



dialogue)))

School Planning Engagement In-Person Session (February 22) and Online Survey Comments

Below you will find all comments provided in the survey as they were written. Comments have not been edited for spelling, grammar, sentence structure, truncation or otherwise. Comments have been edited to ensure anonymity. We also edited or omitted abusive, discriminatory and otherwise inappropriate comments.

In Person Meeting:

What did you like about this meeting?

- Examples of how this is translated into the classroom.
- Info and opportunity to ask questions.
- Easy to understand and clear.

What did you like least about this meeting?

- Nothing

Online Survey:

Thoughts about our SDP

- I like the holistic approach to the SDP. I like that my children are being taught self-awareness and skills that will help them succeed for future education and careers in addition to a focus on academics at the school.
- I've never seen a worse curriculum. It's so poor, most students now have to have tutors to learn basic reading, writing, and math subjects. The school wastes too much time trying to check other non-core boxes.
- We are happy to say that has been the first SDP that we feel applies to our family and a larger majority of the students, so thank you for the consideration.
- I don't feel the value in providing feedback because the school administration will just do what they want and are merely asking for feedback to make it appear like you are engaging the school community. Monetary contributions to the school are not distributed equitably. Grade 6 class has not been skiing, to Drumheller, and an adequate replacement has not occurred.

Please share your thoughts you may have about our school budget and fees.



dialogue)))

- Swimming lessons with peers can be challenging for children with body image issues/social anxiety.
- Hard to rank Grade 6 Outdoor School because I do not have children in Grade 6, however I do feel that a large amount of funding has gone to this in the past, especially from the perspective of a family without someone currently in Grade 6.
- Mismanaged and inequitable
- You said you do direct donation, so you don't have to have other fundraising opportunities, and now you have Rock Your Locks, Bake Sale, and Book Fair all in one week. It's a lot for families to cover just so their kids don't feel left out. I think Rock Your Locks is a great idea to teach kids fundraising and coming together as a community, but the level that you are doing it seems excessive and costly to families. It feels like the goal is to raise money, not teach the kids about community and fundraising. If it was, the amounts would not be so ridiculous, and you wouldn't pit students against others to see who raised more. I just think the event needs to be structured to focus on teaching the kids, not trying to get as much from the families as you can for the one charity you've chosen.

Do you have any other suggestions related to fundraising or how School Council allocates funds?

- Current structure but also add in individual fundraisers so people who are better able to do that can contribute
- Keep direct donation and the Hoot!
- Funds for anti-bullying, conflict resolution, social-emotional learning, friendship skills should be prioritized.
- The amounts allocated to the garden employee seem excessive. If we are going to pay a full-time employee for months at a time, why not hire someone to help the teachers and students directly? I fully support maintenance and education with the gardens, but maybe planting lower maintenance items in the edible garden and ensuring that the garden student does not waste time on community garden beds, or worst case, letting things go to seed over the summer isn't the worst idea. The money it costs is probably more than the food we donate is actually worth. The council spends a huge amount of money on this. Can this not be cut down to even half the hours?
- Stop asking for fundraising when you don't utilize it to benefit the kids in the time they're at the school. Carrying funds forward and hanging onto a balance only to dump it all at the end on last minute things like



dialogue)))

teacher chairs is not a good way to budget. That does not benefit students.

- For no fundraising, it seems like me kids are asking for a lot of money for school stuff right now, between rock your locks, bake sale, book fair, and fun lunch. Rock your Locks is a great event, but I feel like you're trying to raise too much and you've lost the lesson for the kids and turned it into pressure for families. We also just donated a ton last year and now you're doing it again. The kids compare how much they've raised and now my kids have very clearly learned how to guilt everyone they know and pressure them so they can raise more, and the whole cause has been lost in the lesson.

*Comments have been slightly edited for privacy, brevity and clarity.