

Manachaban School Council Sept 28, 2015

Present: Thomas Elbel	Colleen Munro
Krista Stronach	Gerry Gaudet
Anne Gauthier	Tara Courte
Dawn-Marie Cinnamon	Wayne Lenhardt
Joshua Lafleur	Adam Jamieson
Marla Bosch	Annette Dobson

Meeting called to order at 6:36 pm.

Welcome and Intros

Agenda accepted after the following amendments:

- add Walkathon under New Business
- Quebec Trip Compassionate fund
- Grandparent program funding
- Professional Learning

Minutes from previous meeting presented and passed.

Elections

- Motion to accept:
 - Dawn-Marie as Chair
 - Marla as Vice-Chair
 - Annette as Treasurer
 - Krista as Secretary
- put forth by Adam, seconded by Anne - passed

Bylaw Review

- Wayne put forth a request for a standing committee to review the current bylaws (last amended in 2001)
 - agrees to head up
 - call will be put out to any parents who wish to assist
 - present in December [this will probably have to be at the Nov 23 meeting or the January 25 meeting since school council does not meet in December]

Treasurer Report

- currently have \$8579.52 after \$350 School Council Grant
 - approx \$4000 for buses for active living day still to come out

Staff Report

- pancake breakfast was very well received - even had to rush out for more batter
- meet the staff night was very well attended
- school is participating in the Town of Cochrane e-waste challenge
 - the school that is able to collect the most weight in e-waste will win \$1000
 - e-waste includes any device which plugs in - eg computers, tvs, etc
- volleyball has started
- picture day was last week
- tuck shop is now open

- WILD class had their first camp
- lunch for students is an upcoming event
- Oct 8 is the Terry Fox run - Terry's brother Fred will be coming as part of the 35 year anniversary
- cross-country running team has started - approx 20 students involved
- meditation club has been started
- Oct 23 is the Walkathon
- Oct 21 and 22 is parent-teacher night
- there will be a cook-off for Halloween

Admin Report

- New school policy is to keep personal devices out of the classroom
 - teachers love it
 - parents are supportive
 - students still have breaks and lunch to check their cell phones
 - some classroom work will still involve computers, tablets
 - school has approx 200 laptops, 60 chromebooks, and a cart of iPads that can be used in classrooms
 - upcoming meeting with staff will discuss further
 - Mitford now has a one-to-one policy (every student should have/have access to a computer) for grades 7 and 8
 - RVS policy is to encourage the use of personal devices, but not require them
- Fundraising Society will be approached to provide:
 - new screen and projector for the gym
 - new screen for the learning commons
- staffing
 - have gone from 18 home rooms last year to 16 this year
 - last year had three grade 6 FI classes - has become two grade 7 FI classes this year
 - last year had extra funding for two WILD classes - only one this year
 - WILD class this year is at 32 with two on the waiting list
 - classes sizes go up to 38 (province has class size guidelines, not strict limits)
 - looking at use for empty classroom
 - Cochrane High has CHAT (Cochrane High Art Therapy) - a room set aside for exploration of Art as therapy
 - would like to implement something like that here
- Walkathon is scheduled for Fri Oct 23 with a rainout alternative of Oct 26
 - need volunteers for the day of the event - parent response is good so far
 - also need parent volunteers to help organize beforehand
 - prizes
 - in previous years have had prizes of ipods, police rides, gift cards to Market Mall
 - do we still need all these prizes? Do they motivate kids to get more sponsor money?
 - keep the pizza party prize for top class in each grade
 - maybe just have a gift card to Market Mall for top individual in each grade
 - simplifies things for parents soliciting prizes
 - food
 - hot dogs and buns - approx 1200
 - approach the grocery stores
- have already had parent meeting night for the Quebec trip (aimed at FI and FSL students) and the Bamfield trip (aimed at english students)
- Quebec trip request for compassionate funding
 - two families have indicated they can't really afford the \$2300 price, but could go to \$1500
 - school council in the past has not specifically funded requests like this but have funded a lump sum deemed "the compassionate fund" for the principle to apply as seen fit
 - families have been made aware of fundraising opportunities - eg Spolumbo's Sausage - that must be parent driven
 - requests like this in the past have come up closer to the final payment date (usually Feb) - what happens if more people are unable to pay for the trip later on? Calgary economy continues to see layoffs
 - don't need to make a decision tonight - defer until Oct

- Grandparents club has requested \$200
 - this is an annual request
 - motion to fund \$200 to the Grandparents Club made by Dawn-Marie, seconded by Krista - passed
- Professional Learning:
 - Wayne Hammond is coming Oct 13 to spend a half day on values and hidden assumptions
 - Oct 9 will be self-directed learning

Trustee Report

- superintendent is focussing on literacy and numeracy
- RVS has grown by 1000 students this year - now over 21,000 students in Rockyview
- Oct 1 is the board organizational meeting
- Three new schools are currently being built
 - Ranchview is the k-8 school in Sunset Ridge in Cochrane
 - Airdrie has Cooper's Crossing and H. Lorimer
- this fall will see sod turning ceremony for new school in Fireside in Cochrane - to be completed in 2017
- with new schools in Cochrane:
 - Glenbow and Elizabeth Barrett will become dual track english/french immersion school k-5
 - Manachaban will become grade 6-8 school (with FI from Glenbow feeding into it)
- Rockyview schools will now have three area superintendents (for West, Airdrie, and Chestermere)
 - Manny Ferreira for West (includes Cochrane)
- relocatable classroom requests must be in by Nov 1
- Oct 6 will be meeting with the Education Minister

Next meetings are scheduled for: Oct 26, Nov 23, Jan 25, Feb 29, March 29, Apr 25, and May 30 for 6:30

Meeting adjourned at 8:01