

Manachaban School Council January 10, 2012

Present: Marla Bosch
Colleen Munro
Krista Stronach
Sara Busby
Penny Beaudry
Sigi Sengl

Stephen Price
Kat Hryciw
Thomas Elbel
Terry White
Annette Dobson

Meeting called to order at 6:34 pm.

Welcome and Intros

Additions to the agenda: Terry White & Active Living Day. Agenda then passed by consent.
Minutes from previous meeting adopted

Financial Report

- Balance is still \$2736.21
- need another person with signing authority so that cheques can be signed - Stephen and Marla do this
- still expecting a cheque from the walkathon for ~\$7000

Staff Report

- dance went well
- Spelling Bee will be held on Thursday (Jan 12) - each class has one or two representatives (but not all class are participating)
- Dec 23 was a Community of Practice day for the teachers
- Active Living Day is coming up March 5
 - Terry is requesting \$8.50 per student from School Council to defray costs (this is a standard yearly request)
 - This amount usually covers bussing
 - usually there are around 20 students participating in the 'free' activity - this year it is bowling and the money will cover the bowling fee and a small snack
 - most expensive activity is skiing (at \$61)
 - Motion was made by Sara to give \$3850 (\$8.50 x 550 students (plus or minus one)) for active living day, seconded by Sigi - passed

Admin Report

- breakfast program is back although the funding has changed
- new funding has allowed the hiring of a new teaching assistant - full time until the end of June
- Excellence in Teaching Award nomination deadline is Feb 3
- Grade 8 hallway - privilege is starting to be taken for granted
 - garbage is being left in the hallway, the table is being abused
 - they have been threatened with a return to the gym for lunch where their movements are far more restricted
 - this seems to have improved things for now
 - maybe just the trouble makers need to be put into the gym
- Kool Kids - grades 5 & 6 - Canadian Liver Foundation has a 6 week educational program - representative from the classes attend and then report back

- Mrs Greaves is an instructor for Gord Neufeld's programs - two have been presented so far
 - there is an 8 week program on offer (\$40/couple or \$25/person) - 2 hours per week
 - healthy relationship program for grades 5 & 6 for 7 weeks - offered in partnership with the Boys and Girls Club
- Feb 29th is Pink Shirt Day - to promote healthy relationships - t-shirts are being ordered - \$5 each
- First Aid training - should have 6 on staff - had 4 and now 2 are expired
 - next PD day will be first aid training for half the staff
- Portable Defibrillators - school does not have one but there may be a couple of kids at school where this could be an issue
 - need to talk to Rockyview to discuss training and maintenance
 - cost is approx \$2000 (8 years of battery life)
 - looking to split the cost with School Council
 - Council must defer until we have the walkathon money and know our balance exactly (esp since we just voted to spend \$3850)
 - Thomas will buy anyway and see about council contributing later
 - Bow Valley High School had theirs donated
 - Mark Kondro (was on Manachaban Council last year) had strong opinions on this - he may be a good person to talk to
- Grade 8 Farewell - need to start working on it - get parents involved

Trustee Report

- Thursday is the next board meeting
- In December a two year extension to the Edge School Pilot was approved
 - Edge school has opted to dissolve the partnership and will revert to a private school in September
- Elizabeth Barrett - Manachaban Review committee - no word yet, but it should be starting soon
- Provincially - Boards and teachers and province are looking at the teacher labour contracts (which expire at the end of August) - lots of work is going on behind the scenes
- Colleen will look at the board policy regarding medical devices
- Last month a comment was made that the government model with regard to trustees and boards could change
 - a bit of clarification
 - provincial government is working on a new education act
 - the last time school boards were amalgamated was 1994
 - Calgary Board of Education has 9 trustees for 300,000 students

Annual Report for School Council

- written by Mark Kondro (and attached to the end of these minutes)
- discussion of identified challenges:
 - Need members for the Fundraising Society - already found
 - Need to involve more parents
 - families new to the school could use a welcome letter from council
 - make school council more prominent on home page?
 - email all parents each month?
 - get representative parents from each class or grade?
 - have a presentation of some kind with each meeting? Tried at Elizabeth Barrett - not entirely successful
 - tweet? (currently 38 followers)
 - need testimonials from parents who currently attend the meetings - what is the benefit? (one benefit is that it is a way to be involved since volunteers in the classroom aren't as needed in the middle school as they were at elementary)
 - some parents don't want to attend for fear of being asked to volunteer - many volunteer in other places
 - Bearspaw has an inventory of school parent talents/areas of expertise - approached when needed
 - number of french immersion students is increasing - what is the best way to support them?

- Canadian Parents for French is a group that should be looked into - what's needed and what's being offered
- one to one computer requirement at the high school - what can Manachaban do to ensure students are ready
 - future meeting could be a demo of how computers and smart boards are used at Manachaban

Casino

- no word yet on earnings

Action Items

- Stephen and Marla to go to bank to get signing authority
- track down walkathon cheque for the school council - Tom
- look into Rockyview's medical devices policy - Colleen
- look into Canadian Parents for French - Tom
- Use of technology in the school - Penny
- Stephen to write a welcome letter for new parents
- Parent Council members to write testimonials on the benefits of attending school council - send to Tom

Next meeting is scheduled for Feb 7, 2012 at 6:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:04.

1. SCHOOL COUNCIL PROFILE for Reporting Year: 2010-2011

School Name:	Ecole Manachaban Middle School
Principal:	Thomas Elbel
School Council Chair/Co-chair(s):	Mark Kondro & Stephen Price
School Council Secretary:	Krista Stronach
School Council Treasurer:	Sara Busby
Teacher Representative:	Dave Levson
Kindergarten Representative:	N/A

2. MESSAGE FROM SCHOOL COUNCIL CHAIR – *Optional*

The 2010-2011 year started with the installation of a new principal. The parent council was pleased to welcome Thomas Elbel to Manachaban and excited to see what new initiatives Thomas might suggest.

The council saw the departure of several long term members in June of 2010. I was pleased to see several new members step up. I would like to personally welcome Stephen and Sara who were willing to participate on the executive.

The council continued to try to increase membership during the year. The largest concern is for volunteers to head the "Fund Raising Society" going into the 2011-2012 year. This will be the priority for the council going forward.

Lastly, I would like to thank Krista Stronach for all the support over the last couple of years. If not for her, I am not sure I would have remembered where the meetings were. Whenever I needed information, Krista always had the information available or knew where to look.

As I have completed my time at Manachaban, I would like to thank the teachers (Dave & Chris especially), students, administration and council members for their support. I would like to wish both the school and the council "All the Best" in the new year.

3. SCHOOL COUNCIL FOUNDATION STATEMENTS – *Optional*

Vision:

Mission:

Beliefs:

4. RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS – *Recommended (maximum length is 300 words)*

Reflecting on the past school year, highlight up to five (5) accomplishments (impact of school council's major activities/events/projects).

1. Implemented the new "Funding" guidelines. This allows for teachers with specific funding requests that may not be for the entire school to present their initiative and based on merit possibly gain

School Council Annual Report

access to funding. The first initiative under the guidelines was the purchase of portable tool boxes for the shop which replaced cardboard boxes for tool storage.

2. Sponsored the purchase of an Ipad Touch set including cart for use in the classes much as the previous Apple computer & carts.
3. Continued to sponsor the Grandparent program at Manachaban.
4. Provided support for the Manachaban's "Active Living Day" activities.
5. Assisted with both the Terry Fox and the school's Walkathon events.
6. Recommended to "Fund Raising Society" the purchase of lunch room tables for the school lunch program.

5. **CHALLENGES** – *Recommended* (maximum length is 300 words)

Identify up to five (5) emerging trends or issues faced by your school councils. Trends and issues help schools identify opportunities and challenges that may impact planning, budgeting, providing programs and achieving results. A trend shows a direction of data over time, e.g., enrolment growth. An issue is a condition that may affect the school's ability to fulfill its mandate or to achieve its goal.

1. The most critical issue impacting the School Council and potentially the school is the need for new members on the Manachaban Fund Raising Society. Currently, the society membership is made up of individuals that no longer have students at Manachaban. The next funding event is during the fall of 2011 so the society is in desperate need for a new executive to head the event.
2. The council must continue to investigate opportunities to involve more members of the parent community in the council and its activities.
3. The school continues to experience an increase in the French Emersion program at the school. The council must investigate the opportunities available to council to support the program.
4. With the "One to One" initiative at the high schools, the council and administration must be diligent in ensuring that students at Manachaban are prepared for this initiative when they advance to the high schools.

6. **FINANCIAL STATEMENT** (attachment) – *Recommended*

7. **APPENDIX – Minutes of School Council Meetings** (attachment) – *recommended*



Mark Kondro

Oct. 4, 2011

Manachaban Parent Council Year end Financial Report

June 2011

Funds carried forward September 15 th 2010	\$5956.72
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Expenses

Walk-a-thon	\$867.45
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Grandparents program	\$150.00
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Interview night staff dinner	\$320.45
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Tool boxes	\$1259.98
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Active living day	\$3000.00
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Ipod touches	\$4000.00
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Total expenses	\$9597.88

Deposits

Walk-a-thon	\$6452.27
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Interest	\$0000.10
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Total deposit	\$6452.37

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Account balance as of June 15,	2811.21

Statement prepared by:

Manachaban Parent Council Treasure

Sara Busby