

Bev Facey Parent Council November 21 2017

Attendees: 1 School Trustee: Trina Boymook
7 Staff: Rita Lal, Paul Pallister, Sharon Gach, Sharee Rankin, Pat Forsyth, Michelle Letawsky, Tanya Murphy
9 Families represented: Carol Reivonen, Michelle Dugan, Lisa Clamp, Susan Ballash, Sherri Kaldenhoven, Kelli & Rob Parks, Leah Hesson, Rachel Lien, Maxine Mackay
0 Students represented

Call to order @ 6:32 pm

Round Table Introductions were made

Approval of October 2017 Minutes put forward by Maxine Mackay and seconded by Sherri Kaldenhoven. Approved

ONGOING BUSINESS

Learning Clicks – Michelle Dugan

Michelle Dugan proposed a date for the Learning Click of December 5, 2017. The general consensus was that day worked. Michelle will follow up with Tiffany Tattrie.

Graduation 2018 – Paul Pallister

A decision has been made to change the format of the graduation. The commencement ceremony will be held at Northlands and it will be immediately followed by an afternoon celebration with light refreshments. The graduates will change into their formal attire at Northlands and will participate in a Graduation March. The day is anticipated to end at approximately 6:00 pm. The graduates will be able to go to the legislature after to have photos taken. The costs have yet to be determined.

ACORN – Paul Pallister

The purchase of tickets to school events has been available on ACORN and so far the feedback has been positive. There will be a trial run with Bev Facey staff to see if it will be possible to purchase items from the school's cafeteria through ACORN. There will be more information to follow.

NEW BUSINESS

High School Resign – Paul Pallister

Paul has been presented with the challenge of what the High School Redesign could mean to the school and the pillars associated with it. He would like to add advisory time for the students to enhance

student/teacher relationships. This will help bridge the gap between teachers and students and will also help to pin point areas of help needed and teachers will be able to help direct the students to resources and help that may be beneficial to them.

There was a Teacher Advisory Board formed and the members of the board visited other schools to gather information about this new format. After the information was studied the following proposal was put forward:

- The student/teacher advisory time will take place on Wednesday mornings from 8:30 – 9:10am. Attendance will be mandatory for all students.
- The other 4 days of the week will be set aside for Personal Learning Time (PLT). There will be slots for extra homework help and there will also be special groups and clubs set up during this time which will all be organized by the teachers and staff. The students will be able to choose if they would like to attend the extra help sessions or a group/club. This time will more than likely be optional for the student to attend. The issue of whether it will be optional, however, is yet to be determined.
- Class times will all be reduced from 83 minutes to 73 minutes
- Every Wednesday will be a short day (early dismissal time table will be observed)

Feedback from Parents:

- There will not be enough time to get through the required curriculum with the shortened classroom time.
- The teachers/staff would be faced with a larger work load with the expectation to host extra homework help and create new clubs/groups
- The teachers/staff would be faced with the challenge of re-vamping current exams that they already have prepared to accommodate the shorter class time
- Students will not have enough time to finish essays in English & Social
- Students will not be held accountable for showing up to the PLT and this is going against last year's new attendance policy that was created.
- Some parents felt that change is good and that some students would really benefit from the proposals and will be empowered to be able to make decisions on how to spend their PLT
- There will be a greater sense of community within the school due to the proposed changes
- There will have to be extra supervision for students that are bussed to accommodate the shortened day every Wednesday. Teachers & staff will have to be available to supervise the students until the bus picks them up at the regular time.

The parents in attendance asked that there be a parent advisory meeting about this and the all efforts are made to inform the parents of these changes so that they are well aware that there will be a meeting as this has a very significant impact on the students if these proposals go through. Parents suggested using Synervoice, email, Facebook & Twitter to advise all parents of the meeting. Paul said that there might be a parent meeting on December 12, 2017.

Trustee Report – Trina Boymook

See attached

Chair Report – Michelle Dugan

Michelle asked for a volunteer to take minutes during our January 2018 meeting as Susan Ballash is unable to attend. Lisa Clamp volunteered.

Michelle had emailed Education Minister David Eggen and invited him to attend a Bev Facey Parent council meeting he said more than likely he could not.

Administration Report – Paul Pallister

Paul would like the parents to think about and answer the following 3 questions for our next meeting:

1. What are parents willing to pay for optional courses?
2. What is a reasonable number of field trips for each course keeping in mind that field trips cost extra money?
3. What are parents willing to pay for extracurricular sporting activities? How many tournaments (both local and away) are parents willing to pay for?

Paul thinks that the utilization of Twitter & Facebook, the newsletter and the TV in the front lobby of the school has been very effective in communication and creating a sense of community.

The Christmas Bake Sale has been a big success and the sales exceeded expectations.

The Poinsettia sale has begun.

The Drama season is just beginning.

There will be the Parent Student Teacher Interviews on November 30/17. To book interviews please go to <https://www.schoolinterviews.ca/>. You must go online between 9:00 am on Wednesday, November 22nd and 3:00 pm on Wednesday, November 29th to book your conference for November 30th. After November 29th, those parents who still want to schedule a conference must contact the school office directly and speak with Mrs. Dianna Radke or Mrs. Tanya Murphy.

Lisa Clamp asked if the KEY Study Guides could be sold at the interviews and Paul said no because he does not want to allow a third party to profit at a school event.

Meeting Adjourned @ 8:33 pm
Next Meeting January 16, 2018

Submitted by Susan Ballash
Secretary

