

Manachaban School Council May 11, 2010

Present: Mark Kondro
Krista Stronach
Brenda Koob
Dave Levson
Raelyn Bauer
Dianne Ivanitz
Colleen Munro
Chris McKie
Mike Summersgill

Meeting called to order at 6:35

One addition to the agenda - request for money for the grade 8 farewell.

Agenda presented and passed (Brenda first, Mark seconded).

Minutes from previous meeting presented and passed (Brenda first, Mark seconded)

Discussion of how to disburse the funds we have

- Colleen - presented the Bearspaw Fundraising Guidelines (which can be found at: <http://plone.rockyview.ab.ca/bearspaw/school-council/fbes/overview-of-fbes/>)
 - an amount is allocated in the budget for scrum in which teachers have three minutes to present before a panel of 2 teachers, 1 School Council rep, the chair and the treasurer of the fundraising society
 - No grade can receive more than \$2000
 - Last year gave out \$7000
- Colleen also presented the strategy at Westbrook:
 - Walkathon usually brings in \$17 000 to 22 000
 - a budget is then set
 - long-time programs are funded from this (Grade 6 outdoor ed, artist in residence) as well as a number of other items
 - Additional requests are then looked at.
 - Friends of Westbrook (casino fundraising) looks after landscaping
- Brenda noted that some teachers may not be comfortable in the scrum situation
- Colleen noted that only 20% is allocated for the scrum and there is still other money allocated elsewhere
- Chris noted that in BC there is a gaming grant (of around \$10 a head) which is available to be applied for. Provincial regulations determine what the money can't be used for (eg administration, core requirements)
- Mark noted that all our policies (those already existing and those still to come) should be collected somewhere instead of buried in the minutes. (eg. the policy for money to spend on teachers retiring, starting etc. (which currently only exists in the Jun 2008 minutes), spending restrictions, how the walkathon money should be spent).
 - These should be on the website (Manachaban School Council)
- We need:
 - a process in place for requesting money
 - a philosophy of how to spend the money
- Casino Money
 - where is the wishlist for the last casino money?
 - list was vague - items did not have a budget and some items have changed since then (eg projectors for interactive whiteboards were provided by school board so casino money didn't have to be spent)
 - Dianne thinks next casino should be 1st quarter of 2011
 - ~\$5000 needs to be spent before then
 - Colleen believes the Liquor and Gaming Commission should be able to tell when the next casino is available to the Manachaban Fundraising Society.
- Mark and Krista have agreed to meet before the next Council meeting to gather the ideas presented and come up with our own version of the Bearspaw Fundraising Guidelines. This will then be presented at the next meeting

Action Items from last meeting

- Mark was to have attended the Rockyview Board meeting and raised the issue of how other School Council's spend their money - Mark attended the meeting but the meeting went on too long and there was no time
- Signing authority has now been straightened out (thanks to Dianne who went down to the bank and helped them discover that Mark had been added onto the School signing authority instead of the School Council)
- spending of council money has been dealt with tonight
- Tristan Walker - Mike is working on finding a date which works for everyone - time at the end of the year is tight, but Mike is confident of finding a date.

Financial Report

- Raelyn
 - As of April 15 the balance was \$6431.72
 - The only outstanding money to be spent is retirement gifts for Toombs and Summersgill
 - Year end is June 30

Staff Report

- Dave reporting
- Quebec trip was a success (Grade 8 French Immersion)
 - kids had a blast
 - good group of kids
 - tons of photos were taken
- Outdoor Education Trip (Grade 5 to Pioneer Lodge)
 - approx 75 parents came out to the information evening
 - there were lots of volunteers - 20 parents going
 - only 5 kids not going for various reasons (out of 103)
- Smart Boards
 - all the teachers are using them and enjoying them
 - all the classrooms have them (not the library or home ec)
 - On PD days the teachers had to use them for presentations (for prizes)
 - the kids are using them as well
 - the smart boards had to be lowered since they were too high for some of the kids to reach

Trustee report

- from Colleen
- Last week Dave Hancock (Education Minister) and Hector Goudreau (Minister for Municipal Affairs) were at the school
 - Mike and Chris were great ambassadors for the school
 - the ministers were given a tour of the school
 - the Grade 6s were thrilled that Hector spoke to them in French
 - the ministers then went to the education center to discuss infrastructure needs (there will be no new infrastructure for the next two years (from the provincial government))
 - Airdrie needs a K-9 school and high school, Chestermere needs a high school
 - middle schools are cheaper to build than high schools (approx 15 million vs. 30 million)
 - the high schools are higher priority
 - put in a portable school for K-4 in Airdrie
 - Hancock says Airdrie and Rockyview are his #1 priority
 - Rockyview School District plans to sell the ATB (Alberta Transportation Building) in Airdrie
 - this land was gifted to Rockyview
 - The money will be used for Airdrie's infrastructure
- Budget is coming May 20
 - teacher salary increase was supposed to be 5.99% this year and 4.8% next year
 - in order to support this and not go into deficit
 - support staff wages are frozen for next year (alternative was to cut 30 positions across the division)
 - trustee honoraria has been frozen (last year they took a cut)
 - staff at the education center will see a 1.5% cut

- minister is allowing school boards to go into deficit but Rockyview has decided against this (Colleen sides with Rockyview's position)
- 1st and 2nd reading of alternate programs policy has happened.
 - Edge school is rethinking its plan to join Grandview School District - is now in talks with Rockyview
 - Rockyview wants choice for its students
 - Board will tour Edge tomorrow
 - Rockyview would take over the education portion of Edge, the Edge Society (the sports side) would remain separate
 - Currently the Edge school has 300 students - there is room for 500
- School Council Orientation is scheduled for June 17 at 5:30 (this is a reschedule from the Feb Meeting)

Admin Report

- Mike presented a list of achievements from the past year
 - council should read them and add any other they may think of
- there are 20-25 kids attending this school because of the programming
- the grade 6 outdoor ed class was on their last day at the Kiwanis camp the day the school was closed because of icy roads - Southland safely drove them back
- upcoming events are posted on the website
- next year drop-off and pick-up times are changing to accommodate the later high school start (all high schools in Rockyview will now align)
 - bus drop-off will be 8:40 with classes from 8:55 to 3:35 Mon to Thurs, and 8:55 to 1:55 on Friday.
 - High school has 1000 hours of instruction time in a year and the middle school has 950
 - periods and lunch times will be adjusted

New Business

- Grade 8 Farewell - Brenda
 - Grade 8s have \$680 from their share of the walkathon to put towards their farewell
 - DJ is \$500 which leave \$180 for everything else (palm trees, ocean backdrop)
 - There is other money that may be available - \$6 per student from a cancelled field trip (students were supposed to go to Mount Royal University, but school was cancelled due to icy roads) - but that is currently unknown
 - Brenda is asking if council could provide \$500 toward the farewell
 - If the field trip money comes through (97 kids x \$6), this could potentially mean the farewell has \$1780 (\$680 from walkathon, ~\$600 from field trip, and \$500 from council)
 - Brenda would like to see a total of \$800 above the cost of the DJ
 - What has been done in the past?
 - Last year, only walkathon money was used
 - Dianne commented that Bearspaw chose to charge a small fee rather than fundraise
 - Brenda motioned that: School Council provide \$500 toward the grade 8 Farewell - no second
 - Brenda revised the motion: Should the field trip money not be available that School Council provide \$300 toward the Grade 8 farewell.
 - Dave seconded
 - 3 for, 2 against - passed
- Defibrillators - should school have one? - tabled

Action Items

- need to get parents out to June meeting to fill council and fundraising society positions that will be coming up
 - be good to talk to the parents of grade 4s (who will be at Manachaban in the fall)
 - Mark to attend Elizabeth Barrett Meeting next week (May 18) (Krista to set up)
 - Dave will talk to his parent group tomorrow (grade 5 outdoor ed)
- Mark and Krista to work on spending of funds document
- Mike to schedule in Tristan Walker final talk

Next meeting is scheduled for June 1 at 6:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:26.