

# École Manachaban Middle School

## Parent Council Minutes

Jan 22/18 6:30 - 7:30pm

### 1. Welcome & Introductions

Present: Tara Courte (Chairing); Trish Rognvaldson (Canadian Parents for French); Jason Helfrich; DM; JN; Katt Hryciw; Bruce Woolrich; KS; Fiona Gilbert; Ryan Hilderman (P3 Sports); Gerry Gaudet; Lisa Preston (secretary)

Regrets: Anne Kromm

### 2. Approval of Agenda. (Motion by KH: Second by: TR )

### 3. Approval of Minutes from Meeting on Nov. 27/17 (Motion by JH: Seconded by TC)

### 4. Staff Update: Katt Hryciw

4.1 Term 1 ended, Report Cards went home via paper. A new program was used for teachers to calculate marks (Power Teacher Pro instead of Gradebook).

4.2 All 7 and 8 students went to CHS for drama production Comedy of Errors in December.

4.3 Grade 8 students did gymnastics and indoor soccer at Spray Lakes in December.

4.4 It was a very festive December! Christmas carols were played over the intercom, and School Council organized a special event for every day! Thanks to School Council for their efforts.

4.5 Active Living Day is coming up on Jan 25. A wide variety of activities were offered, and all but 5 kids got their first choice of activity.

4.6 Grade 6 classes have been snowshoeing in January.

4.7 Basketball underway for grade 7 & 8 "A" teams; Grade 6 team has just started; Grade 7 & 8 "B" teams to follow.

- 4.8 The Manachaban school logo has changed from an image of a first nations person wearing a head-dress. The process for creating a new logo began about 3 years ago with previous principal, Tom Elbel. The new logo is an arrow with 3 feathers hanging from it. An arrow was used because Manachaban means “the place of bows”. The feathers represent the 3 different First Nation bands in the area. The school continues to use the WARRIOR acronym to recognize students for a variety of traits that are not necessarily academic.
- 4.9 An assembly was held to introduce the new school logo, which was painted on the gym wall the day before the assembly. All students were given a t-shirt with the new logo and WARRIOR on the back. A student, N.O., was the MC for the assembly. During the assembly, a first nations Elder addressed the school. As well, a first nations trio came and performed two dances (a traditional ladies dance and a warrior dance) and explained their dances and costumes.
- 4.10 Pink shirt day is coming up; The Manachaban GSA has designed a pink shirt that is based on the new Manachaban logo/WARRIOR shirt. The pink shirt lists ways to be kind to others using WARRIOR as an acronym. These shirts will be available for purchase.

## 5. Admin Update

- 5.1 Staffing Update: Angela Arsenault had a baby girl (she was the Cochrane New Year’s baby!) Replacing her with the grade 6 class is Joanne Saltvold.
- 5.2 Hockey program at Manachaban. A presentation by P3 schools: Ryan Hilderman.
  - i Cochrane High School started a P3 Hockey program, “Hockey Academy”, a couple years ago. The foundation of Hockey Academy is to build leaders and athletes in a community.

- ii P3 offers professional coaches and trainers, and is an in-school alternative to private academies. Skill development includes time on ice, dryland training and lifeskills (B.O.L.D. – Bachelor of Leadership Development).
- iii The CHS program allows students to earn 15 credits per year during school time, while increasing leadership, responsibility and citizenship.
- iv At CHS, the Hockey Academy is a high performance program, for students who are currently playing in the higher levels for their age group. P3 uses the F.E.A.R. acronym (Focus, Effort, Attitude; Respect) to encourage athletes to emerge from their comfort zone. The goal is to help athletes develop their full potential.
- v The proposed program for Manachaban:
  - 1 For grade 6 students: Students would be on the ice once a week for a total of 30 on ice sessions. The students would be a cohort within a PE class. The PE class would run around lunch so hockey students would have time to transition to/from arena.
  - 2 For grade 7 & 8 students: Hockey Academy would be offered as an option, which would allow for 60 on ice sessions (2 times a week), plus 25-30 leadership (BOLD) sessions on Fridays.
- vi Applicants are not just limited to Manachaban students, but other schools in Cochrane area. The process for application and eligibility will encompass:
  - 1 an open house on Feb 5;
  - 2 application deadline and tryouts in March;
  - 3 personal interviews held in April; and
  - 4 acceptance letters to be sent in May.
- vii The program hopes to recruit 20 students for each program, but with a 1:6 player to coach ratio, 24 skaters and 4 goalies

would be the maximum possible. The costs are estimated to be:

- 1 Grade 6 program: \$1200.
  - 2 Grade 7 & 8 program: <\$3000.
- viii Payment plans are available, as well as a scholarship options for families who don't have the means to pay for the program.
- ix Parent perspective on an in-school Hockey Program (DM and JN). Having a program in-school is fantastic. It will help players to get energy out and help a student focus; helps on ice and off; comradery gets built; is an option instead of going to much more expensive Edge school program.
- x Benefits to school: could increase student numbers which would help from a budget perspective

### 5.3 Financial Requests from Manachaban Administration:

- i Hoping that the Fundraising Committee will cover the cost of the new Manachaban logo t-shirts were purchased (\$4500). The casino revenues are just shy of 58000.
- ii School Council: traditionally covers the cost of busses for Active Living day; about \$4000.
- iii The EMMSC Account has \$8500 as of Jan 15, 2018. Walkathon is the source of this income, but the 2017 Walkathon funds have not been transferred into the SC account yet.

*Motion made by KS; EMMSC gift up to \$4000 to the school for bussing for active living day. Seconded by Bruce; Motion carried*

## 6. Trustee Update

- 6.1 Motion made at RVS board meeting to spend 9 million on infrastructure/maintenance and renewal.

- 6.2 The RVS Annual Education Results Report is now on the RVS website. The report includes results from parent, staff and student satisfaction surveys; 28 pages in report.
- 6.3 Bill 24 (An Act to Support Gay-Straight Alliances) and Bill 28 (School Amendment Act) were passed in December by government of Alberta. In Bill 28 Kindergarten age of entry was changed, and the walk limit removed from school act. However, the regulations have not been seen yet. This may have an impact on the funding for transportation to schools. Currently RVS provides bussing for students living 1.5- 2.3 km from schools, but government only funds for students living 2.4 km from their designated school (Note: French Immersion schools are not the designated school unless you live in the boundary for that school). RVS anticipates being \$1 million short for next year using last year's model.
- 6.4 A Survey for stakeholders will coming out to help RVS board determine how to make up this loss of income. More information to follow.
- 6.5 Two draft calendars have been published for each of the 2018-19 school year and the 2019-20 school year. RVS sent an email request for feedback from families by Friday January 26. One version of the calendar for each year has a March break, the other has an April break. Also seeking feedback re: grouping PL days with holidays for 4-day weekends, versus having more 3-day weekends throughout the year. The board will be discussing the calendars at the board meeting on Feb 8, 2018.

## 7. Treasurer Update

### 7.1 Fundraising Association/Fundraising initiatives:

There is still casino money that should have been spent, so no additional fundraising efforts by EMMS School Council are required.

- 7.2 The Manachaban Fundraising Association (KS): Needs to have an AGM. A new FRA board is needed.
- 7.3 Bruce: There has been many issues with the ATB to get the current council signed on to the bank account; Past Council member MB and Bruce have been trying to make appointment at a mutually agreeable time: aiming for Tuesday. They need a copy of the minutes that sets out who new members are, which are posted on the school website. All 3 people need to go into the bank to give personal info and signature for signing authority.
- 7.4 There have been no changes to account since July 2017.

## 8. New Business

### 8.1 Grandparents Program

- i In November a letter was received from the Manachaban School Grandparent Program requesting \$200.

*Tara made a motion; for EMMS Council to grant \$200 to the Manachaban school grandparent program. Seconded by KS. Motion carried.*

### 8.2 Canadian Parents for French (CPF): Trish Rognvaldson

- i CPF is a National volunteer organization that promotes French as a second language learning. Trish has experience in the Rocky Mountain House CPF chapter and on the CPF Alberta Board.
- ii Request EMMSC to consider an associate membership. Cost \$60/year or \$150/3 years.
- iii There was a Cochrane chapter of CPF that dissolved in 2016. Tara Courte was the president and sole member!
- iv A Cochrane CPF chapter could do French activities (movies, entertainers) once or twice a year.
- v Membership numbers support getting grants.
- vi Members get info on exchanges, grants/bursaries,

- vii CPF has been advocating for French Education Services due to recent changes in the structure of French Education at the government level. The Alberta CPF Alberta met with the Education Minister to advocate for ongoing support for FSL in schools.
  - viii Trish R: plans to organize an AGM, likely in March, to see if there is interest in reforming a chapter. Not a huge time investment. A Cochrane chapter means 67% of Cochrane area membership funds returns to the Cochrane chapter.
  - ix TR wondered if it is possible to communicate to parents via the school? Yes, TR can include a write up in the February and March EMMS newsletters. Submit to Tanya Hodder.
- 8.3 \$60/year for Associate membership, \$150 for a 3 year Associate membership.

*Motion made by Tara Courte: EMMS School Council will purchase an associate member for a 3-year period. Seconded by JN. Motion carried.*

## 9. Old Business

- 9.1 Signing authority for new council executive. See Treasurer's update.
  - 9.2 "Screenagers" Presentation – Ranchview will host the movie "Screenagers" on Jan 31 at 6:30 at the Rancheview Gym. There is no cost to parents, but a RSVP via Eventbrite is requested. The movie has a 1 hour and 10 minute run time; but some discussion is anticipated before/after the screening.  
  
"Screenagers" is a documentary that focuses on growing up in a digital age, the conflict it creates, the brain impact, the social media aspect and HOW DO WE HELP KIDS NAVIGATE THIS. Recommended for 10 and up. Opens up a conversation around healthy habits.
  - 9.3 Cochrane High is still discussing hosting "Screenagers" at CHS in their new theatre (perhaps in March).
10. Meeting Adjourned at 8:08. Next Meeting Feb. 27/18.