the area across the street were completed earlier in the year; weeds were sprayed in anticipation of a landscaper's arrival.
 - The landscaper was scheduled to seed in July but postponed until **October**.
 - **Nutrien** has agreed to **donate the grass seed** for the project.
 - Carmen continues to search for applicable **grant funding** to support landscaping and trail development, including the **Trans Canada Trail Grant**, though locating it has been challenging.
 - **Playground Grant and Log Jam Project**
 - The school is awaiting information on a **provincial grant program** that matches up to **\$50,000** for playground projects.

- The **log jam structure** remains a key focus, estimated to cost approximately **\$100,000**.
 - The school currently has **\$50,000** allocated and plans to apply for matching funds when the grant becomes available.
 - Discussion included previous examples of playground grants in other communities and potential contacts in the division who may assist with grant searches.
 - **Funding and Community Support**
 - The overall **grounds improvement project** is substantial, originally estimated at **\$750,000 before COVID**, now likely closer to **\$1 million**.
 - The goal is to continue leveraging **corporate sponsorships**, community support, and grants to complete the project.
 - Some local service clubs are already committed to their own projects, but others (e.g., Lions Club) have supported the school band.
 - **Upcoming Projects and Fundraisers**
 - The **amphitheatre completion, log jam installation, and trail development** remain ongoing priorities.
 - A **donor wall** is being planned to recognize contributors.
 - The **construction class** will build a **playhouse** as a fundraiser. Options discussed included **raffling or auctioning** the playhouse in the spring, similar to other school fundraisers.
 - The SCC will apply for a **Sask Lotteries license** to support the raffle. Ticket pricing options discussed included **\$10 each, three for \$20, or \$20 per ticket**, depending on material costs and fundraising goals.
- Soccer and Athletics Update
 - \$1000 received from Capital I
 - Jerseys and equipment ordered
 - \$2000 needed for other set of jerseys including shin guards and socks.
 - A&W cheque received for “round up” tip jar
 - Giselle will look into Sarcan drop and go fundraising
- Outdoor Education Fundraiser Proposal – Presented by Michelle Wingenbach
 - Background: Outdoor Education/Environmental Science teacher Mr. Lam Ma is seeking funds for a trailer, canoes, paddles, and life jackets for the program.
 - Proposal: Michelle offered to donate and operate cotton candy and snow cone machines to raise funds, possibly at school events or community locations (e.g., Co-op parking lot).
 - Discussion:

- SCC expressed strong support for the program but questioned whether SCC funds could directly support a single class.
 - Fundraising by students was encouraged, with SCC offering logistical and promotional support.
 - Suggested contacting Cabela's and Canadian Tire for equipment donations.
 - Decision:
 - SCC supports Michelle's plan to coordinate with Mr. Lam Ma for a student-led fundraiser.
 - No direct SCC funds to be allocated at this time due to funding policy limitations.
- Graduation Committee
 - Graduation remains a no-cost event for families, but fundraising will continue to support event costs.
 - Discussion about reducing expenses—considering alternate photographers and videographers.
 - Feedback shared that the recent graduation video felt too brief; potential to hire local photographers or use the school's photography class in future.
 - Grad date set for Monday, June 29, though concerns were raised about it being on a Monday. Staff availability remains a key factor.
- Clothing Order
 - Michelle Wingenbach organizing with Laurel at Lucas Embroidery
 - True colors shirt to be added to the store
 - Open store Oct 27- Nov 11th to ensure orders ready for Christmas
 - The option of bringing in sizers was discussed but was agreed that families could go to Lucas Embroidery store to try on if required.

9. New Business

- LEAP- Local Education Action Plan
 - Carmen went through TMSS's LEAP plans 8 goals
 - Touched on building thinking classrooms with regards to math
 - January- whole school to work on assessment and student voice
 - Touched on equity within the school and inviting elders in where the opportunity arises and continue working on restorative practices.
 - CHUMS continues
 - My Blueprint – student engagement and careers. Hosting career events (7,8,9). Career fair will be happening this fall
 - Safety day to be held in the spring again
 - Working on staff wellbeing
- Athletic/Club Fees
 - Discussion held on athletic fees; football fee adjusted to \$150 (cost recovery model).
 - School division covers league fees; families pay for extra tournaments

- Band fees remain \$75 per semester; teacher will improve fundraising efforts to support spring band trip.

10. Kinistin First Nation Representative

- Absent, no report.

11. Principals Report

- Principal's Report
 - Three new teachers joined the staff this year; several existing staff have shifted roles.
 - No staffing shortages reported.
 - Current enrolment: 478 students (down from 515 last September, slightly below projections).
 - Grade 10 is the largest class (94 students); smaller cohorts in Grades 6 and 8 resulted in fewer homerooms.
 - Schedule adjustments made to balance class sizes and offer more course options to Grade 10 students.
 - Shared highlights from the School Learning and Achievement Plan (LEAP) focusing on literacy, engagement, and attendance.
- Attendance & Engagement
 - Attendance challenges continue, particularly before long weekends.
 - New attendance incentive program in place — monthly prizes sponsored by 10 local businesses.
 - Newsletter readership analytics confirm strong parent engagement.
- Family Engagement & Events
 - Upcoming Open House & Career Fair: Wednesday, September 17.
 - Includes academic awards and classroom tours.
 - SCC will sponsor a door prize basket
 - Lynn Motions to spend up to \$150. Michelle W seconds.
 - approved budget: up to \$150
- Mom's Pantry fundraiser kickoff on Friday, September 19 — proceeds support athletics.
- Upcoming Key Dates
 - Truth & Reconciliation Assembly and Walk: Monday, September 29 (in partnership with local elders and the Town of Tisdale).
 - Parent-Teacher Conferences: Fall (Oct 15–16) and Spring (Mar 11–12).
 - No School / PD Day: October 27 (hosting Northeast Teachers' Association Conference).
- Fundraising & Community Support
 - Discussed potential sponsors: Co-op, Save-On, Trombley's, Outback Butcher.
 - Ideas included meat-box fundraisers, community suppers, or themed events to strengthen engagement.

12. Other

- Christmas Dinner Planning
 - SCC will take a lead role, with support from staff and Foods class.
 - Nine turkeys required; discussion on sourcing from local colonies or grocery stores when on sale.
 - Volunteers and ovens/roasters identified; binder with past procedures to be located.
 - Grade 5 students invited from TES
 - Grade 6 students will assist with setup, serving, and cleanup to increase responsibility and reduce waste.

13. Upcoming Meetings

- Meeting Schedule
 - Meetings will continue every second Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.
 - Next meeting scheduled for November 4 at 6:00 p.m.

14. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Minutes Submitted by: Michelle Allgrove