

Manachaban School Council Jan 4, 2011

Present: Mark Kondro
Krista Stronach
Dave Levson
Christina Lewis

Colleen Munro
Thomas Elbel
Chris McKie

Meeting called to order at 6:36 pm.

Welcome and introductions

Agenda presented and passed (Mark first, Christine second).
Minutes from previous meeting presented and passed.

Review of Action Items from last meeting

- Mark to meet with Thomas and Chris to discuss new technology for the school - done
- Mark to bring copies of the previous minutes to meeting - done
- Colleen to look into insurance required for school trips - this was dealt with at the high school level (more details to be found under the Trustee Report below)

Financial Report

- current balance is \$11,071.91 (this includes cheques written for the teachers dinner as well as the grandparent program)
- approx \$6000 is available to spend from the casino money (this will still leave the necessary seed money for the next casino)

Funding Requests

- it's seeming more likely that the high schools will bring in the One to One policy (requiring each student to have a laptop)
 - we should be aware of whether our tech feeds into the high school tech (eg we've chosen to use Smart Boards while the high school uses Promethean - will the kids have a problem moving from one technology to the next?)
- document camera is coming from the school budget
- lunch tables are not here yet - should arrive within two weeks
 - cost is approx \$6000 - casino money should cover this
- Clickers are another option - these are used to get student feedback (allowing teachers to know instantly whether the students are understanding the lesson or not) when using the Smart Boards
 - a set of 32 is approx \$2200
 - Colleen has watched a demo of these in use during a math class and she thought they worked quite well
- ipod touch carts are something the teachers have expressed interest in, but there is no urgent need for them
 - a cart with 20 ipod touches is two to three times the cost of the clickers
- council would still like more info on the use of the ipod touches and Thomas would like more time to investigate
- Dave brought forward a proposal for a tool chest
 - he checked out the prices at Canadian Tire (which currently has a sale), and at Costco and brought forth a couple of options
 - several members of the School Council expressed an interest to see the current conditions of the tools (in cardboard boxes on the floor) after the meeting
 - this will be revisited next meeting

Staff Report

- Christmas activities went well - dance, movie, games
- Basketball - various teachers are taking this on - 1st week of Feb is a tournament for Gr 6

- School-wide spelling bee was held today to determine the student to represent Manachaban
- Junior Achievement is coming up for Grade 7s - math concepts

Admin Report

- Recognition Assembly (for effort and academics)
 - was split up with Gr 5 & 6 in one session and 7 & 8 in another with the former having many more parents in attendance
- Grade 8s - Director's Cut will be coming in to explore storyboarding and movie making
- Canadian Liver Foundation will be coming in again to teach the Kool Kids program
- parent/teacher interviews are Feb 2 & 3
- student population is now 400 (up a few from Sept numbers)
- trout eggs will be arriving on Jan 12
- Waste Audit was held Dec 10
 - a weeks worth of the school garbage was sorted and analyzed
 - 243 pounds examined
 - food accounted for 18%
 - recyclables were 17%
 - beverage containers (refundable) were 7.5% (with an estimated yearly value of \$1200)
 - hot lunch program is a huge waste generator
 - probably need better labels on where to throw things
- re-visioning for the school will be rolling out shortly (re-examining goals, etc.)

Trustee report

- Board Travel Insurance - there is a blanket policy that covers all students
 - when parents buy separate insurance the cost for the remainder of the people goes up
 - Colleen was told that a group policy is cheaper than individual
- Dec 16 - 2011-2014 capital contingency plan was approved
 - details can be found at: http://www.rockyview.ab.ca/publications/assets_publications/capitalplans/2011_2014_Capital_Plan.pdf
- Interim financial review has found an approx \$500,000 error (funds were counted twice)
 - now that this mistake has been found adjustments can be made
- Feb 3 is the joint school council/board meeting

Action Items

- need to revisit other requests for money
- [this still needs to be revisited]
 - Gifts for new staff - this was approved in the minutes of the June 3, 2008 meeting, but were not followed last year
 - do we continue this?
 - from the June 3, 2008 Minutes:
 - *Council looking at providing funding for staff illness (flowers, etc.) in event of retirement, maternity, family illness, death. Motion up to \$75.00 from Council funds for gifts, etc.*
 - Transfers \$50.00*
 - Illness, death up to \$75.00*
 - New teachers \$25.00*
 - Retirement \$100.00*
 - Maternity up to \$75.00*
 - *Sandra Iverson motioned above. Carma Assel-Moore seconded*

Next meeting is scheduled for February 1 at 6:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:24.