



School Council Meeting

February 16, 2022

7:00 pm- 8:30pm

MINUTES

1.0 CALL TO ORDER at 7:02 pm

PRAYER AND TREATY 6 LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

To be read by all present:

"We are a party to Treaty 6 and as such we wish to acknowledge that the land on which we gather is Treaty 6 territory, Blackfoot, Cree, Nakoda Sioux, Dene, Saulteaux. We recognize the diversity of First Nations who have at one time, lived across the territory, as well as the presence of the Metis Nation."

2.0 INTRODUCTIONS

Attendance: Jordan Robinson, Angela Rastovski, Liz Taylor-Sirois, Jennifer Nordhagen, Susan Stuckey, Nola Antony, Belyse Habonimana, Jocelyn Klarenbach, Alison Janzen, Amanda Loney, Tanya Kearsey

3.0 AGENDA APPROVAL

- Nola made a motion to accept the agenda. Susan Seconded

4.0 Old Business

4.1 Catholic High School in Beaumont (Trustee Report)

- \$25,000 government grant for an inquiry for a 2 or 3 story high school. Meeting have been to review the proposed site and the feasibility of a 1,2 or 3 story school on the Lakeview site. This work is supposed to be done by late March/early April
- Charlie has met with developer in regards to infrastructure guidelines
- Meeting with City of Beaumont has been rescheduled to May
- Questions re: Lakeview site size (it is small) that's why they're looking at building 2 or 3 stories

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 GrACE (Grateful Advocates for Catholic Education) report

- Nola put out a call to all MDY Staff after the last meeting for examples of Mark number 5
Community
We live in community, spiritual unity and relationship
We recognize that God will be found in each other

We foster reconciliation

We develop priorities and protocols to address the needs of the marginalized

We honor parents/guardians as primary partners in education

These are the 2 response I received:

The wonderful grade 5 English classes completed 100 Valentine's Day messages for The Good Samaritan Society, which will be delivering these wishes to seniors across Alberta and British Columbia! There are 28 senior care centres across the two provinces! And these kind wishes will be spread out to these locations. :)

We live in community, spiritual unity and relationship: In 5K we have been spending February challenging ourselves to be the hands and feet of Jesus and to carry out as many Random Acts of Kindness as possible, uplifting our school community. The RAKs we have been accomplishing have targeted our custodial staff, students in other grades, and their own classmates.

We recognize that God will be found in each other- In 5K we find God's presence when we actively work on building classroom community. We build each other up by having regular classroom meetings where students give one another kudos and shout outs, as well as discuss concerns or offer suggestions.

We foster reconciliation- In 5K, we are a family. Early on in the school year, students participate in team building activities where they are encouraged to learn about one another. We often discuss the dynamics of families and apply that to our classroom family. It is an ongoing conversation that in all families, mistakes will happen, feelings will be hurt and buckets will be drained. We then talk about the importance of grace and forgiveness in families and tie that into Religion lessons that focus on God's grace and forgiveness when he died for our sins. When larger problems happen that affect our classroom atmosphere, our FSLW is invited to give workshops on relationships, mending fences and moving on.

We develop priorities and protocols to address the needs of the marginalized- In 5K we recognise the unique needs of some of our most valuable educators, our Senior Citizens. Grade 5K was involved with creating over 100 Valentine's Day wishes for Senior Citizens throughout AB and BC for the Good Samaritan Society. The seniors that the Good Samaritan Society targeted were either living alone, widowed or lacking family support. The main message on these Valentine's Day wishes is that our Seniors are valued, appreciated, important to us, thought of, and prayed for.

We are also writing prayers for students in our sister school, Pangawe Primary School.

We honor parents/guardians as primary partners in education- Communication with, and inclusion of parents is essential to the overall success of students. At the beginning of the school year, focused communication begins with each student's family with the goal of having parents and guardians being comfortable with me, as their child's classroom teacher. When the classroom teacher makes a conscious effort to be approachable, warm and welcoming, parents will know that their say and input is wanted, valued and honoured within our classroom.

5.2 Money from AB Government to School Councils for parent engagement

- Something that the Superintendent mentioned in the COSC meeting last month is that this \$500 could be a yearly grant given to school councils to spend.

- After reviewing the guidelines again set out by the AB government Nola realized that the engagement session must be a learning opportunity (ideally for School Council and how to develop) and money can not be used for food or entertainment purposes.
- Here is the finished survey to be sent out to families:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1v25TCM8o08Vi6wRWgx97YoNHnYYGTQ_yXNtGtIHf7Jk/edit

Most of these options fall within our budget of the \$500 or in the case of Screenagers we would have to pay the \$150+ from our MDYFS account. Not set price on the Mental Health session yet will confirm if chosen, she does know our budget. The Metis Alive beading project was \$300 for the workshop and \$5/person, which we should easily be able to cover. No cost known on the blanket exercise or the residential school talks.

Survey will be sent out asap.

Possibility of sharing survey with St. Andre - so we could combine the event and money (\$1000 for one event shared between the two schools).

5.3 Council of School Council meeting report

- Meeting was held January 25th with school administration and school council chairs across the STAR district.
 - We briefly talked about the engagement grant. Most school councils are not sure what they are going to do with their money
 - Curriculum - the superintendent let us know that early spring is the release of the new curriculum being used. Parents can have their say online. STAR sent an email on Jan 28th to all families in the district asking parents to have their say in the draft curriculum. Here is the link to the survey. You are strongly encouraged to read over key themes and have knowledge in on e or more of the curriculum areas before doing the survey. You can find these linked in the email that was sent out by STAR.
<https://extranet.gov.ab.ca/opinio6/s?s=public2021EN>
- District Covid Update- this was prior to the government's recent announcement regarding the lifting of masking mandate in school. As with all school districts we have had challenges with lots of cases of Covid within the district. Even though schools are not required to track, our district is doing so with the help of parent cooperation (sharing positive cases). STAR has not yet seen a plateau in numbers, there has been a consistent increase. On average there are 20-25% of students absent per day. The superintendent talked about how replacing all staff has been a huge challenge at this time. At the time of the COSC meeting there has been in the district:
 7 classes online (primarily elementary)
 Of those 7 classes, 4 had returned to in school learning
 4 classes were on watch
 This is determined by the percentage of illness in a class, with 3 or more cases in a day 5 period. (so no set number of students that are ill)
 At the time of the COSC meeting all schools had received their first shipment of masks and tests. It is parental choice on when to test. There have been no guidelines set by AHS or the District.

5.4. School Council Handbook

- The school council handbook which was developed by the district was distributed to most members a few weeks ago. If you are interested in reading through please email Nola at mdy.schoolcouncil@starcatholic.ab.ca for the PDF form.

Any questions? None

8.0 REPORTS

8.1 Admin Report

- Masks are now optional
- Condensed season of basketball is underway
- Ski club: Jasper trip booked, but it is not a go yet because it is still considered a field trip. Waiting until March 1 to make a call
- Government Grade 7 survey has been released to students/parents
- STAR survey to all parents and students will go out soon also
- Friday Feedback - MDY student survey/mental health check in. Goal is to do it monthly, with a different theme. Format: We ask/you said/we say. Not doing this in February because there are other surveys out there.
- MDY is looking at the possibility of doing a sports program to provide access to a wide variety of sports and physical activity.
 - Looking to start with Grades 7 and 8 in semester 1 and Grades 5 and 6 in semester 2.
 - Possible activities (need to keep it local : curling, golf, self defence, rock climbing, dragon boats, ski/snow/swim, dance workshops, wheelchair basketball, sledge hockey, archery, lacrosse, day camps.
 - Cost per semester \$700-900 range, includes daily bus, coaching costs, facility rental costs, additional supervisors (Comparable hockey programs: \$1250/ year) Payments can be spread over the year, with a certain amount due as a deposit
 - Next steps: Friday survey, determine interest, decide in early april whether or not to proceed.
 - Question: Sport specific or multi sport? Answer: we will ask parents if they want a specific sport (ie. hockey or soccer) or multi sport focus and make decisions based on that feedback.
 - What kind of options would they miss out on? Answer: Ideally, they would still get the "big 3" Art, construction, Home Ed. they may miss out on others
 - Question: would they still get gym? Answer: This would likely replace most of the gym classes (just for the 1 semester)
 - Question: who are the instructors? Answer: Experts for each sport will instruct (typically not staff)
 - Question: Will grade 9's be offered this program next year? Answer: Maybe, but they would have to miss out on their big 3 options - will ask grade 9 parents for feedback.
 - Question: Is the purpose to up the physical activity, or to bring people in? Answer: as there are only 30 spots, it likely won't bring in many new #'s, just an offering for existing students and to become part of our school culture.
 - Information night - tentatively in the first two weeks of March

8.2 Trustee Report

As above in old business for high school

Meeting Adjourned at 8:04 pm

Next Meetings: Mar 16, 2022