

Manachaban School Council Oct 5, 2010

Present: Mark Kondro
Krista Stronach
Dave Levson
Chris McKie
Thomas Elbel

Lynn Laflamme
Stephen Price
Sara Busby
Colleen Munro

Meeting called to order at 6:38 pm.

Welcome and introductions

Agenda presented and passed (Sara first, Lynn second).

Minutes from previous meeting presented. One correction - the year-end financial report is already done.

Mark motions to accept minutes, Sara seconded - passed

Review of Action Items from last meeting

- Annual report - Mark - report is done, will be submitted tomorrow
- Bylaw change - Krista - still to be done
- Tristan Walker - Tom - Tristan has been contacted and he understands the three presentation commitment has already been fulfilled: last fall he did a luge presentation, he was present during the Olympic Torch relay (this was most likely overlooked) and signed autographs, and he came again last May. Council is satisfied this item has been fulfilled

Nominations for Council Positions

- Still need a co-chair - commitment is currently one meeting per month
 - the title in the bylaws is actually Vice-Chair, not Co-Chair
 - Stephen volunteers to be Vice-Chair, Sara seconds - passed

Financial Report

- Sara needs signing authority - the minutes from the September AGM should be good enough
- balance is still \$5956.72
- no bills are outstanding
- Walkathon is coming up
- Request for funds from school council
 - not ready yet
 - Tom - there are four extra students that weren't budgeted for which means there is extra money (approx \$5000 per head) to be allocated at the school level
 - there is still money from the fundraising society.
 - Tom needs time to determine what the school needs most and which pot of money is best spent on these items.
 - Question - do teachers know about the new process? Dave thinks probably not
 - should Mark write up a blurb to distribute to teachers? should we just point to the plone website via email to the teachers? or just let Tom deal with the process?
 - Mark will write up something for the teachers
 - funds disbursement will be postponed until next meeting

Staff Report

- Terry Fox Run
 - Terri White organized lots of activities for the lunch hours last week including:

- busking - students and teachers entertained
- dance-a-thon
- hope on a rope - bidding for trinkets
- head shaving - lots of boys participated as well as two girls
- walk at the Cochrane Ranch - students came back to ice cream, weather was great
- Walkathon - looking for volunteers to overlap and carry on the running of this for next year
 - organizers met tonight
 - date is set for Oct 15
 - Walk will go around Cochrane, parent volunteers will be spread around the route
 - there will be hot dogs at Mitford park and ice cream back at the school
 - prize winners will be listed on-screen back at the school (instead of an awards ceremony). This streamlines the day
 - Does the Walkathon committee needs money for the prizes (as per last year)?
 - prizes include \$150 gift certificate to Market Mall - one per grade
 - an ipod (approx \$200)
 - a night at Kananaskis Village lodge for two
 - lots of small prizes donated from businesses around town
 - there will also be an Early Bird Pizza Party for the first class to have all their money in
 - Motion to cap the prize value at \$1000 made by Sara, second by Mark - passed
 - traditionally the Grade 5s (sometimes the 6s) raise the most money

Admin Report

- the new plone website should be ready by the end of the month - teachers are waiting to update the plone site until the new version is ready.
- Google Apps are being launched in the school
- vending machine is in
 - teachers were largely in favour of this
 - healthy snacks are available
- 90 new desks and chairs are on the way - these will allow more flexible arrangements in the classrooms (in contrast to the desks with attached chairs)
- leaks in the roof have been fixed
- Tom is amazed at the number of parent volunteers he sees around the school
- first fire drill and lockdown practice is coming on Thursday
 - Rockyview has hired Hour Zero to evaluate and educate schools on evacuation and lockdown procedures so there is consistency across the board
 - RCMP are also involved - Lindsay Hoskins is the liason.
 - sometimes it is useful to have a fire truck present to observe during an evacuation drill - but not on the first one - there are still wrinkles to be ironed out
- there are 30 new laptops (in two carts)
 - these can be booked online now (rather than the old paper method)
 - all laptops have Notebook 10 on them (to allow them to connect to the interactive white boards)
- ipods cannot currently connect to the white boards (Smart is working on this)
- Grade 7&8 Tutorial club
 - started last year and will be continued
 - parents or teachers can recommend a student participate, or a student can request
 - runs in the library from 3:30 to 4:15
- Grade 7s have now also been moved out of the gym for lunch
 - both grade 7s and 8s are happy with the new arrangement of eating in the hallway by their lockers - this allows them independence and prepares them for the same at Cochrane High
 - the next phase is to get tables for the gym - Tom is looking folding tables with attached benches that seat 20 each (at approx \$1000 per table). Once these are in place the 7s and 8s would be allowed to join the 5s and 6s in the gym.
- Canadian Liver Foundation will come in to talk to the school about what it means to be liver-healthy
 - 10 students from Grade 5 and 6 will attend and these will in turn present what they have learned to the rest of the school
- Final number of students is 397 - four students more than expected

- extra money from the extra students may possibly go towards extra laptops (each cart can hold 20 but currently have only 15 each. There are 4 carts).
- Annual results report will be presented next meeting

Trustee report

- Colleen has been acclaimed in Ward 5 - Rural Cochrane
- Only Ward 1 (Crossfield, Beiseker, Irricana, and Kathryn) has been contested
- On Sept 16 the board divvied up the 2.9% salary top-up the province finally provided (Rockyview had already given the teachers this money so this new money was extra)
 - \$315 000 was held back - \$100 000 for HR contingency, \$215 000 for tech infrastructure
 - \$785 000 went back to the schools
- As of Sept 10, Rockyview was up 312 students (not including the Edge School). This is comparable to the increase in students Rockyview has experience the last several years
- Edge School
 - Edge School has joined Rockyview School Division on a two year pilot
 - this allows their funding to go from 70% to 100% and allows Rockyview to have access to the sports program
 - they are currently working through their cultural differences
- Results from the Rockyview 3-year program will be shared next month (results are positive across the board)

New Business

- Gifts for new staff - this was approved in the minutes of the June 3, 2008 meeting, but were not followed last year
 - do we continue this?
 - from the June 3, 2008 Minutes:
 - *Council looking at providing funding for staff illness (flowers, etc.) in event of retirement, maternity, family illness, death. Motion up to \$75.00 from Council funds for gifts, etc.*

<i>Transfers</i>	<i>\$50.00</i>
<i>Illness, death</i>	<i>up to \$75.00</i>
<i>New teachers</i>	<i>\$25.00</i>
<i>Retirement</i>	<i>\$100.00</i>
<i>Maternity</i>	<i>up to \$75.00</i>
 - *Sandra Iverson motioned above. Carma Assel-Moore seconded*
 - we should discuss this at the next meeting
- Tom brought up the possibility of an Excellence in Teaching Award. This should be discussed at the next meeting
- Since Parent/Teacher interviews are coming up, Krista motions that we again provide a lunch for the teachers up to \$350. Stephen seconded, passed.

Action Items

- Annual report to be submitted - Mark
- Bylaw change - Krista - to add the funds disbursement document to the bylaws
- Sara to add herself into signing authority
- Mark to write up a blurb for the teachers about the school council funds disbursements process

Next meeting is scheduled for November 2 at 6:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:09.