

## **School Council Meeting Minutes:**

January 17, 2017

9:30 – 10:30 am Ardrossan Elementary Library

**Attendees:** Judy Whetstone (Principal), Helene Hewitt (Assistant Principal), Skip Gordon (Trustee), JP Grebenc, Jackie Anderson, Darren Wright, Terri-Ann Trohubiak, Jill Herbert, Lora Robinson, Vania Lloyd, Connie Hamelin

### **1. Welcome**

- Meeting called to order by JP Grebenc at 9:37 am

### **2. Minutes from last meeting**

- No corrections noted for November 2016 meeting minutes
- Motion to approve minutes from last meeting by Darren Wright; seconded by JP Grebenc
- Motion carried

### **3. Chair Report (JP Grebenc)**

- JP was unable to attend the recent Cost Report meeting on January 11<sup>th</sup> regarding the Nutrition feedback process (Administration Procedure #164). Allison Usher and one other Hot Lunch representative were in attendance to voice feedback at the meeting and concerns about policy restrictions, particularly in the area of fundraising options. The administration commented it is still working on the policy and board members don't intend for the procedure to be overly restrictive. Allison felt the meeting went well, with her party's comments being positively received. Skip Gordon commented that the request for the proposed policy did not stem from the board, but rather from administration and the board's position is merely to pass or reject the policy.
- ASCA: Awards of Recognition: ASCA (Alberta School Councils' Association) is now accepting nominations for the 2016-2017 Awards of Recognition. To learn more or nominate an individual, visit [www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca](http://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca). Deadline for nominations is February 28, 2017 and winners will be announced at the ASCA Annual Conference.
- January 27, 2017: Family Literacy Day
- February 7, 2017: Safer Internet Day
- February 9-10, 2017: Teacher's Convention (all EIPS schools closed these days)

### **4. Trustee Report (Skip Gordon)**

- Elk Island Public's official enrollment is 17,150 students; making ours the 6<sup>th</sup> largest school district in the province
- December 6, 2016: EIPS hosted Education Minister, David Eggen at Ardrossan Jr/Sr High where he announced a new bursary program for math teachers of up to \$2,000 to advance their education at the post-secondary level
- February 1, 2017 - April 7, 2017: Dates available to make a Boundary Exemption Request within Elk Island Public School Division
- April 30, 2017: ASCA Annual General Meeting; the fee will be waived for 1 person/council to attend

- Skip advised the council on the notice of motion to consider closing Ministik School. Over the coming months, the Board and EIPS administration will follow the process for possible school closures as outlined in Board Policy 15 and in the provincial School Act, Regulation 238/97. Once the process is complete, the Board will decide by vote, at a public Board meeting whether Ministik School will remain open or be closed. In February there will be 2 parent meetings held. If closure of Ministik School is decided, students will be transported to Fultonvale Elementary Junior High.

#### **5. Student Report (Datyn Bass and Matthew Wharmby)**

- Datyn and Matthew gave the council an overview of the events that have happened within our school community since November 2016
  - Remembrance Day Ceremony: the students were in awe of how respectful and quiet all 570 students were throughout the ceremony. The students also loved the bagpiper and how loud and powerful his music was
  - “B” is for Belonging week/Anti-bullying week: the students really enjoyed the Power of One assembly and Mme. Mitchell’s presentation. The message received was that bullying is not something to be doing to others and that “B” stands for belonging and being a bison!
  - Salisbury Drama class performed the Fairytale Theatre – the kids think acting is cool and can’t wait to get to Grade 6!
  - Christmas events including the Christmas Concert, Giving Tree, and Grade 3 Shoebox Project. The students love being a part of the annual concert; this year they especially enjoyed the pirates! The Giving Tree makes the students feel good about donating necessary items to those who are in need, and the Shoebox project is important to the student community to send goods overseas to people who have very little
  - Grade 3 assembly is coming up!
  - Color Week from January 23-27 is exciting to the students because each day it looks like they make up a part of the rainbow
  - Artist in Residence takes place the same week as Color Week, with artist Aaron Paquette coming each day to instruct the students on drawing and painting a bison
  - Galaxyland is the much anticipated event, happening Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup>

#### **6. Administration Report (Judy Whetstone & Helene Hewitt)**

- Helene discussed the upcoming Artist in Residence week (January 23-27). This year the Ardrossan community wants to raise awareness of Métis/First Nations by having a Cree member, Mr. Aaron Paquette as our artist for the week. Mr. Paquette will integrate the school’s Leader In Me program with 7 sacred teachings partnering with each habit. The art piece will be a bison theme; also our school’s mascot. Each grade will have a day to work with Mr. Paquette on their contribution to the art piece to create a unique, yet unified painting
- Judy reminded council of the Alberta Education Accountability Survey (available to parents and caregivers of all Grade 4 students) and advised that this survey was in the process of being sent out

- Council was also advised on the annual Elk Island district survey, available to all parents and caregivers and could be accessed via the school website, or <https://www.eips.ca>
- Judy reported that Ecole Elementaire Ardrossan Elementary is currently at optimal enrollment and going forward until students and staff make the move to the new school that we will all be part of a “cozy” space 😊
- Helene took the time to inform council about Rendezvous de la Francophone, an international celebration taking place on March 20, 2017. On this day, a kick-off assembly will be held for the week-long French celebrations. The assembly will include events such as the Francophone karaoke sing-off, available for both English and French students in Divisions I and II.
- Christmas Concert Report (Judy Whetstone): The numbers are in after another fabulous school Christmas concert; however there is concern about how to proceed with this popular event in the future. For the 2016 concert, the school is running a deficit of \$2,638.52. At this time, administration is seeking alternative venues to hold the concert, as the greatest areas of expense are in theatre rental and the cost of bussing students to the venue for daytime rehearsal
- Administration presented a break-down of noon hour supervision fees in response to an inquiry from Jackie Anderson from the November 2016 Parent Council meeting. Judy advised that currently, the school is just breaking even with the 10 noon hour supervisors that are staffed at the school (as opposed to previous years when the school ran a deficit in this area)

#### **7. AEPSA Fundraising Report (JP Grebenc)**

- Galaxyland Fundraiser: JP feels confident the committee will meet their original goal and that the evening will be a success. At this time, the group is looking for volunteers to assist in selling remaining tickets and individuals to help on event night (January 28) at the door
- Market Day: this is a proposed event the school is looking into hosting. The committee is hoping to host the event in late April, 2017. Market Day would take place within the school gym and would consist of tables of vendors such as home-based businesses, crafters, and other entrepreneurs. More information on this event to follow.
- Pub Night: The committee is proposing a basket fundraiser where each classroom can build a basket with a specific theme; these baskets will then be auctioned off at the Pub Night fundraising event. The group is also looking for outside vendors/donors for additional items to auction off
- Casino Night (2016): JP is still waiting to hear back on how much money was raised from the last casino fundraiser
- Parents attending council meeting inquired where fundraising dollars are being allocated; with JP responding that the areas of greatest need are new AV equipment for the new school gym and eventually playground equipment

#### **8. New Business**

- None at this time

**9. Next Meeting**

Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 6:30 – 7:30 pm in the library; followed by AEP SA meeting

**10. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn: Jackie Anderson

Seconded: JP Grebenc