

MINUTES

EPC PAC Minutes

June 8th 2020 7:00 | Jamie Dreger

In Attendance

Jamie Dreger, Marilynn Holt, Jody McGarry- Liddell, Des Nolan, Brenna Liddell, Sean Morrison, Dennis Mac Neil, Annie Karczmarczyk, Karen Richards, Mark Neaves,

Approval of Minutes

The minutes reviewed from March 2, 2020 and approved by Karen Richards, seconded by Mark Neaves.

Aspen View Public School Board Trustee Report

Annie reported the Aspen View Public School Board is applying for Covid-19 funding to support schools with various items for instance wash stations, PPE and thermometers etc....for when the school re opens. The budget for Covid-19 items is still being discussed. There was a survey regarding re- entry which described 3 scenarios that all school will be prepared for; it was a great way for rural individuals to have a voice.

St Gabriel's church will be hosting a zoom meeting for the new school district with a representative of the minister of education present on June 9th, in person is also permitted with AHS and Covid measures in place. Many calls and emails have been made regarding the new school district; it is not well received as something many community members want.

Dennis spoke of the choice of Education Act and how it may not be the best for rural communities as it splits the funding and students up and makes both school districts potentially suffer. Everyone is interested to see what the community vote will be as it is an extremely small voice of Athabasca being that it is only the 224 Catholic individuals in the historical 4x4 school boundary that are permitted to vote.

EPC Fundraising Committee Report

Mark Neaves reported that the fuel funding will be carried over to September 2020 and will be available for EPC when needed. The Casino has been canceled due to Covid; more information will come during the re launch of the province.

EPC Administration Report

Principal Des Nolan stated how the school's admin teams (math, English, social science) are to be prepared for all 3 scenarios that have been announced by the government; there was a survey that was presented to the public allowing for the government to see where everyone is standing in terms of sending kids back to school and how they felt during their time with the homeschooling.

EPC has created a new timetable for students it will be 5 blocks periods at 74 minutes including lunch for senior high and 6 blocks at 50 minutes for junior high. The lunch block will be different times for some, and it may also be a spare. This new concept will allow for more time for students to be in class with their teacher. Many resources and discussions with teachers were used in collaboration for the new schedules. There were

questions raised about lunch time clubs and if students may eat in class if their lunch block is late; Des assured everyone will be given the opportunity be healthy in class and given the option to eat respectfully and for lunch club students they will be spoken to and asked what works for the club specifically when the time comes.

Annie is intrigued with the new classes Hockey Academy and Coding that will be offered. 234 students for senior high is hoped for but is not yet confirmed. Science and social will be offer all year and P.E. and French will be only one term in 20-21 students also can challenge French 10,20,30.

Vice Principal Breanna Liddell was pleased to announce Miranda From as the outstanding first year teacher she is part of the Diversity Program and is staying at EPC for another year.

Round Table

Dennis asked to panel what there thoughts were on a separate school; Jamie said that she understood the concept of choosing the best school for her children as she has four all with very different academic strengths and goals; however this is more of a urban concept and in a small down the kids should be together if given the chance she does view religion as a crucial part of human spiritual development, the concept can and should be discussed and practiced at home with loved ones rather that in school.

All the staff at EPC were applauded for their dedication to the students and the extremely flexible and inclusive manner the homeschooling was delivered to families. Covid -19 has taught everyone many different tips and tricks for the fall and in life and education in general we look forward to our next year.

Next Meeting

September 14th, 2020, Location to be determined

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:00 unanimously accepted.