

MANACHABAN SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 23, 2013

PRESENT: Thomas Elbel Penny Beaudry
 Marla Bosch Katt Hryciw
 Colleen Monroe Bruce Woolrich
 Sara Busby Dawn Marie Cinnamon
 Annette Dobson Tracy Burke
 Hannah Reece and Hannah Goddard (student reps)

Meeting called to order at 6:33pm

Welcome and introductions

- 2 Leadership students from Mrs. Haig's class will be at each meeting (the schedule has been made until March 2014)

Additions to agenda – none

Previous Minutes approved

Elections of Board members

- Marla -Chair
- Dawn Marie – Co-Chair
- Sara – Treasurer
- Krista – Secretary
- Annette & Bruce – Members at Large

Treasurer's Report

- Funds carried forward as of May 15 \$4735.25
- DEBITS \$1000.00 (compassionate fund)
- CREDITS \$300.00 (RVSD grant)
- Balance Stands at **\$4085.25**

Staff Report

- Start up (2 organizational days, 2 PD days in school, 1 PD day central)
- Welcome BBQ was Sept 6, meet the Teacher & Quebec Trip Meeting were September 10th – both well attended
- New classrooms – working well, Colleen asked the student reps what they thought of the renovations and they said they liked it
- Gr 7's had Financial Literacy Program
- Volleyball (Boys & Girls A Team) is underway. First tournament this week
- New report card system – teachers are working with it, finding some kinks and resolving them
- UPCOMING EVENTS
 - o Terry Fox run this Friday (with Elizabeth Barrett and Cochrane High)

- Photos Oct 15th
- Walkathon Oct 18th (Oct 25th alternate)
- Outdoor Ed trips – Gr 8 going to Rosslyn Lake
- School has held drills already this year (Evacuation, Shelter in Place and Lockdown) – went well

Admin Report

- hockey program is undersubscribed
 - parents have asked about paying more, reducing the class size, hiring another teacher etc but school would prefer to keep class at 14
 - may look at class of 13 if necessary
 - student reps asked about lunchtime hockey option – issue of supervision
 - Marla suggested bringing in outside specialists at lunch (yoga, basketball, karate?)
 - No decisions to be made yet – school will make call on hockey program on Friday
- safety audit will happen this year
 - Phil Hutchison was in to observe drill – all went well
 - Penny asked if parents would like to know when the drills happen
 - Tracy and Sara suggested parents would like to be told that it had happened and get feedback about how it went
- staffing
 - Mrs Hill will be extended until January as Mrs Tops has extended her maternity leave
- technology
 - ‘studio approach’ to technology, classes have 5-6 MacBooks, 3-4 Google Chrome Books and several iPads
 - will educate students and staff that there are different tools for different jobs
 - still have class sets of laptops if needed
 - Manachaban is aiming for a blend of students bringing and using their own devices plus the school provided technology
- new reporting – Evidence Summary
 - look at Evidence Summary – Portrait of a 21st Century Learner
 - can be commented on by any of the student’s teachers
 - allows teachers to report and comment throughout the term rather than trying to recall their evaluations at the end of the term for report cards
 - school is still working out a few details (average or mode mark, weighting of assignments)
 - a small number of families have limited or no internet access
 - report can still be printed for those families
- issues raised:
 - some parents will not understand the new model

- there is a parent meeting on Thursday of this week, school will host sessions designed to build parent skill
- Teacher Consistency – school has committed to reporting every 6 weeks (more than they used to) for core subjects
- Marla asked about DELF (diplôme d'études en langue française) Exams for French Immersion students
 - Cost money, not currently planned for Manachaban
 - Thomas asked parents if they would be interested – concluded that it is more applicable for a high school

Trustee Report

- thank you's
- Evidence Summary – competencies are linked to the RVSD 3 Year Education Plan
- There is benefit to having the education summary combined with the parent portal
- RVSD aims to have a single report card for all schools
- Colleen is acclaimed in Ward 5 – will be our trustee for next 4 years
- There are elections in Cochrane, Airdrie, Springbank, Crossfield, Beiseker on Oct 21
- PARENT ENGAGEMENT
 - Education Act (in effect 2016) has been proclaimed
 - Parents have an opportunity to comment on the Regulatory Review Committee
 - Whistleblower legislation has been passed and is out for feedback
- there has been a search for a new Superintendent/CEO, interviews have been made but no name announced
- past 3 board meetings
 - viewed portable IMR projects being built (Mitford is waiting to move classes out of the gym)
 - 2 policies passed
 - trustee disclosure of monthly travel expenses
 - trustee honoraria
 - report on internally restricted net assets
 - was down due to 5 million for Heron's Crossing
 - now up 5 million due to sale of 2 RVSD owned properties
 - will be no board meetings during election
 - trustee swearing in ceremony will be October 23rd

Penny mentioned how great the maintenance crew has been during the Manachaban renovations

- motion to send thank you card and \$10 gift certificate to each worker

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm. Next meeting Monday Oct 28th @ 6:30pm