



**Wisdom and Guidance Committee
Agenda
Tuesday, April 10, 2018
Central Office- Learning Centre**

Wolf Creek Public Schools Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are on Treaty 6 territory and we recognize all the many First Nations, Metis Inuit, and non First Nations whose footsteps have marked these lands.

Regrets: Chief Leonard Standing On the Road, Christine Saddleback, Tracey Louis, & Leanne Louis

- **Elder Teachings**
 - **Garry Louis**

Rattle teachings from Garry

- **Business**
 - **Updates from Wolf Creek Public School Division**
 - **Superintendent Rep update**

- **Amber Hester - News Amber Hester has resigned her position as Assistant Superintendent of Inclusive Learning Services effective August 31, 2018. Last September Amber decided to start her own consulting company. She thought that in a few years she would make a shift from working with WCPS to working full-time as a consultant supporting schools and systems in a different capacity.**

- **Shelagh-Department move**

Shelagh's FNMI role will report directly to the Superintendent, Mr. Jayson Lovell, to ensure no momentum is lost with the transition of a new Assistant Superintendent

- **Budget-Board is meeting Thursday to approve 2018/19 budget.**
- **CASS Spring Gathering -Jayson will be presenting on what it means to be an Ally.**
- **Elder Updates- Joseph and Esther**

Elder Joseph has been hospitalized. Should be released by the weekend.

Elder Esther has resigned as of June 30.

- **First Nations, Metis and Inuit Student Success Coordinator**

- **Innovation in First Nations Education- Grant Approved Grant approved for 3 years total of \$391, 152**

Wisdom and Guidance Committee Role- Parent Engagement-\$5000.00 per year to support family engagement events. FNMI Lead Teachers would like to assist the W&G in planning the events. Rotation of events between three Ponoka schools. Next meeting discuss event ideas.

Position- First Nations Learning Supports Coach This position will support classroom teachers with resources etc. Ad to come out in the next few weeks.

Expansion of Elder Program- committee to be formed to assist. Tanya, Garry and Leanne volunteered to assist in discussing the role of an Elder in WCPS.

- **FNMI Lead Teacher- Suggested names for role?**
 - **Possible Names:Cree words: Bridge, Connect, Lead**
 - **List from Tanya**
 - **mamahtahwitaw- means empowering in Cree.**
 - **sipihkaw- is to be resilient**
 - **kihcheyihtakosiwn- Respect yourself**
 - **nitapowakeyihten- dream**
 - **nawasonikew- choices**
 - **maskawisiwin- strength**
 - **sohkeyimiwin- confident**
 - **pihkohtew- achieve**

- **Nitohtahwin Gathering PSC- March 23**

Thank you to the volunteers Powerful day. Students were engaged. Tanya suggested that a slide show with the pics be shared.

- **Attendance Data- Collected & shared with 3 Ponoka schools**
- **Lead Teacher-Pyramid of Intervention for Attendance- Working on a pyramid of intervention. Attendance, Academic, Social Emotional, and behaviour**
- **Art of Living (Meredith Shaw)-Not in attendance**

National Indian Brotherhood- Presentation

- **Upcoming PD in WCPS**

Culture Camp- May 11th- planning meeting April 10th. W&G committee members- volunteers? 37 staff from WCPS attending. Volunteers- students and W&G needed. Lori volunteered to provide an inservice to student volunteer on Elder care during the Culture Camp.

FNMI Cohort-two upcoming meetings

Book study- "Why Culture Counts"

- **Updates from Wisdom and Guidance Committee Members**
 - **Celebrations/feedback**

MESC- Leanne- not in attendance

UAVS- Lloyd- Explanation of Urban Aboriginal Voices Society and upcoming events in Red Deer. Discussion of Education Domain, Elders, and community involvement.

- **Items for Discussion**

Wolf Creek Public Schools has been blessed to have Elder programming in place for students across the division. With the recent resignation of Elder Esther, we need to consider a replacement Elder.

1. **From your perspective, what process should we follow to secure a female Elder in WCPS?**

Qualities of an Elder:

- **Demeanor**
- **Female role model, rite to share stories, rites of passage for females,**
- **Training as a young women- who mentored the Elder? Teachings- brought up the old way**
- **Create a sense of belonging for all students**
- **Ability to work with a wide range of student ages**
- **Fluent in Cree language**

Student input is important- FNMI Lead Teachers will gather this info.

- **Recommendations going forward**

Caution: Elder role shouldn't be advertised. Not true Elders are popping up- be cautious.

Tanya, Garry and Leanne volunteered to assist in discussing the role of an Elder in WCPS. FNMI Lead Teacher will connect with students and gain feedback into qualities students feel are important for an Elder to have. Date to be set in May to meet.

- **Next Date for Wisdom and Guidance Committee Meeting**
Tuesday, May 15