

EPC PARENT COUNCIL

SEPT 2017 MINUTES

Sept 11, 2017 6:30pm

1.0 Call to Order & Attendance

Meeting Called to Order at 6:30pm

Duane Fitzsimmons, Mirella Popowich, Annie Karczmarczyk, Melanie Giroux, Sean Morrison, Dennis MacNeil, Dianne Jewell, Desmond Nolan, Marilyn Holt, Jackie Shank (recorder)

2.0 Review of Agenda & Minutes

AGM: For new Committee Members executive:

No volunteers coming forward

Chairperson: Dwayne by acclamation

Secretary: Jackie by acclamation

Approval: Addition to May 2017 minutes attendance to include Mirella Popowich. All in favour.

Review of Regular Meeting minutes of May 2017

3.0 Business Arising

1. No new business arising from the May 2017 minutes

.0 Reports

2. Chairperson –Duane
 - a. Welcome!
 - b. Review of Correspondence
 - Invitation from the Minister of Education for a community meeting.
 - Dennis offered support information to help parents and community members to write letters to the Education Minister requesting a community meeting
 - Issues include but are not limited to:
 - a. Stable predictable funding
 - b. How rural education does not fit with the funding model
 - Request for a community meeting needs to come from the stakeholders
 - ACTION: Mirella, Melanie and Duane offered to write letters
 - Board highlights Correspondence –
 - No resource fee except for special extra curriculum activities
 - Transportation fees \$75.00 alternate bussing – suspend choice except based on 2.4 km limit is a necessity versus a luxury or in town. Applies to k to grade 12
 - No additional funding for additional transportation costs. Provincial government set rules. \$75.00 for ineligible students.
 - Transportation fees in Aspenview very low relative to other school districts
 - Annie – any concerns with safety a parent can request a waiver and submit to Ronda Alex

- School board elections in October. Annie and Dennis are running again

3. School Administration Report –Sean

- a. New School update
 - Potential Feb move
 - Possible staged move but this is to be determined
 - Finishing concrete – feature staircase, driveway, sidewalks etc.
 - Location of the new pool will be very close to the school
- b. Funding Deficits –
- c. Student enrollment is up to 535 students
- d. Land-based Learning Project
 - Decrease in parental support versus last year 115 to 126 could attend
 - Offering opportunities to communicate to parents about the program
 - Cost a barrier? Fee can be waived with parent request
 - This program nominated by the Truth and Reconciliation Committee
 - Kids that don't attend then must stay home
 - Suggestion: parent meeting to provide information in June
 - Last year bussing was available but not this year. Due to logistical nightmare & increased cost
- e. Parent teacher Interviews Nov 6 & 8
- f. Staffing & Programing
 - Staffing 5 new professional staff
 - Programming – many options available to students
 - Last year New Formula requires a new credit limit on 45 credits a year per student versus previous 60 credits. Big issue given that the funding is based on credits
 - Division may have a deficit of \$1,000,000.00
 - Lost revenue from credits, transportation & school staffing
 - Asked to trim 3.5 % equals \$165,000.00
 - Potentially 1.0 to 1.5 reduction in teachers
 - Hope not to lose any programing
 - Prepare for possibly 3.5 decrease in funding the following year
 - See your Information for Aspen View Stakeholders Funding Framework outline
- g. Cheer Leading Provincials:
 - Provincials April 7 & 8
 - Volunteers are needed
- h. Land Based Learning Class
 - Going ahead in fall 2017
 - Curriculum includes Aboriginal Studies
 - Additional 5 Credits
 - Sept 18 to 27, 2017
 - Grade 10
 - Dianne applying for grants for funding
 - Will not be running bus in the evening for
- i. Mental Health week – Dog visits to the school today

2. School Board Trustee – Annie

- a. Communication Flyer
 - Attendance Area Change
 - See Board Highlights Handout

- b. Meeting with minister in May 2017
 - About Rural funding
 - Requesting parents to write letters to address the efficiency of funding
 - c. Elections in the Fall for the Board-Oct
 - d. Grassland School
 - Concern about numbers
 - No formal consideration for school closure
3. Student Council Report – No rep present
- a. Meeting on Thursday
 - b. Also Leo Club (Youth Lions Club)
 - c. Recommend PAC take any issues to the student class
 - d. What are students interested in?
 - e. Maybe a format like New Brook to have an open exchange of information
 - f. Possibly a town Hall meeting
 - g. Focus on the student
 - h. Des & Dennis to come up with an idea of increasing student engagement
4. Fundraising Report – New parent representatives include:
- Melanie Giroux–
 - Marilyn Holt
 - Aimee Clement
 - Carmen Tibbs
 - Thank you to Janene and Linda for their contributions
 - Funds on hold with upcoming casino
 - Oct 12 & 13 casino. Still need volunteers. Contact Aimee. Expenses all covered
 -

5.0 Roundtable

1. Kids smoking & drinking at the school
 - What can school do?
 - When school finds it they do deal with it.
2. Transportation – may get phone call if bus isn't running. First Student not meeting up with contract. No control over how busing is delivered

Meeting Adjourned 7:30pm

Next Meeting

Nov 6 2017, 6:30 pm – EPC Library

Everyone Welcome