

# Manachaban School Council Sept 29, 2014

Present: Thomas Elbel  
Krista Stronach  
Denise Lockhart  
Bruce Woolrich  
Marla Bosch  
Annette Dobson

Colleen Munro  
Wayne Lenhardt  
Sara Busby  
Dawn-Marie Cinnamon  
Gerry Gaudet

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm.

Welcome and Intros

Additions to Agenda - funding requests. Agenda adopted by consent.  
Minutes from previous meeting presented and passed.

## Elections

- Marla - Chair
- Dawn - Co-Chair
- Annette - Treasurer
- Krista - Secretary
- Wayne - Member at Large

## Treasurer Report

- \$4255.62 is current balance
- no outstanding bills

## Staff Report

- school year off to a great start
- pancake breakfast was very successful
- Meet the Teacher night was Sept 11
- Terry Fox run was this past Friday
- WILD program had their first overnight trip last week - camping
- Outdoor Ed had a trip to Rawson Lake
- Walkathon is scheduled for Oct 24
- on Oct 3 Sandbox Theater will be coming to present to grades 5 and 6
- Grade 5s will get their first vaccine shot on Oct 9
- Parent/Teacher interviews are on Oct 22 and 23
- A-Volleyball for grades 7 & 8 is on right now
- Grade 6 volleyball starting soon
- B-Volleyball will start at the end of Oct

## Funding Requests

- Sandbox Theater cost is \$700 - half of that will be covered by the grade 5 & 6 budget. Council is asked to fund the other half. Krista motions that \$350 is spent toward Sandbox Theater. Sara Seconds. Passed
- Grandparent Program is requesting \$200 in funding. Dawn-Marie motions this money be given. Bruce second. Passed

## Admin Report

- WILD (Wisdom, Inquiry, Learning & Doing) program is off to a great start
  - currently have 32 in the WILD program and 37 in the remaining english class
    - have funding for another grade 8 teacher - are currently interviewing
    - ten kids will join the WILD program which will then be split into two classes
  - so far it's been almost all positive - kids are responding well and bonding with each other well
  - currently this program is an extra \$500 for parents
    - don't yet know how far this will go (bussing so far has been coming in under budget)
    - could be a refund at the end of the year
- had a focus group on grade 8 year end trips
  - looking for a trip for those kids not going to Quebec (only French Immersion (FI) and French as a Second Language (FSL) kids are currently eligible for Quebec trip)
  - ideally this would run at the same time at the Quebec trip
  - will meet with parents on Oct 6 for further discussion
- budget this year is very tight
- Walkathon
  - being held later this year than last - hope for good weather
  - major school fundraiser
  - students collect money from family and friends
  - money raised is split between classrooms and school council
  - Mr Taylor is in charge
- have a second set of tickets from Westjet for a raffle
- Fundraising Society just held another casino (approx three years between casinos)
  - last casino money was spent on technology for the school (laptops, chromebooks)
  - should be receiving next casino money in the next couple of months
- CoSL - Communication of Student Learning
  - consists of a number of items - portfolios, powerschool, evidence summary (formerly report cards)
  - has changed slightly from last year
    - now have descriptors corresponding to 10 percentage point spread - grades 7&8 will see the percentages beside the descriptors
    - descriptors are: Limited (below 50), Beginning, Emerging, Progressing, Advancing, and Mastering
    - there is a parent guide for the Parent Portal/Report Card: <http://manachaban.rockyview.ab.ca/parents>
  - leaning toward using Google for the e-portfolio, although Cochrane High is using Mahara
    - hope is that Google tool is more portable
- O Canada
  - this is sung every Monday morning
  - some schools play this every day, some twice a week
  - should this be done more frequently?
  - Singing it only once a week makes it more special
  - Elementary school sang it every morning, may not be needed at middle school level
  - Keep it at once a week

## Trustee Report

- New Superintendent helped guide the CoSL changes
- There is a new Education Minister - Gordon Dirks - hope to meet with him in person to discuss the challenges RVS faces
- RVS has almost 21,000 students - approx 1400 more than last year
  - will be requesting more relocatables (portable classrooms) (in addition to the 17 new ones last year from Alberta Infrastructure plus three RVS bought)
- New school for Sunset Ridge is still on track to open for the fall of 2016 - once ground is broken, a school can be built in 18 months - look for progress in the spring
  - board will begin attendance boundary discussion for the new school in the spring
- draft for the 2015-2016 calendar is up
  - this is an odd year because labour day is as late as it can be, while Easter is as early as it can be (late March)
  - parents can view proposed calendars and give their feedback at: <http://www.rockyview.ab.ca/news/2015-16schoolcalendardrafts>
- Four year strategic planning has begun

- RVS will be meeting at the end of Oct with an architect that specializes in schools
- Nov 20 is the joint School Board/Parent Council Meeting

## Remaining Business

- discussion was held at the May 2014 meeting about various awards - specifically a 'booster' award for most improved - further discussion was tabled until the fall

Next meeting is scheduled for Oct 27, 2014 at 6:30 pm.

Remaining meetings are scheduled for Nov 24, Jan 26, Feb 23, Mar 23, Apr 27, May 25

Meeting adjourned at 7:45