

EPC SCHOOL COUNCIL – Minutes of March 04, 2019 Meeting

Meeting commenced at 6:30pm

Attendance: Irene Fitzsimmons, Josie Auger, Jamie Dreger, Carmen Jensen-Tebb, Marilyn Holt, Mirella Popowich, Des Nolan, Sean Morrison, Brenna Liddell, Anne Karczmarczyk

Guests (Teachers): John Traynor, Timothy Bohn

Agenda (March 04, 2019) and Minutes of last SC meeting (January 14, 2019): distributed prior to and at meeting for review;

Motion to accept Agenda and approve Minutes – Carmen J-T.; Seconded – Marilyn H.

Reports:

School Council Report: Irene Fitzsimmons

*Alberta School Council Association/ASCA's annual Conference and AGM – *"School Council – Building Bridges"* April 26-28 in Edmonton; Jamie D. has confirmed that she will be attending as EPC rep. Request for Jamie to bring back information (brief summary) from the conference/individual sessions attended and the AGM. She has agreed to briefly present her experience from the weekend conference at the May 06th SC meeting. Josie indicated that as of today she will not be attending as it is most likely she will be going away around the same time so not able to attend... Irene reminded Josie (and Jamie) to follow-up with Tammy L. /Division office to confirm attending (or not) and finalize registration procedure...and funding available. EPC Council rep will get 1 vote at the AGM on Sun, April 28th to any resolutions brought forward to be voted on. Resolutions distributed to all parents to review prior and provide any input they wish Jamie to take forward.

*Next Council of School Council/COSC meeting for our Division: EPC will host this meeting on Monday, March 11th with dinner at 5:00pm with the meeting following at 5:30pm. Debbie/Derkos who cater at EPC will cater the dinner. Tours of our school for visiting reps from other schools have been organized to start at 4:30pm (led by students). Students will be invited to stay and have supper. SC reps (Irene and Carmen) will co-host the meeting with Superintendent Neil O'Shea.

EPC Administration Report: Des Nolan, Sean Morrison, Brenna Liddell

*Des introduced the two teachers/guests to speak to tell us a little about themselves:

John Traynor - Senior High teacher with 20 years experience; he is the liaison for student programming in the work force. He helps all students to create a portfolio and build relationships with employers across the Athabasca area. He also excited to be a part of organizing the upcoming "Battle of the Bands" which will be held at EPC on May 10th from 1:00-3:00pm. John is also a current town councilor and discussed with parents the awareness/need for sidewalks between the new pool, multiplex and EPC and encouraged interested parents to come forward as a group to Town Council, as appropriate, on such matters of concern.

Tim Bohn – Junior High and French Immersion teacher (French/Science). He is a proud member of the coaching team as an advisor to the Cheerleading squad and enjoyed his recent trip as a proud rep participating at the World Cheerleading Championships in Florida. Tim has also participated on the Gr 9 French Immersion trip and hopes that it will once again be a part of future opportunities for students. There will be no Gr 9 FI trip this year. Marilyn H. was curious about the French trip to Quebec with a

sister school – Tim Bohn (teacher) shared his early experience as an exchange student; living with host families and value of exchanged culture in each geographical location (Quebec and Alberta).

*Des discussed the “*English as a Second Language*” programming offered at EPC, including a new assessment EPC uses to help see where the students are starting from in terms of comprehension. Chrome books have also been sent home with students to help keep the students on track and help their families know where they stand in terms of their academics. There are over 20 students currently participating in ESL studies.

*Des has discussed with Dr. Karen Penny (Ass’t Superintendent) re: Cree Language learning interest and additional cultural opportunities for Indigenous students. There is a prepared plan which will begin to be implemented in Sept, 2019 with Indigenous Studies 10 and 20. Land-Based Learning is also under review re: how it will be scheduled in Sept, 2019.

*Brenna discussed the proposed school trips upcoming: Montreal trip in April; Jasper trip for Gr 7’s in June; Thailand trip for Senior High students planned for Spring Break, 2020. Intent of Junior High travel is based on Canadian travel/culture and Senior High focused on international learning experiences.

School Board Trustee: Anne Karczmarczyk

Anne will be a Trustee rep at the ASCA’s Conference (*School Council: Building Bridges*) on April 26-28 in Edmonton.

*On March 12th the Board of Trustees will be going to the Blue Quills University Campus in St. Paul to spend the day re: Indigenous awareness/Truth & Reconciliation. The day should prove to be very enlightening and instrumental in helping with information that will promote our students on a strong path to keeping Indigenous culture and programming alive in our school/Division.

*Presentations were given at the last Board meeting by Shona Hunter (Math/Numeracy) and Land-Based Learning (Des N. and Diane Jewell). Shona highlighted programs that the students use both at school and home to keep up with their math comprehension. Des and Diane discussed what they learned during their trip to Hawaii to learn about the Hawaiian Indigenous culture and the similarities and differences to Indigenous cultures in Canada and elsewhere.

*Anne discussed the recent cold snap and shutting down of bussing over an approximate 3 day period. It was a difficult decision to keep the busses down for the three days, but it was for the safety of children as well as the drivers.

*The board has a proposed 2020/21 School Year calendar available and plans to have a 2 year calendar in advance - helps with planning for various academic and extra-curricular activities.

Fundraising Report: Carmen Jensen-Tebb

*The fundraising committee has unanimously voted for a one-time donation of \$25,000.00 to be put towards the EPC shale running track (Admin priority request #2). Funds from the recent Feb, 2019 Casino will be available in June for this contribution to be made.

*The next casino for EPC will be Oct, Nov or Dec in 2020 (20-22 months away).

Round Table:

Opportunity for all to share comments.

Motion to adjourn meeting @7:48pm – Moved - Jamie D.; Seconded - Marilyn H.

Next Meeting May 6, 2019 Rm. 109F 6:30pm