

2022-2023 A.E. Cross School Council Annual Report

email to | Board of Trustees at boardoftrustees@cbe.ab.ca

mail to | Board of Trustees, Calgary Board of Education, 1221 – 8 Street S.W. Calgary, AB T2R 0L4

A.E. Cross School Reporting Year: 2022-2023

School Administration:

Principal: Erin Bennett

Asst. Principal: Kari Mandin

School Council Executive:

Chair: Matt Petrie

Vice Chair: Michelle Voinorosky

Secretary: Karin Van Vliet

Treasurer: Melissa Wolski

Liaisons & Project Coordinators:

Fun Lunch\Healthy Hunger Coordinators: Jodi Durant

Band Liaison: Matt Petrie

COSC Liaison: Stellanie Hyer

Casino Coordinator: Jeannette Page

Spanish Liaison: Karin Van Vliet

Volunteer Coordinator: Jane Leopatra

Staff Appreciation: Jennifer MacKenzie

Meeting Dates:

- Tuesday, September 13, 2022
- Thursday, October 20, 2022
- Thursday, November 17, 2022
- Thursday, January 19, 2023
- Thursday, February 23, 2023
- Thursday, April 20, 2023
- Thursday, May 18, 2023
- Thursday, June 15th, 2022 (AGM)

2022-2023 A.E. Cross School Council Annual Report

Date of First School Council Meeting of the Year: Tuesday, September 13, 2022

School Council Activities:

A. E. Cross School Council strives to give parents/guardians an opportunity (via meetings primarily) to provide input into school decisions and get the latest update on school and CBE happenings.

Some featured topics and special guests at meetings in 2022-2023 were:

- Accountability Pillar Survey results
- School Development Plan
- Get To Know the new Construction Teacher with Mr. Ford (Oct 2022)
- All About the A.E. Cross Athletics and Physical Education Program with Mr. Richards (Nov 2022)
- Philosophies on teaching Grade 8 math, science and design studies with Mr. Virgie (April 2023)
- Invited Guest: Patricia Bolger, CBE Trustee (April 2023)

During the 2022-2023 school year, the council organized a dedicated and talented group of parents/guardians who supported the following activities and special initiatives:

Fun Lunch Program: We continued with our Fun Lunch program organizing lunches and fun snacks for students. In September 2022, we planned for nine fun lunches and six special treat days. Vendors for the lunches varied to keep things interesting: A & W, Boston Pizza, Edo Japan and Mucho Burrito, while the treats were from Booster Juice and Kernels Popcorn.

Que Pasa Performance - Band and Spanish Program:

The School Council was very pleased to help support the Spanish Program and the Senior Band in attending and performing at Que Pasa.

Volunteer Recruitment: With the easing of restrictions there was a greater need for volunteers organized by the School Council. Volunteers were used for jobs such as staff appreciation shopping/preparations, organizing the Fun Lunch program, various field trips and shopping for the Chew & Chat snack cupboard, the Spanish Grade 9 Celebration and the Grade 9 Farewell Event.

Project Kindness: In November, we launched Project Kindness (a gift card campaign) to support A.E. Cross families in need during December. We had great support from the school community with donations of many different gift cards to grocery stores, coffee shops, movie theatres, etc. and were able to help many families in December 2022 and into 2023.

Digital Literacy and Internet Safety for Parents & Caregivers: Thanks to the Alberta School Council Engagement grant, we presented all A.E. Cross parents with the opportunity to learn about Digital

2022-2023 A.E. Cross School Council Annual Report

Literacy and Internet Safety through a live virtual online presentation in June 2023.

Staff appreciation: With the easing of COVID-19 restrictions on gathering and eating together, we have resumed our usual potluck gatherings for our Teachers and Support Staff. We held one in December 2022 and have scheduled one for Friday June 30th (the day after the last day of school). The appreciation events were a fun way to recognize our amazing staff and were much appreciated.

Specific council activities and initiatives for the 2023-2024 school year will be finalized in the fall, but it is anticipated that council will continue to be a place where parents/guardians can receive information about A.E. Cross, offer input on school decisions, and help to enhance student learning.

Fundraising - Through the A. E. Cross Parents' Association

The A.E. Cross Parents' Association financially supports A.E. Cross School Council initiatives. The Parent's Association raised money during the 2022-2023 school year for initiatives important to the students attending A.E. Cross Junior High School. The focus of this past school year's fundraising was to raise additional funds for:

- The Chew and Chat Breakfast Program and the Snack Cupboard;
- Project Kindness; and
- purchasing laptops and other technology needed in the classrooms.

In Summary

As chair and president, I would like to personally thank all those who supported the A. E. Cross School Council and Parents' Association during a growing year as we gradually move further away from Covid-19, especially teachers, students and parents. From meeting attendees to volunteers to donors (financial, materials, food), we are grateful to the many parents/guardians who contributed to A.E. Cross during the year.

While I don't know what role I will hold on next year's Association/Council, I know that we will continue to be a forum for parents/guardians to learn about A.E. Cross and share input on important school matters. The wonderful parent community will continue with the Fun Lunch program, staff appreciation events, volunteering, and to support teachers and staff as requested (and where appropriate) next year. It has been an honour to serve as the A.E. School Council Chair and Parents' Association President for the 2022-2023 school year.

Submitted by:

2022-2023 A.E. Cross School Council Annual Report



Matt Petrie

Chair, A. E. Cross School Council (2022-2023 School Year)

President, A. E. Cross Parents' Association (2022-2023 School Year)

June 13th, 2023