

Manachaban School Council April 13, 2010

Present: Mark Kondro

Krista Stronach

Brenda Koob

Dave Levson

Raelyn Bauer

Dave Wilton

Colleen Munro

Bruce Pettigrew

Murray Besenski

Christina Lewis

Eric Levesque

Chris McKie

Mike Summersgill

Meeting called to order at 6:30

Introductions

Agenda presented and passed.

Special guest tonight is Murray Bezenski from the superintendent's office who will be taking comments on the qualities to look for in the next principal. Since Cochrane High is having their meeting tonight for the same purpose, and he, Colleen and Bruce must also be there, we will hold this portion of the meeting first so they can be on their way.

New Principal Search

- Murray presenting
 - looking for characteristics and skills demonstrated
 - what should the focus for the school be, what processes currently work, what items are non-negotiable
 - what direction should the school take
 - will continue to take input via email or phone until Monday night (April 19, 2010). (mbesenski@rockyview.ab.ca or 945-4015)
 - information will be used to make a shortlist of candidates, formulate interview questions, and make a final decision.

Input follows:

- need openness and transparency, open communication
- need someone that is solution oriented, able to deal with diversity
- school should continue to keep up with technology (like the whiteboards) since it's been doing a good job so far.
- should live within the division
- dual track is good for the school
- having someone bilingual would be a bonus, but isn't a necessity
- need someone able to effectively discipline, to be fair, firm, and consistent
 - zero tolerance doesn't work, need to negotiate
 - 'sort it out yourself' is not acceptable - kids need to feel they are being listened to
- need to continue with integration of the french and english groups

7:22 - Murray, Colleen, Bruce, Christina, and Eric leave, Chris and Mike arrive

Minutes from last meeting were presented and accepted.

Action Items from last meeting

- Raelyn and signing authority
 - bank has no record of Mark K coming in for signing authority
 - Raelyn has signed in, but can't actually sign anything until Mark gets signed on
- Colleen had to leave so spending of council money will be tabled until next meeting
- "Odyssey of the Mind"
 - available to anyone
 - this is an ongoing program (see <http://www.odysseyofthemind.com/>)
 - this particular one is designed for gifted kids and has been well received in the past
 - kids have not yet been identified
 - nothing needed from council
- Mark to raise at next board meeting - how do other schools handle money investing

Financial Report

- Dave W on Casino money
 - \$16,000 for smart boards still needs to be paid
 - last two casinos have raised \$70-\$80 thousand.
 - last casino saw \$42,997 deposited, of which approx \$35,000 has been spent (includes \$16,000 above)
 - Balance of \$7,796.38 remains
 - \$2200 to \$2500 needs to be set aside to pay advisors for the next casino
 - this leaves approx \$5000 still to spend
 - Dec 2010 is the next casino - need to file by Sept
 - need a new board for next casino - Mark Cheadle, Dave Wilton, and Dianne Ivanitz will all be stepping down
- Raelyn on council money
 - \$10,124 in the account
 - \$193.16 for the teacher meal during interviews is still owing
 - \$3500 for Active living day is still owing (every kid got \$10 off their activity - money was not just used to offset transportation)
 - need the wish list to spend the money on
 - Gord Toombs is also retiring this year - policy is to spend \$100 on retiring teachers

Staff Report

- Dave reporting
- report cards went out
- recognition assembly went well but perhaps next time should be split since it currently takes up two periods
- smart boards are getting used

Admin Report

- Draft proposal on Personal Electronic Devices and responsibilities/restrictions was presented
 - June will be the final draft
 - students will have a chance for input
 - review will happen on a regular basis
 - will be sent out in August for parents and students to sign
 - comments on agreement must be back by mid-May
- School newsletter comes out every 2 months and is distributed electronically (on plone website (<http://plone.rockyview.ab.ca/manachaban>))
- School calendar is also posted on website - parent Council meeting is not currently on Calendar - might be an idea
- Grade 5 camping trip is coming up
- Grade 8 trip to Quebec is also coming up

- Grade 8s will also be heading to Mount Royal University (day trip)
- School dance coming up this Friday
- Sports day needs to be finalized
- Tristan Walker must still come back for a presentation - Mike will look at dates in May

Trustee Report

- Unavailable since Colleen had to leave early

Action Items

- Mark to visit ATB again to set up signing authority
- Next meeting need to discuss how to spend money
 - Chris and Colleen to email board about how other schools decide to spend council and fundraising society money
 - Mark to contact Dianne to find the previous wish list
- Tristan Walker to be scheduled in to talk to school
- need to get parents out to June meeting to fill council and fundraising society positions that will be coming up

Dave W moves to adjourn, Brenda seconded, passed.

Next meeting is scheduled for May 11 at 6:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:16.