

RF Staples School Council Meeting

Wednesday May 25th 2022

7pm

A Call to Order / Welcome & Introductions

7:05 p.m. call to order.

In Attendance: Karen Gabel, Kari Byvank, Michelle Rigney, Wayne Rufiange, Darcy Kirkham, Amanda Nelisher, Jantea Vandervelde, Leane Maguire, Maureen Schnirer: School Trustee

B Adopting of Agenda / Adopting of Minutes from April 13

Agenda approved. Minutes approved by Kari Byvank seconded by Michelle Rigney.

C Trustee's Report & Questions

Board meeting minutes can be found at www.phpschools.ca

Highlights:

Busy hiring for new positions.

The old Vimy School site was cleaned up, as there was a diesel fuel tank leakage. It cost \$600,000. There is a Barrhead bus lane clean up. These both were complicated clean ups due to environmental impacts.

Superintendent review was done by 6 trustees.

\$160,000 increase in budget for fuel. Heather Nanninga is leaving at the end of June. Her replacement starts July 1st. The citizenship awards are coming up.

D Administrator's Report / Questions for Administration

(I) The Spring Dance was not attended as well as the frosty formal.

(II) The carnival that was scheduled for Friday was moved to Thursday because of a 90% chance of rain. There will be free hot dogs and rented a cotton candy machine. Hoping the high school kids will stay around for the fun.

(III) Soul Sisters presentation on April 22nd was a very powerful story about a man that ran away at the age of 17, and discussed his life. Yesterday they had another presentation on Concussion and how he lost his balance, fell off a bull, hit his head and was in a three-week coma, at the age of 27. He had to relearn life; with walking Etc.

(IV) The budget

(V) There are many Staffing changes; some are leaving. Karis Henry is off on medical leave till the end of the year, so there will be a sub in for her.

(VI) Grad is June 3rd. The gym is closed next week for setup.

(VII) The provincial high school track meet in Medicine Hat is scheduled for the same day as the Grad Convocation. Wayne apologizes, as he did not have their schedule when he planned grad. So some students will be missing.

(VIII) School fees.

Please see 'School Fees Schedule If a class is starred ~~ it has never been charged before, but now it is.

They will be going up a bit, because other costs to school are going up a bit. Junior high students do not pay for lockers, but High School do. Students union fees are to keep activities going. For example, dances and more mental health events. Independent Learning fees are to ensure students attend, because the school buys the supplies, and students do not work. For sports they need money to pay the refs, bussing, overnight trips, and uniforms. CTS fees cover the cost of increase in standard materials, however, if a client wants to change material, s/he will need to pay. For example, if someone wants Oak instead of the normal standard wood. For mechanics the customer pays the parts however there is still the cost of welding rods, scrap metal, Etc. Every department has a budget; usually a bit extra, to help those who cannot afford. There's a contingency fund to help families that cannot afford fees. There are also donations from families and the community. For example, we get sponsorship from the Rotary and the Elks.

*A motion to accept SCHOOL FEES for the 2022/2023 year, as presented moved by Leane Maguire second by Kari Byvank. Carried.

(IX) Vaping in bathrooms. The bathrooms smell bad and students are complaining. However no one admits to vaping when they are caught supposedly. A 3-day suspension if caught vaping and so far only about 10% are caught. Wayne would like to add a discipline for catching a student with a vape in school, for example, confiscating the vape. Students are hiding the vapes in their clothing.

Suggestions?

(i) A student resource officer, but they are provincially funded now. The Admin is trying to get an officer and additional support, as it is \$180,000 a year, shared cost and has met with Brett Cooper and the Barrhead student resource officer.

(ii) Smoke detectors, that are designed for vapes, do not cover a large area. The cost would be \$20,000 just to cover change rooms and bathroom, which Wayne feels is not feasible.

(iii) In school suspension. Wayne feels the Staff are too busy for in-school suspensions. Previously could call an addictions counselor and students had to see Jack before coming back from suspension but the school administration are no longer allowed to make a referral.

(iv) Consider putting up posters or on screen visualizations. A public service announcement for information on vaping, that it is illegal for under 18, and they could be charged for doing it on school property.

(X) There were a few posters put up to advertise a Pride Rally. They were hung up in camera blind spots. However they were taken down quite quickly last Wednesday. Admin spoke with suspected students. And since then, no new posters have been put up. The reasoning behind the rally was because Junior High sex ed homosexuality came up and a few students got offended.

(XI) A nomination has been made for the Community Partnership award for exemplary service.

E. Student Union

~no students in attendance to give a report.

F. Old Business

F1~ Nothing arising from minutes

F2~ Community Award -> See Admin report.

F3. \$500 Engagement money. Wayne suggested we prepay Soul Sisters for future presentations and speakers. All agreed. Wayne will talk to Christine at Soul Sisters.

G. Grad Committee Report

No one in attendance to present.

H. New Business

H1: Report from the Council of Student Councils.

~Karen went on behalf of the parent Council. There's a meeting twice a year in May and November. The superintendent spoke about reconciliation. Satisfaction survey response has gone down. Opinion is that it is now online, so families are ignoring it, previously it was phone calls. Thinking calls were better.

~New curriculum.

~Alberta school council Association has lost Provincial funding. The ASCA assisted with bylaws, regulations, and how to hold meetings. School council engagement fund and how it gets used.

~Pam Golden, Assistant Coordinator Communications discussed PowerSchool and the benefits. Parents can make appointments to go into schools to access, and all information on it if they need. More staff are starting to utilize PowerSchool.

H2: Yearbooks.

~ An email was sent out in October to get your orders in. Wayne will send out a reminder to get your orders in.

G. Next council meeting

September 21st of 2022

At that meeting, we will hold an AGM.

H. Adjournment

8:44 p.m.