

RF Staples School Council Meeting Google Meet – Wednesday February 2, 2022

Executive: Karen Gabel (Chair) Margaret LeBlanc (Vice Chair) Amanda Nelisher (Sec)
Michelle Rigney (Treasurer) Shawna Vollema (Parent Fundraising Society Treasurer)

A Call to Order / Welcome & Introductions

Call to order:

7:01 p.m

In attendance:

Karen Gable (Chair), Margaret LeBlanc (vice-chair), Wayne Rufiange (Principal) Amanda Nelisher (Secretary), David Truckey (School Trustee), Darcy Kirkham (Associate Principal), Leanne Maguire, Kari Byvank, Riley Plain (Representative from student council High School), Michael Borgfjord (Superintendent), Janice Tymkow, Sarah Schutz, Michelle Rigney (Treasurer).

B Adopting of Agenda / Adopting of Minutes from December 1, 2021

RF School Council meeting minutes can be found at www.rfstaples.ca under Student/Parent Info then under School Council
Adoption of the agenda Leanne MacGuire second by Margaret LeBlanc
Minutes from December 1st of 2021 adopted by Kari Byvank seconded by Margaret LeBlanc
All in favor, carried

C School Board Report & Questions

Board meeting minutes can be found at www.phpschools.ca
Superintendent Borgfjord and Trustee Truckey

- Question: There is a shortage of spare bus drivers and a shortage of substitute teachers and support staff. Besides advertising, how can we entice people to Pembina Hills? I believe this is not just an administration responsibility. In some way, we all should be looking to help recruit people to help our students.

The staff shortages have been fairly significant everywhere according to superintendent Michael Borg Ford. They've been managing the shortage but it is not as bad as they had first thought. Many of the staff shortages are due to staff not getting the vaccine. Unfortunately with busing and the staff shortages, if there is no sub available, the bus does not run. They are sending out a message regarding health measures to parents as a friendly reminder. We are all hoping for this to end soon but we must still follow the health protocols even if we are all tired of the Mandate. We are tracking the students/staff attendance, in regards to covid, and the trend is showing an

increase in January but it is starting to dip. In January, there was a very high percentage of staff and students taking time off due to illness. Please see the Pembina Hills website for more information.

- Question: Any word on the \$500 ASCE grant? Could we use it to get a guest speaker to do a talk on one of our meeting nights?

Idea would be to bring in someone from one of our affiliated Mental Health support programs who can discuss things that parents/caregivers can do to guide teens with the transition into adulthood. Or possibly something more related to covid burnout for parents and teens?

The grant money was approved on Thursday and the check will be sent out soon. It will help manage the shortage in staff.

D Administrator's Report / Questions for Administration

D1 - Students taking VV and Outreach Courses

There are limits to what classes are available through Vista virtual and Outreach because of ADLC closing. The goal is to have all students attend in-class classes. Because most classes are being offered in the school setting, if a student wishes to take a Vista Virtual or Outreach class, it will cost per credit. A one 5 credit course will cost \$650. If the course is wanted and not able to fit in the schedule at RF Staples, students are able to talk to Mr. Rufiange, the school will try to pay for the class through Vista virtual. For example, Math 31 classes are offered through Vista virtual because there's not enough students to hold it in school, so the school will pay for that class online. Some students asked to go to Outreach, because of the covid regulations, and are having difficulties, instead of attending school.

D2 - Diplomas, Final Exams, Continuing Registration

There were no diplomas in January of 2022, due to covid restrictions, however, the class final exams will be the 10% value which is equal to the diploma. Students can go to the website My Pass, where they can check their grades and credits for grade 12. It will be added shortly.

D3 - Hockey Hookey status

The hockey hookey day has been canceled. They were unable to fit us in and unsure as to when we could reschedule. The Junior High Council is possibly organizing some fun Olympic-style games, which would be in the afternoon at the end of the 2022 Winter Olympics.

D4 - Planning for next year

Wayne spoke with Secretary-Treasurer Heather Nanninga, and talked about budget and planning PD days. In two weeks all Principals and Senior Administration in the division, will go over the past five years, and notice over the past five years. There has been a noticeable enrollment drop. Projecting student drop to around 530 students from previous years of around 700 students; this is combined Junior High and Senior High together.

D5 - Dress Code, Code of Conduct

Wayne sent out an email in regards to the dress code at RF Staples. To ask students to treat school like a place of work. Dress is to show respect for others. Please keep in mind the mid area is to be covered, the belly button area.. Wording on clothing and hats, or symbols, for example, Playboy, or adult content is not acceptable.

D6 - Student Council reports -

The Junior High student council has a large committee or group, consisting of mostly grade 7 students, of over 30 people.

There have been quite a few activities so far this year, including Halloween dress up, jersey day and an afternoon dance. There was not much extra charge for the DJ for the afternoon dance because they just had to come and set up a little bit earlier, to prepare for the High School dance in the evening. Perry Kulmatyski will be taking some student union students snowshoeing and team building. There is hope to offer credits to high school students through the Alberta Trappers association with other possible Outdoor Ed activities in the future. There will be a Matchmaker activity in February, where students fill out a questionnaire about their likes and interests, and get paired up with a friend. It will cost \$2 to get your results and the money goes towards future activities. It is just a bubble sheet with the computer matching up the students. In March there will be a Saint Patrick's Day dress up where students will wear green. In April there will be an 80s Day. May there will be a Star Wars theme day for May 4th. High school students are trying to build up enrollment in Council. Future event planning such as Community involvement where you purchase a rose and a rose will be donated to nursing homes residents, a spring dance, and also find Raising by a crash that sent a crush.

D7 - We know there were some inquiries as to the locked bathrooms situation at school. We know why - disrespect and destruction of property. Have there been any changes?

As discussed at the previous meeting the bathrooms have been damaged because of offensive remarks on the walls which will require extensive renovations to fix therefore they have been closed. There was a report to Alberta Health Services about not enough bathrooms. However, Wayne counted that there are 25 urinal areas still available, which is plenty. We're asking students to please encourage all other students to keep bathrooms and school clean and undamaged.

E Fundraising Society Report

E1 - Casino December 21 and 22, 2021

The casino that was held in December went very well. All spots were filled up. Approximately \$17-\$18,000 was raised and will know more in the coming days when the check arrives. Michelle Rigney needs the books from previous years for fundraising. She will contact Shauna Vollema, in the office.

F Graduation

The 2022 grad Convocation at RF Stables will be at the beginning of June. Still in the planning stages, as unsure of what the covid protocols will be. It will either be a drive-by ceremony, like previous years, or 1/3 capacity in the gym, with graduates and two guests. A livestream will also be available. They have decided to move it to the beginning of June because of finals and the way the year ends. It'll be a setup during the day if in the gymnasium. For the convocation to start around 4 or 4:30 p.m. It will be a mandatory cap and gown event, as all students will wear a cap and gown. Grade 12 can look at the 'Are You Graduating?', listed in their block six times table. Wayne Rufiange will post comments and updates for all grade 12 students. It's a great

visual for parents and students, to access anytime in regards to their grades and graduation information.

G Adjournment

Next meeting will be April 5th 2022 at 7 p.m..

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.