

## EPC School Council Minutes

Date Feb 5, 2024

**Call to order: 7:00pm**

**In Attendance:** Carmen Allen, Corrine Hetu, Michelle Purdy-Hemmons, Andrea Bickerstaff, Helen Mayes, Lee-Ann Rehm, Kathryn Cyr, Nicole Schweer, Annie Karzmarczyk, Stacey Mabey, Ryan Mann

**Approval of minutes and agenda.**

- Accepted and approved.

**Old Business**

- **Cell phones** – Ryan looked into Dragonfly presentation. Not what the school is looking for. Considering PD for cell phones. Possibly add to English and Social Studies classes. Maybe health class topic?
  - Did a poll on kids perspectives of cell phone use. Majority didn't see it as a value in the classroom, while some didn't see it as that bad.
  - Discussion over cell phone issues. Disconnected. Anecdotal evidence that youth do better without cell phones.
  - AHS has an online workshop on cell phone use and the impact on youth.
- **Laurie follow up** – not in attendance to speak to student council.
- **ASCA Grant**
  - What should it be used towards. Brave Viking? Indigenous trauma counselor duo?
  - If nothing available, will look at ASCA Courses

**New Business**

- **AMBA umpire clinic**
  - Kids paid for their time. Administration will send out info provided by AMBA.
- **Cold weather days & exam days**
  - many days of missed school and even if the kids attend class, there is nothing for them to do. LTIS had things for the kids to do, not EPC. Over exams textbooks and chrome books are collected and teachers are busy doing report cards. Kids are told to study and have nothing else to do. Can we maximize this time better? Administration glad for this feedback and will look into suggestions made and a plan to increase positive outcomes for these items. Administration will keep us posted.
- **AI/Tech**
  - There is no policy on AI. Nothing in place to support teachers and students at this time.
  - Alberta school board association is starting an AI committee to work with the government in order to create a policy and response to this emerging technology. Nicole to send out information on this.
  - Members of this committee include various schools and parent groups as well as board and government.
  - Currently focusing on fear-based conversations regarding AI, not how to use it positively.

- Education is behind the times in this regard, kids should be taught how to use AI with integrity.
- **RCMP Youth Advisory Committee**
  - Information has gone out.
- **IPP**
  - How is it done and decided?
  - Based on individual kids, Laurie Kislyk is the lead. Works with parents to adapt curriculum to meet youth's needs.
  - EPC process is pretty common. Teacher and parent create a plan for the student success. Parent would reach out to the assistant principal if concerned, unless the teacher asks for assessment of the child.
  - Most kids are coded or psych assessments done. Some families opt for private assessment but it is a personal expense if done independently.
  - Info is to be sent to Chair and shared with parents.

### **EPC School Chair Report**

- Superintendent date to be picked. April 8<sup>th</sup> or June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Nicole will send out an official invite.
- Mental health walk-in clinic is available to families @ health unit on Thursday afternoons. Info shared.
- Division presentation was carried out by Chair as representative of the council on Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>. She felt it was a positive experience. The presentation is on FB for anyone to view.

### **School Admin report**

- There were 1500 exams administered
- Start up to next term went well with new options offered to jr. high
- To start a EPC support request form so students can request a course change or indigenous needs, or other options.
- Cheerfest was Saturday. Lots of people in the school.
- Open mic is on Fridays. Will consider opening to families.
- Basketball tournament will be on Friday at noon. Hoping for public to come.
- Interact group past student Kahn will be speaking at Rotary. Will speak to the jr and sr high students as well.
- Alumni wall will be created.

### **Board Trustee Report**

- Decision to close Rochester School at the end of 25/26 school year based on fiduciary and enrolment concerns.
- Student spoke at the last board meeting. Board will attend different schools to hear from teachers and students at various schools. LTIS is next on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024
- ASCA conference in April in Edmonton. EPC Chair planning on attending. No other interest brought forward.

## Fundraising Committee Report

- Casino booked for July 5/6. Nicole will assist with finding volunteers via emails/posting on social media.
- School fuel is paid for.
- Jr. highs were bussed to little women presentation
- Bus repairs were contributed to
- Board is asking for 120K from fundraising committee claiming it is owed 150k for the running track build. 30k was given to the board from fundraising to date. It is unclear what the agreement was regarding these debts and further investigation into these claims will be conducted.

## Parking Lot

- **Comradery initiatives at school –**
  - suggestion brought forward by a parent = athlete recognition through banners or alumni area? Kids aren't celebrated in the school.
  - How can we celebrate all of their victories?
  - Use the \$500 to enhance culture/community/kindness – speaker?
- **Assurance Framework** – Stacey to share results review with council at next meeting – March 11<sup>th</sup>, to begin with assurance framework criteria.
- Shared draft of preliminary flow chart “Rubrick” for school council topics. Nicole Will share in email to all those in attendance at the meeting.
- **Family lunch again? TBD**
- **Hybrid meeting?** Hopefully can be set up for the next meeting.
- **School Council name change through EPC correspondence** – Nicole to send email to administration to remind them to make the change on website and with notifications that go out.
- **Update members lists to remove resigned member** - Nicole to send email to administration to remind them to make this amendment on the website.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:17pm

Next meeting March 11th