

RF Staples School Council Meeting  
Wednesday May 17, 2023

1. Call To Order at 5:36pm

2. Welcome

Karen Gabel, Amanda Nelisher, Darcy Kirkham, Kathy Carnegie, Kathy Despaul, Shawna Vollema, Lindsay Baier, Jessica Stevens, Donnelle Schlachter, Michelle Rau, David Truckey, Rilayna Pidsadowski, Melissa Hittinger, Mike Hittinger, Elaine Oloske, Bonnie Provencal

3. Truth and Reconciliation Acknowledgment

4. Approval of Agenda

Shawna Vollema motioned to add the Fundraising Committee update to the agenda. Agenda Approval with the addition of the Fundraising Committee report, by Michelle Rau, Second by Kathy Carnegie. Carried

5. Approval of the minutes from the January 2023 meeting

January 2023 minutes were approved as presented, by Jessica Stevens. Second by Rilayna Pidsadowski. Carried

6. Fundraising Committee Update

Shawna Vollema presented that the fundraising committee was formed in 2006 and it must be separate from the Parent Council. They have a casino scheduled for the last quarter of 2024. There is \$6,438.37 in the casino account and \$1,598.36 in the regular account. Jerry Buchko is the President, and Bonnie Provencal is the Treasurer. They have developed a full committee board because more than just a Treasurer is needed to run the program. The fundraising committee helps pay for awards, they have helped pay for a gym floor. pay for wages for speakers that come to the school, and for signage. The money is used to enhance programs to better the school.

7.. Trustee Report by David Truckey.

Right-size modernization of Barrhead Composite High School will be happening.

At the next meeting, they will discuss approval of the budget.

There is a new Colony opening in Barrhead county. Swan Hills school is closed currently due to wildfire, and the town has been forced to evacuate. The evacuees have been directed to go to the Barrhead Agrena and check in.

There's a review of a new lease for Westlock Outreach because the current location is too small.

There are changes to the transportation funding. If the transportation changes affect or apply to Families, they are asked to please call the transportation department for more information. The satisfaction survey is coming out for review next week. There has been a decline in participation and they are looking at why that is.

#### 8. Admin report

There are some staffing changes that will be happening soon. Shawna Vollema is leaving and they are currently interviewing people to replace her in the office. Derrick Toporowski and Jerry Buchko will retire at the end of this year. They have all been with Pembina Hills for well over 20 years.

French immersion is returning and there will be a post going out this week. They're currently figuring out funding and hiring new staff for French immersion. It has not been determined yet whether the program will be Francais, Etudes Sociales, Sciences, Mathematiques, or only Francais and Etudes Social. That will depend on the expertise of the instructor. The class will be in person.

Class scheduling is almost complete; there are a few minor changes that may occur because of the new French program. Some High School option classes have wait lists due to high popularity, so students need to be patient and understand that they may not get the course that they selected, because it is so popular, and there are only a certain number of spots..

The RF Staples bus #302 is broken down and needs either repair or replacement. This has left Rf Staples with only one dedicated bus. This may affect field trips, and other activities, because they are limited on how many students can go. They are looking at the possibility of renting a divisional bus as a temporary solution. However, It is cheaper to have a dedicated bus for the school, which costs \$0.20/Km, than a divisional bus, which costs \$0.55/Km. There is a possibility that event and sport trip fees will increase, if another option cannot be found. A new bus would cost close to \$200,000. The part for bus #302 is no longer manufactured. A used part is \$7,500. The transportation department is currently looking for the used part to fix the bus. Darcy has applied for a federal transportation Grant and a Provincial grant, and he is hoping that will come in so that they can put that towards a new bus. Vans, which would cost less to purchase, cannot be used for school purposes. It is a Provincial Law.

#### 9. Old business

We are currently looking for a representative from the student council to attend our meetings to keep the Parent Council up to date on what is happening around the school.

#### 10. New business

School fees changes for the 2023/2024 school year. Approved by Bonnie Provencal. Second by Rilayna Pidsadowski. All in favor- carried.

#### 11. Adjournment at 6:09 p.m. to start the AGM

RF Staples parent Council Annual General Meeting  
May 17th 2023

1. Called order at 6:10 p.m. by Karen Gabel
2. Agenda approval by Jessica Stevens seconded by Michelle Rau. Carried
3. Minutes from the 2022 AGM  
Approved by Kathy Carnegie seconded by Donnelle Schlachter. Carried.
4. Karen Gabel, Current Chair Year in review summary.

The past School Year has gone great. There were a few new faces that joined in the fall, but as the year went on, less people were attending our meetings. There were usually only 2 to 3 people in attendance. Our goals throughout the year were to meet new people and make new connections. Thank you to everyone who came tonight.

5. Elections:

5.1 Chair

Role of the chair is to write the agenda for each meeting, set dates for our upcoming meetings, communicate with the School Trustees and keep informed with the school Administration. We are currently looking for a new chairperson as Karen Gabel is stepping down. Donnelle Schlachter nominated Rilayna Pidsadowski. Rilayna Pidsadowski accepted the nomination. all in favor and carried. Rilayna Pidsadowski is the new Chair for the 2023-2024 school year.

5.2 Vice Chair

Michelle Rigney has offered to continue her role. No one else has put their name in. Michelle Rigney wins by acclamation.

5.3 Secretary

Amanda Nelisher has offered to stay on as secretary. No one else has offered to join the position. Amanda Nelisher wins by acclamation.

5.4 Members at Large

We will be asking for new members to join at our next meeting, which will be scheduled for the fall.

6. Priorities/Focus

It was discussed to have The Fundraising Society meetings in conjunction with the Parent Council, to help rejuvenate the Fundraising Society.

7. Dates for 2023/2024 school year

The first scheduled meeting for the 2023-2024 school year will be October 10th 2023 at 6:00 p.m.. The Following meetings will be decided at the October meeting.

8. Adjournment

6:30 p.m. by Rilayna Pidsadowski