

Bev Facey Parent Council October 24 2017

Attendees: 1 School Trustee: Trina Boymook

6 Staff: Trudi Williamson, Rita Lal, Paul Pallister, Sharon Gach, Sharee Rankin, Pat Forsyth

26 Families represented: Carol Reivonen, Michelle Dugan, Lisa Clamp, Susan Ballash, Sherri Kaldenhoven, Cara Brandse, Kelli Parks, Leah Hesson, Amanda Beck, Sivanthy Suntharatingam, Nici Denny, Jody Tom, Jennifer Dyer, Karen Tomnyk, Maxine Mackay, Robert Parks, Brad Hesse, Brad & Karin Gilker, Susan Sieg, Beverly Kotun, Lynn Vandenberg, Debbie Moore, Darren Evans, Curt & Lori Altheim, Rachel Lien, Trudy Oatway,

0 Students represented

Call to order @ 6:30 pm

Round Table Introductions were made

ONGOING BUSINESS

Graduation 2018 – Paul Pallister

There has been numerous conversations between staff, students and parents regarding changing the format of the graduation. The proposal of the changes are as follows:

- Commencement will be at the Northlands Agricom @ 1:00 pm (previously at the Butter Dome)
- 3:30 – 4:30 graduates will change into their formal dress
- 4:30 – 6:00 there will be a Graduate March and light refreshments. There will also be a small dance.

New Format Cost:

- The graduate and one guest will be “free” (\$80 graduate fee already paid in school fees)
- Any remaining guests will be at a cost of \$55

Old Format Costs:

- \$15 per ticket for commencement (graduate is free)
- \$80 per ticket for banquet

Paul feels that changing the format will ensure that the graduate will be able to attend all aspects of the celebration without the cost preventing them.

There were 3 main concerns from some of the parents:

1. The grade 12 students and parents had not been polled about their wishes
2. Fundraising and sponsorship options have not been presented as an option to offset some of the costs
3. The new proposed format will incur additional costs for families wishing to attend the ceremony only (if more than one family member, plus the graduate wishes to attend), when compared to last year's format. For example, using last year's format: graduate + 4 family members = \$60. Using the new format: graduate + 4 family members = \$165. Some parents felt that not all extended family members would be interested in attending the celebration part of the day and, due to the cost, this would prevent them from attending at all.

NEW BUSINESS

Post Secondary Career Planning Parent Session – Michelle Dugan

There will be a post secondary career planning session planned by Michelle and the date will be set up for November 2017.

My Pass – Michelle Dugan

myPass.alberta.ca is a secure self-service website for Alberta students to:

- Order high school transcripts
- View diploma exam marks
- Register to write or rewrite diploma exams
- View/update student personal information
- Request diploma exam rescores

All students are encouraged to sign up for My Pass as soon as possible.

Grade 10's Taking 20 Level Courses – Michelle Dugan

Michelle asked Paul if grade 10's were being discouraged to take 20 level courses. Paul said that his philosophy is that students need to try to be more diverse and he feels that students who take higher courses lower won't take as many options that are available to them. He also feels that "spares" in grade 12 are not necessary and that taking too many higher level courses in the lower grade will create more opportunities to have spares. Paul wants to establish better communication between the student, parents & administration when deciding to take a 20 level course in grade 10 so there is a clear plan in place when a student requests this. Parents can call Paul or request a meeting to discuss this if they would like their child to be able to take a higher level course in a lower grade.

REPORTS

Chair Report – Michelle Dugan

There will be school council awards given out at the awards ceremony on October 26, 2017.

Michelle attended the COSC meeting on October 4th and school fees and the “trickle down” effect of the change in structure was discussed. There was discussion relating to having the fees planned out earlier for the 2018/2019 year.

Michelle received a letter from David Eggen (Minister of Education). Michelle will email David and ask him to attend one of our Parent Council meetings.

Administration Report – Paul Pallister & Sharon Gasch

Sharon asked for some feedback on the scheduled parent teacher interview format. Some of the feedback was as follows:

- Having the interviews in both gyms was excellent and it was better than having it in the gym and the library. It was much more convenient.
- Some of the interviews went over the scheduled time and some parents missed their interviews because of this or had to wait long periods of time.
- The music that was played to mark the end of the 7 minute interviews was not loud enough

Paul expressed his thankfulness that the parents attended the meeting tonight and he appreciates all of our feedback. He is happy with how the first 2 months of school has gone and he said that he has received good feedback on the increased social media attention on the school and school events.

Paul is currently taking a training course called Violence Threat Risk Assessment. Educators have been working with law enforcement and emergency partners to detect a violent risk to hopefully prevent violent acts from happening.

High School Resign – Paul Pallister

There has been an advisory committee formed to ensure that students will have resources for support. This will be happening in February.

There will be committees formed to start discussing possible changes such as having every Wednesday as a short day. Another possibility is to have grade 10 courses run all year. There will be more information to follow.

Paul asked Parents how they feel about using ACORN to pay for expenses such as tickets, food in the cafeteria and clothing. There was some feedback saying that parents like it but also some feedback that some parents would like students to continue to use cash. There will be more discussion to follow.

Trustee Report – Trina Boymook

See Attached

Meeting Adjourned @ 9:10 pm

Submitted by Susan Ballash, Secretary