

RF Staples School Council Meeting Minutes

January 23, 2018 – 7pm

Executive: Kerri Wiegand (chair) Celina de Zoete (secretary) Leta Whidden (social media)
*Shawna Vollema (treasurer by association)

Directors: Kari Byvank, Leanne Punko, Margaret LeBlanc, Leta Whidden

A Call to Order / Welcome & Introductions / Additions & Amendments to Agenda

- 7:03
- *In attendance: Kerri Wiegand, Pamela Kawulych, Ellen Barrett, Tina Penner, Brett Cooper, Jason Wiks, Karen Gabel, Kari Byvank, Jackie Comeau, Wayne Ruffange, Perry Kulmatyski*

B Approval of Agenda / Minutes

- Agenda approved by Karen Gabel
Seconded by Ellen Barrett
*no minutes available to approve

C Old Business

C1 – School sign at highway

- *still in progress... a 6' section will be added to raise the sign and it's location will be moved*

C2 – water fountain/fill station

- *would like a new water fountain/fill station in the 'street' – Hallway alongside the main gym
cost is approx. \$4000
please forward any potential grant applications or sources of funding to School Council*

D New Business

D1 – casino - **Friday, June 22 and Saturday, June 23** - need volunteers!!!

- *shifts are: 11am- 7:30pm , 7pm – 3:30am , 11pm – 3:30am
Please contact the office or Kerri Wiegand (text 780-206-0359) if you can help!*

D2 – Friday Focus Presentations & Schedule (jr. high)

January 26	Brett Cooper	Dealing with problem bears
February 2	Perry Kulmatyski	Bike Trekking in the Arctic
February 16	Eric Bowling	Westlock News
February 23		
March 2		
March 9	Ralph Leriger	Mayor of Westlock
March 23	Festival - Theatre Booked	
April 6	Festival - Theatre Booked	
April 20	Festival - Theatre Booked	
April 27	Meredith Allan	NAIT

Feb 23 – a speaker is required for the gr 7 & 8's

Feb 23 -Clint Malarchuk (retired NHL goaltender) will be speaking to the gr. 9, 10, 11 & 12's for 1 hour

D3 – RF Staples facebook group

- *Leta Whidden & Ellen Barrett will be facilitating this group
All members and posts will need to be approved
Purpose is to use facebook to disseminate school info and improve communication*

E Principal's Report & Questions

1 - Name Tags

- *Staff will possibly start wearing name tags so they can be identified as STAFF
RF has a large student body and there are sometimes non-RF people in the building so what do we think of having students wear name tags?*

Comments from parents:

What might this cost? Could be up to \$5 per tag. PHRD could not handle producing the number of name tags required. Perhaps school photographer would include them in the school pic fees.

Will the students wear them/comply? Many students will lose them.

Nothing was concluded or determined

2 - Attendance

- *Regular attendance is important as there are always learning opportunities taking place... How can we get the community involved to support attendance? Is the local newspaper an effective place to promote this?*

Comments from parents:

Use facebook!

3 - Communication Survey

- *Mr. Rufiange shared the results of the RF communication survey that circulated last fall
RF administration and School Council continues to work at improving communication*

4 - Powerschool/Parent Portal

- *How many parents in attendance use/check Powerschool?
The ease of use was discussed.*

5 - Junior High "Communication Plan"

- *Mr. Rufiange has been speaking to the junior high students about Physical, Social and Sexual Harassment and is wanting to help the students develop a communication plan if they should need one. He is wanting the students to know how to communicate with a parent/friend/teacher. He spoke that the most vulnerable students fly under the radar – they are not connected to any specific 'group' – and they are often the prime targets of harassment. "Bullies are sneaky and how can a student be sneaky about communicating to get help if it's needed."*

This is being addressed in TAG groups and this message will be 'blitzed' to the grade 7,8 & 9 levels individually.

6 - Accountability Pillars

- *Parents would have received this in the mail.
The greater the number of people who respond the better!*

7- Mr. Rufiange was asked by central office to ask the following questions:

What challenges does the RF Staff face in their efforts to bring students to success?

- *Comments from parents:*
 - *'curling parents' – parents who remove all obstacles for students*
 - *Technology – students spending time on devices in the classroom for non-educational purposes. It appears that people are becoming needy of instant gratification and social media is providing that. Students are desperate to stay 'connected' as they have a fear of missing out.*

What do you identify as evidence of progress toward improvement of Literacy, Numeracy, Diversity and Student - Teacher relationships so far?

- *Comments from parents:*
 - *There was no comment about any evidence of improvement in literacy, numeracy or diversity... Concern was brought up about there not seeming to be not enough work for students to-do in a Math-3 class*
 - *TAG groups, flex block has promoted relationships*

What one thing does the Parent Community want to focus on, which would have the greatest impact at low cost?

- *Comments from Parents*
 - *Removal of devices in the classroom such that social media could not be accessed during class time*
 - *Promote Acts of Service*

F Trustee's Report & Questions

- *Provided by Trustee Jackie Comeau*
 - *2018/19 School calendar is available on PHRD website*
 - *PHRD board is considering sharing 'good news stories' – not sure the platform that will be used to share these*

G Adjournment

- *8:50 pm*
- *Next meeting March 20*