

Regular School Council Meeting

September 24, 2014

Called to order at 7:13 pm by Chair, Tammi Simpson with 19 members present.

Additions to agenda – Trustee Report by Jackie Comeau & Valerie Montgomery asked for a chance to address the council. Valerie moved for adoption of the agenda, Hazel seconded, carried.

Previous meeting minutes were reviewed on screen. Cristy moved minutes be adopted as presented, Mary seconded, carried.

Business arising from the minutes:

- Hot Lunch program – with 226 students, all with the same lunch time, it might be a bit difficult for preparation in our kitchen. We will start with a Boston Pizza day first, then work on a breakfast program, and work out details for a hot lunch later. We may have to have separate days for Elementary and Junior High Hot Lunch. We also need to have a representative attend the Dapp Community Council meeting to see if they will allow us to use the hall for a lunchtime with the Junior High students and if there would be any costs to us for this. We have applied for a grant from the Rotary Club in order to help pay for a hot lunch program and we are currently seeking some business sponsorship. Discussion was held in regard to what sort of price to charge for hot lunch and it was noted that if we could get donations, we might not charge anything or it would be a small fee per order, like \$2. Hot lunch will be a school generated funds initiative, meaning it will not be done by the fundraising society. We will also ask parents for donations of healthy packaged snacks, fruit, yogurt, etc or money toward the purchase of such items for our breakfast program.
- Tammy Drezick moved we continue with the Boston Pizza program “Operation Education”, seconded by Gwen Brandl, carried. We will collect receipts from Boston Pizza and in return we will get a portion of money back to our school generated fund.
- Discussion was held and we decided we will also do the “Labels for Education” program, “Tabs for Ronald McDonald House”, and used stamps for the Food Bank. Mrs. Meyn is in charge of these programs and there is a collection box in the main office.
- Mr. Wiks then discussed the Points Program. They are working with students on a Leadership Program instead. This leadership program gives every student a chance to experience self-pride and development so that when they leave this school, they will have had the opportunity to be a leader. This program is done instead of a Students Union. It is not a popularity vote and it is not an academic reward system – it reaches every student. An example of this leadership program happened on Friday Sept 19. The Grade 9 students led some stations and the Grade 8 students led “school family” groups to each of the various stations as a way for students who don’t normally bond together, to have a chance to get to know one another in a fun and stress-free environment. Most of the groups had one or two students from each grade. They did things like

obstacle courses, races, and face painting for a “Fun Day” afternoon. Adults were there to supervise, however the adults let the Grade 8 & 9 students problem solve as things went along.

Principal’s Report

A slide show ran during the beginning of the meeting & showed things that have happened so far in the school year. Highlights were the Opening day, Meet the Teacher Night, Jump Start for Band Students, Cross Country Run, and Family Group Fun Day.

Darcie then presented how everything at Pembina North Community School is a work in progress and we have some new realities that are needed now with a K-9 school with over 200 students. There was emphasis on using the Agendas for the K-6 students to communicate important things like bus changes and early pick up.

In Junior High the preferred method of communication is email. We discussed that in Junior High even though there are a lot of times students will miss school because of sports during the day, the expectation is that they will still do the work, especially for core subjects. If your child is absent, they are expected to catch up by visiting Google Classroom (which is also a good place for parents to visit & see what your child is learning). There is lots of time for students to catch up on missing assignments – there is a homework / reading block each day, plus the homework room every lunch.

There was a discussion regarding the Junior High afternoon programs offered in CTF. Currently they are working on Agriculture and have several guest speakers scheduled to speak with students as they work on their own projects.

In Elementary grades, we discussed the Grade 5/6 sports and that things are changing somewhat this year due to the high cost of bussing. It is happening division wide & we will see what it looks like once all the schools figure out the number of students interested in the various sports teams.

We went through the Administrative Policy regarding visitors to the school and there will be a sign in sheet for ALL visitors to use EVERY time they enter the building. Other policies we discussed were the FOIP & Digital Citizenship.

The school has kept a projector for community use from the surplus of equipment from the amalgamation. If you would like to borrow it, call the school to make some arrangements.

Parent Voice: Valerie Montgomery then addressed the audience regarding the gym time and the loss of optimal learning time due to having phys ed in the morning for some grades. Discussion was held and in order for the grades to all have gym every day, we need to have it all hours of the day. She suggested that the school look at switching it around with different grades so instead of morning phys ed every day, it might only happen once or twice a week. It will be analyzed and looked at in the future.

Fundraising Report was given by treasurer, Joanne Kaliel. Risers have been purchased and delivered to the school. There is a Casino scheduled for January. People need to fill out paperwork in order to volunteer.

Trustee Report

Jackie Comeau presented a review of the PHRD website and where you can find certain things.

She reviewed the Communication Protocol & Trustee duties.

In mid-November the School Board will meet with the communities of Jarvie and Fawcett to figure out what is to be done with the school buildings.

There is a few Exemplary Staff and Volunteer awards that the board hands out. Please do not hesitate to nominate someone.

New Business

Need to do some sort of volunteer recruitment. Discussion was held. We will see if something can be done during Goal Setting interviews.

There is a Food safety Course coming up at the end of October – it is two days in Westlock. If anyone is interested, contact the school.

Next meeting – makes sense if it were to be held on a Thursday when there is no school the next day. Babysitting provided, maybe have a movie night?

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday October 23.

Adjourned at 8:55 pm.