

**Ecole Manachaban Middle School  
School Council Minutes**

**Oct. 23, 2017; 6:30 - 7:30pm**

- 1) Call to order 6:33
- 2) Welcome & Introductions:
  - i) Present:

Colleen Munro	Trish R;
Anne Kromm;	Jason Helfrich;
Tara Courte (chairing meeting)	Fiona Gilbert;
Lisa Preston (secretary);	Krista S;
Bruce Woolrich;	Joanne S
Katt Hryciw;	
- 3) Approval of Agenda motion by Lisa Preston, seconded Bruce Woolrich
- 4) Approval of Minutes from Meeting on Sept.25/17; motion to approve by Katt Hryciw, seconded by Tara Courte.
- 5) Staff Update - Katt Hryciw
  - a) Staff just participated in Community of Practice based and individual Professional Learning days, as they fell before and after the Thanksgiving weekend.
  - b) Last week was the school walkathon. Kudos to Mr. Gaudet, M. Cyr, and Mr. Taylor for organizing. It was a smooth event with lots of positive response. The event ran faster than previous years, due to the absence of the grade 5's. Fifty percent of the funds raised will go to school council. The other 50% is distributed to be used by the grade that raised it.
  - c) The "A" teams for volleyball are doing their final tournaments. The grade 6 Volleyball practices have begun, and there will be 1 tournament in early November. The "B" volleyball teams will start shortly.
  - d) Halloween Cookoff begins tomorrow, and will end next week.
  - e) Student council has organized days such as Jersey Day, Orange-shirt day and Terry Fox day.
  - f) November 2 is scheduled for photo retakes day.

6) Admin Update: Anne Kromm

- a) The remaining money from the casino will be used:
  - i) To purchase soccer nets jointly (50/50) with Cochrane High School;
  - ii) To purchase benches for in the halls. Fire regulations are being considered in this purchase.
- b) The Administrator team has conducted interviews for Learning Commons Facilitator, and hope to have that role filled shortly. A rethinking of the current Learning Commons configuration will follow.
- c) School Annual Results Report (SARR) is being completed by Gerry Gaudet and Anne Kromm.
  - i) Parents, staff and students were surveyed in the spring of 2017 to gather data for the report. The detailed report will be available on the Manachaban website after it is approved by RVS.
  - ii) Areas of success from the Students include:
    - (1) students felt welcomed;
    - (2) students felt helped;
    - (3) students like that they have technology to support learning and do their work better.
  - iii) Future priorities from the Student Feedback:
    - (1) safe and Caring environment (work in progress: Chat room and leaning hub),
    - (2) maker space to improve engagement with learning,
    - (3) develop school culture based on WARRIOR traits.
  - iv) Areas of success from the Staff include:
    - (1) staff feel safe,
    - (2) staff feel involved in decision making,
    - (3) feel teaching is meeting the 21<sup>st</sup> century standards.
  - v) Future priorities based on staff feedback include:
    - (1) staff still need support through professional learning opportunities (RVS offers many opportunities) and outside conferences.
    - (2) overall staff themes for improvement were around meeting student needs.

- vi) Parent response – areas of success include:
  - (1) parents felt welcomed and involved;
  - (2) felt that students were gaining valuable skills.
- vii) Future priorities based on Parent Feedback include:
  - (1) increasing understanding how to access how their students are doing (via access to parent portal w/ powerschool);
  - (2) citizenship;
  - (3) meeting needs of learners.
- viii) Accountability pillar portion of SARR is based on Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT) results.
  - (1) Results indicate that EMMS can improve PAT standard of excellence (bell curve based standard).
  - (2) There were high results in Social Studies, Language Arts reading scores, mental math, and scientific method.
  - (3) Future priorities include:
    - (a) Improving student vocabulary (particularly in FI)
    - (b) functional writing,
    - (c) problem solving in math;
    - (d) vocabulary to improve reading comprehension,
    - (e) more reading time,
    - (f) more connection to real life.
- ix) Overall results for SARR are high: EMMS scored higher than average in six of the nine measures.

## 7) Trustee Update

- a) Colleen Munro: Since October the outgoing board held one official meeting and one planning meeting. The incoming board will be reviewing the SARRs and the RVS results. As a school division, French Immersion is still needing work, especially as reflected in grade 9 PATs. The division has made some increases in numeracy and literacy. RVS has a very high graduation rate, as well as high scores for the “safe and caring schools” responses.

- b) The board has requested 23 modular classrooms for the 2018-19 school year, for use throughout the division. Only 40 are allocated for Southern Alberta! RVS grew by 1045 students this year, to ~ 23500 students.
  - c) The board has updated the capital plan. This moved the Langdon Junior High to top of the list of priorities for school development, followed by 2 Chestermere K-9 schools, an Airdrie K-9 school and a Cochrane K-5 school (location: Heartland). The province has indicated that only school sites with deep services in place will have construction approved. In Cochrane, Heritage Hills was moved to a lower priority since there are further behind Heartland in getting the deep services into place.
  - d) A school site in Rivercrest (on S side of river) located in the first phase of development was approved by the town council prior to the municipal election.
  - e) The new RVS board will be sworn in Oct 24, and will meet in early November.
  - f) Judy Hunter is the new RVS trustee for the rural western ward of RVS. At this point Judy and Fiona Gilbert need to determine who will be the trustee point of contact for each school in Cochrane and area.
  - g) The joint school council meeting will take place November 16 in Airdrie. **Jason and Anne to attend.**
- 8) New Business - none
- 9) Old Business
- a) Signing authority for new council executive – The ATB requested additional information when Bruce went to begin the change-over process.
  - b) ACTION ITEM: Bruce will follow up with getting a letter with information re: council changes, and then will contact Tara and Jason.**
- 10) Adjournment
- 11) Next Meeting: November 27, 6:30 pm
- 12) Photos
- 13) Meeting Adjourned at 7:24 (motion by Tara Courte)