

**Ecole Manachaban Middle School
Parent Council Minutes**

Nov. 27/17 6:30 - 7:30pm

Welcome & Introductions

Attendance:

Tara Courte (chairing);	Anne Kromme;
Lisa Preston (secretary);	Gerry Gaudet;
Fiona Gilbert;	
<i>Quorum not met: meeting for information Purposes only</i>	

Regrets from:	
Katt Hryciw	Bruce Woorich
Jason Helfrich	

(Quorum not met ; meeting for information purposes only)

- 1 Approval of Agenda motion by LP, seconded by TC
- 2 Approval of Minutes from Meeting on Oct. 23/17; motion by TC seconded by LP
- 3 Staff Update (Gerry Gaudet for Katt Hryciw);
 - 3.1 Term 1 is ending on Friday Dec 1, after this there will be new options for grade 7&8 students.
 - 3.2 Report Cards will be sent home on December 8. Paper report cards will be sent home instead of being sent electronically due to security concerns (RVS wide decision);
 - 3.3 Powerschool: parents must complete the school engage portion of Powerschool, (on lower left-hand side) for Powerschool to function properly. Teachers are adapting to the change to Power Teacher Pro. Please be aware that parent cannot see the summative marks for grade 6 students in email updates.
 - 3.4 Sports Update:
 - 3.4.1 "B" volleyball teams finishing this week
 - 3.4.2 "A" basketball tryouts have begun
 - 3.4.3 Grade 6 Basketball will take place in January.
 - 3.5 On the November 13 PL day, EMMS staff went to Rancheview school for a literacy workshop. The literacy teachers were involved in a follow-up the next day in school to increase their depth of knowledge.

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- 3.6 Halloween cook-off took place. There were 70 entries (!!), and the best entries moved forward to an in-school bake-off on Halloween Day. Thanks to the Kitchen Boutique who sponsored prizes for the event.
- 3.7 Anne Kromm, Katt Hryciw and 3 grade 6 students attended a GSA conference in Calgary last week. Noticing more new faces participating in the GSA this week as the enthusiasm from the event trickles down.

4 Admin Update

4.1 New staff:

- 4.1.1 Brad Krause – New school technologist (shared w/ EB);
 - 4.1.2 Classroom Improvement Fund from AB government resulted in hiring of a full time French Immersion Ed assistant. Ami Deku was hired at the end of October. Since this position took longer to fill than anticipated, the surplus funds have been used to increase the hours for other support staff, including the school's CDA.
 - 4.1.3 Vannessa Vetterl has been hired to take the place of Al Taylor during his medical leave.
 - 4.1.4 Anne Harris (former Library Tech from CHS) is EMMS's new librarian. Changes so far in the library include a self-check out. Expect more changes as time goes on. Anne is invited to present to School Council in the new year with her vision for the learning commons.
- 4.2 Manachaban Makerspace: Makerspace is continuing to take shape. The plan is for all students to have the opportunity the hands on, experiential learning that a maker space provides. Classes may use the space for projects associated with a class or as a registered option (grade 7 & 8). As well, a makerspace club is envisioned. The hope is that maker space will empower students by allowing them to create useful items.

5 Trustee Update (Fiona Gilbert)

- 5.1 The Board Organizational meeting was held on Thu Nov 2 where: Airdrie Trustee Todd Brand was elected to the role of Chair of the Board; and Cochrane Trustee Fiona Gilbert elected as Vice-Chair.
- 5.2 The provincial government has recently introduced 2 pieces of legislation that will have an impact on schools and education in Alberta:

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- 5.2.1 Bill 24 - An Act to Protect Gay Straight Alliances looks to close some identified gaps in the existing legislation in order to provide clarity to school authorities, students, and school communities and will have limited impact on current policies, procedures and practices within RVS.
 - 5.2.2 Bill 28 - School Act Amendments, proposes several changes to the current School Act:
 - 5.2.2.1 establishing a common age of entry for kindergarten,
 - 5.2.2.2 adds standards for Educational Service Agreements between boards and Indigenous communities for “off-reserve” education
 - 5.2.2.3 new eligibility criteria for transportation service
 - 5.2.2.4 new certification requirements for school leaders
 - 5.2.2.5 requirement for Boards to have a Trustee Code of Conduct
 - 5.2.3 More details will be forth coming as government releases the corresponding regulations that go with each of these amendments. Also look for opportunity to comment on these changes as government looks to gather feedback.
 - 5.3 Fireside School opened on November 14, a few things remain to be completed. The official grand opening will occur in January.
 - 5.4 At the November 16 board meeting the board committed to spending money for Aging schools; ie. Westbrook and Indus. Westbrook is a wooden structure. The plan is for a new school to be built N of current site. Indus will work a bit differently, as it needs to be on the same footprint. Upgrades to Elbow Valley and George MacDougall were also approved.
 - 5.5 Joint School Council meeting was held on Nov 16, and EMMS School Council was represented by Jason . The spring Joint School Council Meeting is planned for April 12. The Education Minister will be invited to join us on that date.
 - 5.6 Trustees were recently in Edmonton for the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) conference. Provincially , ~ 50% of our school trustees are new.
- 6 Treasurer Update – Bruce away, information provided by AK
- 6.1 Discussion: Soccer Nets have been ordered from previous casino funds; approved for seating in hallways; order went in 3 weeks ago, delivery in January.

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- 6.2 Walkathon revenue is down about 50% (~8K) compared to previous years. This is likely a combination of having fewer grades at the school, and may indicate there is less available funds for donation due to economic challenges. The Walkathon revenue is used for field trip subsidies, to purchase equipment for classes; and to fund bussing for active living day.

7 New Business

- 7.1 Screenagers: Movie to license and view. Discussion included that Cochrane High is trying to get a viewing organized. Rancheview has allocated funding for a viewing as well. Manachaban may offer support to CHS, and wonders about using the new CHS 250 seat theatre for viewing. Of note, Eventbrite can be used without charge if tickets are offered for free. Anne to connect w/ Glenn and Ed.

8 Old Business

- 8.1 Signing authority for new council exec. Tabled.

9 Adjournment 7:47

10 Next meeting January 22, at 6:30.

11 Future Dates:

- 11.1 EMMS School council on Feb 27; March 26, April 23, May 28.
- 11.2 April 12 is the next Joint School Council meeting in Airdrie.