

School Council Meeting Minutes:

November 6, 2018

6:30 – 7:30 pm Ardrossan Elementary Gathering Area

Attendees: Kyla Harding (Acting Assistant Principal), Skip Gordon (Board Trustee), Helene Hewitt (Acting Principal), JP Grebenc, Jackie Anderson, Ady Arbuckle, Rena Skoreyko, Rhonda Jameson, Val Ulliac, Carolyn VanKleek, Crystie Wright, Cheryl Popik, Jennie March, Dawn Quigg

1. Welcome & Introductions

- Meeting called to order by JP Grebenc at 6:33 pm

2. Minutes from last meeting

- Motion to accept minutes from October 2018 meeting by Ady Arbuckle; seconded by Val Ulliac
- Motion carried

3. Chair Report

- Nothing to report currently as COSC meeting will be held Wednesday, November 7, 2018

4. Board Report (Skip Gordon)

- The timetable for demolition of old school is expected as follows:
 - Bids will be coming in November for demolition project
 - Abatement to begin in January, 2019
 - Demolition to begin June 2019
- Davidson Creek held its official grand opening on October 19th with a student population of 520 students
- A presentation was made to the board by Jeff Wilks regarding a possible name change for either Pine Street Elementary or the Wye replacement school. It was suggested the board consider renaming one of these schools after Zach McCormack, a Sherwood Park native and former corporal with the Canadian Armed Forces who was killed by an explosive device while serving in Afghanistan in 2009
- Elk Island Public has the 2018/2019 enrollment at 17,170 students; an increase of 23 students from the previous year
- On November 23rd trustees will meet with AEL admin for the annual Results Review (acknowledging our schools unobtained goals for the 2017/2018 year and to discuss the current school year goals). Ardrossan Elementary will have its review along 3 other schools at 9:00 am at Glen Allan Elementary
- Carolyn VanKleek wished to inquire whether AEL was available for extracurricular sporting activities or other possible rentals; Helene responded the school should be available as other groups are currently booking. She recommended Carolyn try re-calling to receive available dates

5. Admin Report – Presentation by Danielle Nelson and Jonathan Thomas (EIPS)

- A presentation was given to school council regarding social media and wellness particularly how digital technology and devices affect student wellness both at home and in the classroom
- 2 online resources that may be of interest to parents were:
 - o www.mediasmarts.ca
 - o Growing Up Digital (GUD) Alberta (www.teachers.ab.ca and find GUD link)
These resources contain Canadian content and GUD pertains to studies by the ATA and U of A as well as other well-known institutions
- Why is this now such an important topic? Research takes time. It has now been approximately 10 years since approximately 50% of the North American population has had smart devices; we are just now beginning to see the negative effects of these devices, particularly how it applies to student wellness
- Its not just the smart phone that is the issue, it's the social media that is on the device that may be causing problems
- After some alarming statistics and information were presented, school council agreed there is a need for a parent information session as well as a student session (possibly January, 2019)

6. CPF Report (Ady Arbuckle for Vania Lloyd)

- Carnival has been moved to coincide with Rendezvous week; it will now be held in March, 2019; Connie Hamelin has already pre-booked everyone from last year and just needs to notify them of the date change
- Alicia Ponciano is now the new CPF treasurer
- 2019 year-end BBQ will now be able to be run through the Hot Lunch Program

7. Other Business

- A. Noon Hour Supervision (tabled from October meeting)
 - Cristie Wright inquired how is noon supervision being funded? Helene provided a transparent break-down of how much noon supervision costs, how the school is collecting funds (\$100/student in grades 1-6 and \$50/student in ECS) and reported that approximately \$12,630 is being paid out of the school's supplies budget as the school cannot raise fees to parents in order to cover this deficit
 - Other council members then inquired if parents who are delivering hot lunch would like to stay and help supervise in classrooms would this be of assistance to those providing noon supervision; Helene agreed that more hands make lighter work
- B. Screen time in school - particularly during lunch (tabled from October meeting)
 - Val Ulliac had expressed concerns with how much screen time students are getting (especially during lunch) and questioned why it seems to be happening so often. Helene reported this topic was discussed at last staff meeting and all staff were in agreement that screen time should be used as a reward for positive behaviour (possibly once/week)

- Council members then expressed that perhaps instead of using screen time as a reward that staff look for other options to use in rotation (Friend Friday)
 - A member also questioned why screen time is so often used as a treat during holiday celebrations (Halloween, Christmas, etc.) as she felt that although it is fun, it does not add to educational enrichment; Helene will discuss this point as well with staff
- C. Jackie Anderson proposed that council begin to reduce its paper trail by utilizing the school's technology for presentation of minutes during meetings as well as the meeting agenda; it was unanimously agreed this will be attempting going forward
- D. Jackie Anderson also had a request that students be given announcements regarding student groups the day before as well as the day of (so that students may prepare as required for upcoming events)

8. Administration Report (Helene Hewitt, Acting Principal)

Upcoming Events:

- Friday, November 9th: Remembrance Day Ceremony at 10:30 am
- November 12th-16th: Fall break
- November 19th-23rd: Bully Awareness Week
- November 23rd: Jersey Day (we're all on the same team) and Results Review at Glen Allan Elementary
- November 26th: Giving Tree donations begin
- December 13th: AEL Christmas Concert at Dow Centennial Centre

9. Next Meeting

Tuesday, January 15th 9:30-10:30 am in Ardrossan Elementary Gathering Area
CPF meeting to follow

10. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Val Ulliac

Seconded: Jackie Anderson at 7:58 pm