

Manachaban School Council Minutes: September 24, 2012

Welcome and Introductions

- Members in attendance: Steven Price, Penny Beaudry, Heidi Aram, Siggy Sengl, Thomas Elbel, Katt Hryciw, Sara Busby, Colleen Munro, Donovan Saltvold, Christina Lewis, Marla Bosch

Approvals

- Agenda for September 24th, 2012: approved
- Minutes for September 11th, 2012: approved

Reports / Updates

- Financial Report (Sara)
 - Banking
 - Closing balance June 15: \$3460.92
 - No debits or credits as there was no activity over the summer
 - Balance forward: \$3460.92
 - Seniors for Kids
 - Thank you letter from them for our help
- Staff (Katt)
 - Junior Achievement program for grade 7 students coming up soon
 - Full morning program
 - Was scheduled for Thursday
 - Walkathon
 - Combined with Terry Fox this year
 - Will do the walk and then return to Manachaban for the BBQ
 - Have had two Walkathon meetings since our last School Council meeting and things are coming together nicely in terms of volunteers
 - Track meet
 - 7s and 8s will have the pull-out day tomorrow (the 25th)
 - 7-8 track meet on October 3rd
 - 5-6 in-school track meet to happen after
 - Hot lunch
 - Forms came home Friday / today
 - Will be on paper until the end of November

- After that, they will be done on School Cash Online
 - Meet the staff
 - Went really well: great turnout!
- Administration (Thomas / Penny)
 - 8-5 class is about ready to be launched
 - New class lists are being built → will share those on Thursday, entertain concerns on Friday, start class on Monday
 - Did interviews last week and found someone they liked
 - Just waiting on confirmation from HR
 - Janet Greaves to hold a meeting for parents with anxious children
 - October 24th (times TBD)
 - New microwaves for students
 - Contingency fund spending
 - Up-to-date first-aid equipment (eg – eyewash stations, first-aid kits for field trips and in-school)
 - New RCMP liaison: Constable Gillard
 - Introduced himself today
 - Has offered to do parent sessions (eg – internet safety)
- Board (Colleen)
 - Starting a student advisory committee to the board, made up of high school students
 - Had their first meeting last week
 - Will have one or two trustee observers / representatives on that committee
 - Lets the students give some feedback about what is important to them
 - Ira Stroh has taken on a leadership role with that committee (has been with Rockyview for years)
 - At least two representatives from every school
 - Last day of professional board learning
 - New paper coming out about advocacy role
 - Have set up meetings with MLAs in our area
 - Board reorganizational meeting is October 18th (new chair / vice chair / committee chairs)
 - Bargaining session with local scheduled for October 2nd
 - Question for us: Colleen has been getting many questions about the no-zero policy

- Are you still hearing that type of discussion in the school community here / amongst your parent peer groups since school started? Do people understand the type of assessment that we are trying to do here in Rockyview?
- Katt: some questions from parents at Meet the Teacher, so we had an explanation about formative / summative, and the intentional non-learner policy
- Thomas: appears to be a general understanding about formative / summative (bicycle-riding metaphor), evenings have been held in the past to educate our parent community
- Debate about the “real world” → no extra chances, but in fact, there are often extra chances in the real world: the real world shouldn’t look the same for a student in kindergarten as a student in grade 12
- Students seem to be aware of the expectations that we have of them: they have the space to learn, but also need to perform in terms of the summative tasks
- Labour relations
 - The complaint regarding publishing the opening statements from bargaining from the ATA was dismissed by the labour relations board
 - Now going to go back to the table: it’s hard work, and both sides will have to work together to come
- Emergency Closure of Schools
 - Still in effect
 - Schools MAY close at the -40 mark
 - Is published on the Rockyview website, Facebook page, Twitter
 - Global News morning edition, CBC, City TV, and a variety of other news stations
 - Bus students: if the drivers deem that their routes are going to be very bad, they can delay or cancel their route for the day, but are responsible for communicating that to all parents on their busses (will also be closed that afternoon)

Old Business

- None

New Business

- Quebec Trip question
 - Can a parent use Air Miles to book a ticket for themselves?
 - Yes, but not for students
 - Talk with Liz for specifics
 - Possibility of offering two separate packages (one with flight, one without flight?)
 - Risky as it makes it easier for people to back out of the trip, which then makes the price of the trip jump up

Review of action items arising from this meeting

- None

Adjournment

- Hooray!

Next meeting will be: Monday, October 22nd, 2012 (6:30pm)