

# Manachaban School Council Nov 2, 2010

Present: Stephen Price  
Krista Stronach  
Dave Levson  
Chris McKie  
Thomas Elbel

Marla Bosch  
Dianne Ivanitz  
Sara Busby  
Colleen Munro

Meeting called to order at 6:38 pm.

Welcome and introductions

Agenda presented and passed (Sara first, Marla second).

Minutes from previous meeting presented. Sara first, Marla second - passed

## Review of Action Items from last meeting

- Sara to get signing authority - done
- Krista to add Funds Disbursement doc to bylaws - after discussion with Society's Act person in Edmonton, this will no longer be done because the Funds Disbursement is policy, not procedure, and does not belong in the bylaws.
- Mark to write up a blurb for the teachers about the school council funds disbursements process - Mark not at meeting - deferred

## Manachaban Student Testing Results

- School Annual Results Report
  - in spring will revisit motto and vision
  - Rockyview - many improvements from last year (but only 11 parents responded so results may be skewed to reflect disgruntled parents (results from all three groups (parents, students and teachers) are averaged separately, then averaged together))
  - results have only been collected for two years now so there is no three year average
  - need more parent participation - maybe have a reward for students whose parents participate
- Alberta overall - much improvement from two years ago
- Provincial Achievement - Grade 6
  - two years ago an in-depth analysis of the results was done which was then used as a focus for grades 5, 7 and 8.
  - school science results were excellent - English students had 36% in standard of excellence while French students had 20% (vs 18.6 for provincial results)
  - French math results were low but there is a new curriculum coming
  - Social studies results were low - English was 16.7% vs 18.6% provincially and French was 2.2% vs 12.1% provincially
    - results dropped less than the provincial avg
    - results were based on a new curriculum (used to be about Rome and Greece, but is now about government)
    - results could be low since teachers taught to a written portion which was dropped from the exam at the last minute
  - participation in exam was high
  - provincially 10% of students are coded as special needs while Manachaban has 18.3% special needs
  - males have lower results than females in all areas
  - class sizes are higher than the provincial average for grades 7-9 (province is 22.5 vs 27.9 for Manachaban)

## Financial Report

- no money has been paid out yet
- need receipts for walkathon

## Requests for Funding

- Mobile folding benches are approx \$1000 each
  - these are table and bench combos that seat approx 20 students each
  - Thomas would like to 6 purchased (3 for grade 5s and 3 for grade 6s)
- Apple iPod learning solution
  - these are carts that can sync up to 40 iPods Touches at once
  - Thomas would like to see a cart with 20 iPod Touches purchased (approx \$6599 - this number is directly off Apple's website and does not reflect any discounts that may be available)
- There is still approx \$9000 in Casino Money - Dianne will need to go back to the license and see what the money can be spent on to see which pool of money the funding can come from (Casino vs Parent Council)
- Motion put forward to use Casino money to purchase 6 folding tables and if this money is not available, to use School Council money. Marla 1st, Sara 2nd - passed
- iPod Touch cart will be revisited next meeting

## Staff Report

- Walkathon
  - nice sunny day
  - \$14,232.17 raised (although some small amount of money is still to be counted)
  - a "Thank You" will appear in the local papers to thank all the businesses that provided prizes and food (IGA donated all the hot dogs), as well as all the volunteers that helped out
    - the Times ad will be free, the Eagle will give a 25% discount
  - downside to the day was that all the wieners were individually wrapped in plastic which resulted in a scramble to peel them so they could be cooked
  - Organizers were Susan Kempen, Sue Kennedy, Jeff Avery, Brenda Cole, Bobby Hora and Marla Bosch
  - Expenses will be deducted from the money raised and the remainder will be divided - 1/2 to the teachers by grade and 1/2 to school council
- a track and field event was held for grades 5 and 6 for the first time - the kids loved it
- grades 7 & 8 track meet also went very well - they are Division 1 champs
  - there was a recognition event last Tuesday (which also recognized the volleyball team and the running club)
- AISI - formative assessment is being distinguished from summative assessment (separating practice results from game results)
  - eg. to learn to ride a bike - maybe on the first day you mostly fall off and the next day you do better and maybe by the end of the week you can ride a bike. What should the final grade be? Grade should depend on final outcome, not the learning process to get there.
- Upcoming event - Samaritan's Purse shoebox program starts Nov 15 - boxes will be collected at school

## Admin Report

- Citizenship programs include:
  - Stephen's knapsacks - want to fill 30 with school supplies
  - Warm Feet for the Street - fill a pair of socks with hygiene supplies for street people
  - Donations for Food Bank
  - Shoe Box program
- Chris is starting a Tech Thursday programs for the staff to learn about such technology items as the plone website
- Conversations with Admin
  - will be held separately from School Council meetings

- will be held for parents to learn more about school topics (such as the new weighting for assessments)
- the Liver Foundation will be running part 2 of its program today
- Excellence in Teaching program - nominations will be accepted
- Inclement Weather Policy - will be posted on Monday
- Dec 10 is the recognition assembly
- Dec 3 - report cards go home
- Nov 10 - Remembrance Day ceremony
  - will include vets & scouts & cadets
  - want currently serving members as well

## Trustee report

- Board is currently in recess due to the election
- Colleen was acclaimed
- Ward 1 has a new member which slightly changes the dynamic
- they will meet on Nov 4 to reconfigure
- Inclement Weather -
  - -40C ambient temperature (without windchill) at the Springbank Airport may or may not trigger a school cancellation (decision is made at 5am on the day in question)
  - bus drivers individually can decide not to drive or to delay their run for up to one hour but they must contact all parents of students on their bus if they decide to do this
- Nov 18 is the School Council Chairs and Board meeting and dinner
- School Growth in Rockyview Division - approx 17,570 kids as of Sept 30 (including the Edge School)
  - most growth was in Airdrie and Chestermere - overcrowding is quite severe in these schools
  - Division has grown by a school a year (in student population, not in actual schools) for several years now
  - there is currently a petition started in Airdrie for the province to build a new school there (thousands of signatures)

## Action Item

- Dianne to revisit Casino License to see what the money can be spent on - specifically, were the folding benches listed?
- iPod Touch cart to be revisited next meeting
- [this was left off the Nov meeting, but should be revisited next Meeting - from the Oct minutes]
  - 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 December 7 at 6:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45.