

RF Staples School Council Meeting

Tuesday May 28, 2024

- 1) Call to order at 5:59
- 2) President Rilayna Pidsadowski welcomed everyone
In attendance: Shauna Nyal, Andrea Fox Robinson, Rachel Mallet, Cory Kubinec, Mike Johnson, Kathy Carnegie , Adam Dormer, David Truckey, Michelle Rau, Michelle Rigney, Jessica Stevens, Darcy Kirkham
- 3) Land Acknowledgement
- 4) Approval of Agenda – approved by Michelle Rigney seconded by Michelle Rau
- 5) Rilayna gave summary of previous meeting minutes- no adjustments- approved by Kathy Carnegie seconded by Michelle Rigney
- 6) School Administration Report Darcy Kirkham- the budget for the next school term has been released and has a decrease in funding. Mr. Kirkham has made student affected costs remain at the same level (classroom supplies etc.) he has cut costs in computer and the tech areas. Please talk to your MLAs! Staff funding requests from the fundraising group will go through Mr. Beattie then passed onto the fundraising group. One idea is the old sports championship banners in main gym are becoming tattered and tired. An idea to have them persevered approx. cost \$11000 was talked about amongst staff. Grad Convocation is May 31 and practice is on May 30. There will be some gym disruptions for Jr High. Gr 9 Farewell is June 5. 112 Jr High students went to Track/Field in Barrhead today. Went very well!! Diploma exams and GR 9 PATs are coming up. New this year the Gr9 PAT are scheduled by the province on certain days.
- 7) Fundraising Report- Casino Aug 28/29 a few spots still needed! A president is also still needed for this board.
- 8) Old Business
 - a. Changes to scheduling for Jr and Sr High remain the same. Hiring 1 teacher
- 9) New Business
 - a. Budget plan discussed in Admin report
 - b. Best practices for communication with teachers/administration. Parents have expressed concerns with no response or not a sufficient response when contacting the teachers and are wondering what to do next. Mr. Kirkham said email the teacher if no response please cc the admin staff. If your concern is about school policy that goes to Admin, then to central office. The school policies are on the website. Mr. Kirkham mentioned the assessment policy AP6010 if parents are interested.
 - c. Support for teachers struggling with discipline- yes there are teachers asking for help. There are discipline procedures that Admin follow. Suspensions are

handed out but are not the best practice as they don't fix the behavior. Need to find out what educational supports the student may need and the barriers that may cause them to act out. One concerned parent expressed concern on the many disruptions in daughter's class. She feels that the teacher is too busy dealing with out bursts and behaviors to teach the core subjects. Teacher encouraged the parent to come volunteer at the school. See firsthand what happens during the day. They need parent volunteers for readers on exams, track meet, and general classroom help. Any volunteer's great appreciated. This budget we lost 1 full time FTE teacher and 3 EAs. Academics were brought by a parent. They are concerned that the extracurricular sport activities during class time are adding up. They feel the students who play sports are missing too much class time and the students who don't play aren't getting taught the same as having a full class. Also worried about teachers missing to coach as they teach the core subjects as well. Mrs. Stevens said the Jr High coaching staff have requested games start later after school this year. And said most request were granted. As for the coaching we do take community coaches but we are legally required to provide 1 teacher to be present at these tournaments/games.

- d. Workshop "Effective Engagement in you School Community" June 19 at 6:30 zoom. There is grant money available \$300.00. Rilayna motioned we use this grant money to pay for the workshop. Everyone in favor

10) Trustee Report by David Truckey- The Board is excited to announce Brett Cooper is Superintendent, Raime Drake is Deputy Superintendent and Kendra Seatter is Assistant Director of student services. Congratulations to everyone in their new rolls! On May 8 the Alberta School Board Association held "Are you smarter than a 5th grader" MLA event. There Premier Danielle Smith and Education Minister Adriana LaGrange attended. They engaged in great conversations and played the game! It was a great event. Mr. Truckey attended an E Sport presentation in Lethbridge. He thought this was a fantastic presentation and is hoping Pembina hills will bring this in as an option class in the future. The Gr9 career camp is full! At the May 22 board meeting they passed the upcoming budget. The division was asked to lower reserve moneys as per province. This has been done with numerous capital improvement including multiple bathroom renovations and bus improvements. Bussing has been a big discussion in 2023 with the reduction of transportation services to non-designated schools unless for religion or French. This was discussed greatly and voted on to reopen bussing for non-designated schools for a cost of \$460/space availability, for reasons other than religion and French. This may have future impacts on feeder schools and the larger schools. There has been some movement in Pembina Hills Mike Edwards will be leaving RF Staples going to Barrhead Comp. as Vice Principal and Darcy Kirkham has stepped down as Principal. Brett Seatter will be

joining the RF Staples from Neerlandia as Principal. We wish everyone the best of luck in the new ventures.

10) Adjourned at 7:03

RF Staples School Council AGM

1. Call to order 7:05
2. Elections
 - a. Chair- motion to have Rilayna Pidsadowski remain as Chair for the 2024/2025 school year. Motion carried unanimously, accepted by Rilayna
 - b. Vice Chair- motion to have Michelle Rigney remain as Vice Chair for the 2024/2025 school year. Motion carried unanimously, accepted by Michelle
 - c. Secretary – motion to have Shauna Nyal remain as Secretary for th2024/2025 school year. Motion carried unanimously, accepted by Shauna
3. School Council By-laws- looking into drawing up new ones. Parent involvement encouraged. Looking at Neerlandia's for information as they just did theirs.
4. Adjourned 7:07